



Trinity

Lutheran Church

Be a Trinity Ambassador

We want to intentionally grow our Church this fall, and your help is needed. Please think of people to invite to join Trinity and tell them about “Discover Trinity.” This fun and informative event is the simple step we ask newcomers to take to affiliate with our congregation.

Discover Trinity will be offered Tuesday, October 25, from 6:00–7:30 P.M. to anyone interested in learning more about our congregation and its great mission of serving in Christ’s love and sharing the Good News.

You are the best ambassador for our church. Spread the word about Trinity, and tell others about “Discover Trinity.” Invite them to check out the “I’m New” page on our website: www.trinity-ec.org or pick up a Visitor Bag at the Information Center in the Lobby and give it to someone.

Thanks for spreading the word about our congregation and helping us grow!

Another Record VBS!

Our week of Vacation Bible School smashed last year’s record attendance with 376 children and 171 staff present for the week of “Splash in God’s Word.” This annual summer ministry teaches kids the love of God in Christ through active, creative, and fun ways. Thanks to all who supported this amazing week.

The fruits of VBS each summer result in newcomers to our congregation and a marvelous experience of God’s Spirit. Mark your calendars for next year’s VBS July 23–27, 2012. Check out photos on our web page at www.trinity-ec.org



OFF
THE
CHARTS

New Paraments

The new green paraments (altar cloths) are given in memory of Vonnie Wangen by her husband Warren, family, and friends.

The season of the church year called the “Sundays after Pentecost” stretches into November and is noted by the color green. This green season is a time to mark and celebrate life and growth. The scripture readings in this season tell us about these gifts from God and often include Jesus’ teaching on ways to grow in faith and trust.

The new paraments, designed and made by Jeannette Paulson, use a free form version of stalks of wheat with a chalice and bunch of grapes superimposed as the central elements. These are primary ingredients of the bread and wine of the Lord’s Supper where we are nourished with the goodness of God.

Thank you to the Wangens for this gift to adorn our worship center and remind us of the life and growth we are given by God through Jesus Christ.

Tune in to the ELCA

The governing body of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America meets in biennial “Churchwide Assembly” in Orlando, August 15–19. The theme is “Freed in Christ to Serve.” Visit www.elca.org/assembly to view live webcasts of assembly plenary sessions, worship, voting results, videos, photos, live chats, and more.

Dear Friends,

The calendar has now shifted to August, and with it comes a subtle shift in the lives of many. Fall sports teams begin to practice. Teachers prepare their classrooms. Vacation time is used.

An insightful thought from my daily devotional stated, “Although there is no progress without change, not all change is progress.”

The world around us continues to evolve and change. Change can usher in progress, renewal, or strength. On the other hand, change can be detrimental, damaging, and hinder growth. All factors considered, change is part of who we are as we grow, learn, mature, and live each day.

Amidst such changes within our society, how can the church respond with clarity and direction? Where is God amidst change within and around us?

The disciples struggled to understand what Christ taught, and what they saw, compared to what they had known from the past. These changes led to the question, “Teacher, what law is the greatest?” In essence, tell us what is foundational for lasting joy and stability.

Jesus responded, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and strength. Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:36–40) The two greatest commands deal with relationships.

Brian Hathaway, noted Bible scholar, estimates that 44% of the New Testament deals with how people relate to each other. Key words that are used include: love, build up, serve, and teach.

As a church within an ever-changing society, the importance of relationships is essential for mission and faith development. Our Fresh Look congregation survey stated the following as a top priority for our congregation: **Develop ministry that nurtures relationships.**

As one of your pastors, I give thanks for the many relationships that are fostered within, and beyond, the walls of Trinity. Consider the following: worship; home visitation ministry; women’s circle meetings; Men of Integrity small group; Staying in Love couple’s ministry; Thursday morning text study; family camp; Montana Adventure trip; children’s summer day camps; international ministry in: Jamaica, Japan, Malawi, and Haiti; and Vacation Bible School (record: 376 children!).

Like the 12 disciples, we are encouraged to invite others into a relationship with God and with others in a community of faith. From the list above, and additional small group offerings on the horizon, I hope you seize an opportunity to nurture your faith with God, and with others, here at Trinity. By doing so, the joy of Christ is made new and our lives are uplifted to love and serve two lasting qualities needed in an ever-changing world!

Pastor Jim Page

44% of the New Testament deals with how people relate to each other.

New Worship Community

The Trinity pastors have been serving the synodically authorized worshipping community called “Amazing Grace” and leading their Sunday worship at First Lutheran this summer. This community is comprised of members of Grace Lutheran wishing to remain a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

This growing community has received spiritual care and healing during the summer. As fall begins, Amazing Grace will continue to worship 11:00 A.M. at First Lutheran. However, on Sunday mornings the Trinity pastors will be busy at Trinity with the resumption of the 10:30 A.M. worship service in the Chapel as well as adult learning opportunities. Thus, the Trinity pastors will be handing over pastoral leadership of Amazing Grace to the pastors of First Lutheran Church after September 4.

The pastors wish to thank the members of Trinity for being supportive of the mission they’ve provided to Amazing Grace this summer.

When Your Address Changes

Whenever you’re moving or changing to “temporarily away” with the USPS, any mail Trinity sends to you is returned

at a cost per item. Please let Trinity know when your address is changing. Email new information, send Trinity a USPS address change card, or phone Suzanne at 715.832.6601. Thank you.



ADULT LEARNING

Couple's Ministry

Last spring, 16 couples embarked on a journey of faith marked with insightful conversation, laughter, and new friendships. In addition, a leadership team developed in this shared mission to offer a ministry for couples to connect with other couples in our congregation. This connection focuses on nurturing faith, enriching marriage, and having fun!

The leadership team is offering a similar couple's ministry for the Fall with these details:

When: Sunday evenings, 6:00 P.M.–7:45 P.M., October 2–November 6 • **Where:** Chapel of Trinity Lutheran • **Resources used:** "Staying in Love" DVD; four presentations led by Pastor Andy Stanley • **Cost:** \$10 (materials used) • **Childcare:** Provided • **Registration:** Begins August 28 on our website www.trinity-ec.org under the "Grow-Faith Development" link.

For more information, contact Pastor Jim at 715.832.6601 or jim@trinity-ec.org

Men of Integrity

The Men of Integrity small group ministry continues to meet on Saturday mornings from 8:00 A.M.–9:00 A.M. in the Fireside Room of Trinity. The book *"John Wooden: One on One"* is the focus of this ministry through the end of August. Men of all ages are invited to come and connect with other men in our congregation while discussing the topic for each designated morning.

If you do not have a book...no problem! Small group conversation revolves around a brief devotional written by John Wooden to which everyone can relate. If you have any questions about this ministry, please contact Dick Cable at 715.514.4237 or Joel Higgins at joel@higginstravel.com

Spiritual Parenting

"Parenting books can be preachy-readers often feel like the children of the esrtwhile parent turned author. This book is different. Her writing is vivid, terse, and revealing-and speaks to the journey all parents must learn to accept: to hear God's voice and change along with their children."

—Publishers Weekly, April 2010

How does God guide parents and families? In her book *"Spiritual Parenting: An Awakening for Today's Families,"* Michelle Anthony calls parents to depend upon God for our children's spiritual and moral development. It's hard enough to train kids to behave, but good behavior isn't what Jesus calls for in the Bible. Parents are invited to join Pastor Jim for a six week series on Spiritual Parenting.

When: Sunday evenings, 6:00 P.M.–7:45 P.M., October 2–November 6 • **Where:** Fireside Room of Trinity • **Cost:** \$10 (participants guide) • **Childcare:** Provided • **Registration:** Begins August 28 on our website www.trinity-ec.org under the "Grow-Faith Development" link.

Learning in Retirement

Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement invites you to a variety of learning events, many of which will be held at Trinity this fall. Register for classes on August 25, 9:00–10:30 A.M. in the Trinity Room. Membership in CVLR is \$30/year. For more information about CVLR, contact Jim Urness at 715.832.5670 or jimurness@charter.net

Two CVLR events coming to Trinity this fall:

- "Argentina: A Photo Presentation" by Barb Pearson. Monday, October 10, at 2:00 P.M.
- "Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?" A six session course each Tuesday beginning October 18, 10:00 A.M.–11:45 A.M. led by Marv Lansing and Jacq Collins based on a book by this title by Harvard Professor Michael Sandel.

Event for Singers

Luther Park Bible Camp, Chetek invites you to a day-long choral retreat, September 17, led by Dr. Elliott Wold, retired UW-River Falls choral conductor. Registration information available soon at www.lutherpark.org. Cost for the day is \$40, and you can add \$15 if you wish to add Friday night stay. Registration at www.lutherpark.org.

Quilting Retreat

Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek is offering a retreat for quilters September 22–25. Bring your own project to work on and they'll sprinkle some more fun projects in throughout the stay. Cost ranges from \$90–\$150 depending on the length of stay. Check it out at www.lutherpark.org or call 715.859.2215

Be A 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 paying 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. However, the students will be able to use the 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 or youthministry@trinity-ec.org with any questions.



Seventh Grade Group Guides Needed!

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 they lead a small group follow-up lesson. We meet 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 Anne Josephson at 715.832.6601 with any questions.

Volunteer to be a MENTOR!

Youth Ministry is looking for "Triple A Adults," (Authentic, Affirming, and Available) to mentor high school students in our Club 9 confirmation program. Mentors are responsible for attending large group lessons, led by pastors, with their student and then participating in a follow up discussion with their student. Club 9 meets every other Wednesday, September through April.

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 with any questions.

Joy Day Helper Request!

Trinity has been asked to host Joy Day at Sacred Heart Hospital Rotunda on Thursday, September 1. "What is Joy Day?" Joy Day is a Triniteam Caregivers monthly program that provides food and entertainment for the elderly, disabled, volunteers, and staff. Trinity has been helping with this event for many years. We typically host in January, but have been asked if we could move to fill a September time slot for the future.

Triniteam is asking for 20 dozen treats including bars, cookies, nutbreads, and finger sandwiches. They would also like six volunteers to help assist at the party. If you are available and would like to help out, please sign up in the office or at Clipboard Central. Thank you for considering assisting with this event. Please call Ellen Dovre at 715.831.6030. with any questions

The Friendship Group

In August the group will meet on Wednesday, August 10, at 10:00 A.M. in the Trinity Room. The guest speaker will be Betty Wolcott, a member of the Order of St. Francis of Assisi. Betty resides at The Woodlands south of Osseo. She will discuss the issue of justice and peace for all humanity along with sustainability harmony. We will go to the Olive Garden for lunch. Call Elaine Lonning at 715.832.8201 to make a reservation.

Preschool Opening!

Noah's Ark has a place for your 4/5 year old in the 2011–2012 M/W/F class from 12:45–3:15 P.M. Children must be four by December 31, 2011. For more information and a classroom tour, call Jeanne Cooper, Preschool Director, at 715.832.6601 or e-mail noahsark@trinity-ec.org Noah's Ark is a great place to be!

Health Tip: Protect Against Bug Bites

Insect bites can cause uncomfortable itching and may transmit diseases such as West Nile virus. The American Academy of Pediatrics offers these suggestions to help protect against bug bites:

- Avoid using products with fragrances including perfumes, hair sprays, and scented soaps.
- Keep away from areas that attract insects such as puddles or blooming flowers.
- Avoid clothing with flower prints and bright colors.
- Use an insect repellent that contains DEET (on children at least 2 months old), but avoid products that combine sunscreen and insect repellent.
- Choose insect repellents that contain 10 percent to 30 percent DEET or, as an alternative, Picaridin.
- Wash off insect repellent when you or your children come back inside.

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Summer Reading!

There is still time for good summer reading!

New Children's Picture Books

- *When the Rooster Crowed* by Patricia Lillie. (++) FIC LIL)
- *Officer Buckle and Gloria* by Peggy Rathmann (++) RAT)
- *The Ice Horse* by Renne (++) FIC FLO)
- *Clap Your Hands* by Lorinda Bryan Cauley (+FIC CAU)
- *The Seven Seas* by Ellen Jackson (++)FIC JAC)
- *When Will It Be Spring?* By Catherine Walters (++)FIC WAL)

Not Yet, Rose by Susanna Leonard Hill. This book is great for older siblings who are waiting for the birth of the family's new baby. (++)FIC HIL)

Caregiver & Assisted Living Resources

Looking for a quick and easy resource for caregivers or those looking at Assisted Living homes in the area? Look no further! Both are now right at your fingertips!

The Chippewa Valley Family Caregiving Alliance is excited to announce their newly revamped website www.chippewavalleycaregiving.org

Caregiver Resources • Caregivers will be able to find a bevy of resources including information to help them create a better balance between their family life, career, and caregiving responsibilities. Also available 24/7 is information on items related to finances, stress, respite care etc... and events for caregivers in our community. Even better is the ability of caregivers to ask questions via the website of the nearly 50 experts in our community affiliated with www.chippewavalleycaregiving.org.

Assisted Living Resources • For those looking to get a better understanding of the types of Assisted Living available in the Chippewa Valley, please check out the Chippewa Valley Assisted Living Association's new website www.chippewavalleyassistedliving.com. This website is intended to provide professionals and community members with an easy, accessible "one-stop" resource for education and information, and it includes information regarding current assisted living openings, the different types of assisted living residences (RCAC, CBRF, CBRF-MC), and various links to other community resources and websites. In addition, www.chippewavalleyassistedliving.com contains photos and detailed information about each residence with a link to their website, a detailed list of signs to consider when it is time to move from home to assisted living, and a helpful checklist for factors to consider when choosing a facility.

Ladder to the Moon by Maya Soelorg-Ng. Inspired by the life and spirit of her own mother, An Dunham, who is also mother to President Barack Obama, Maya Soetoro-Ng has crafted a magical tale that sings with the love that bonds a family together through generations. (++) FIC SOE)

Of Thee I Sing, A Letter to My Daughters by Barack Obama. In his tender, beautiful letter to his daughters, President Barack Obama has written a moving tribute to thirteen groundbreaking Americans and the ideals that have shaped our nation—from the artistry of Georgia O'Keeffe to the courage of Jackie Robinson, from the strength of Helen Keller to the patriotism of George Washington. (+FIC OBA)

Good News

Thank you for your offerings to God through Trinity. Every offering you share honors God and blesses people here and across the world with the love of God in Christ.

Remember you can set up automatic offerings from your financial institution. It's easy to set up regular electronic fund transfers on our website: trinity-ec.org "Give" page. Your regular contributions are so helpful!

With the blessings you have received, please share them with Trinity's Regular Ministries and Mortgage Payment funds. Your generosity is appreciated as Trinity invests carefully in making a difference in people's lives. Thank you!

JANUARY TO JULY FINANCIALS

Regular Ministries	2011	2010	% Change
Offering Income	\$540,464	\$509,684	6.04%
Expenses	\$560,060	\$551,266	1.60%
Mortgage Payment	\$10,485		
Mortgage Income	\$101,352	\$96,950	4.54%

Join the Prayer Chain!

Prayer is not just for pastors. All of God's people are invited to pray on the behalf of others. Belonging to the Prayer Chain is an intentional response to the powerful gift of prayer that God has given to the Church a way for you to engage in the ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church. It is also a way for any person to act on God's command to love one another (John 13:34–35). We have two chains that we use at Trinity; one is the traditional phone chain, the second is an email chain. For additional information, please contact Cindy Beck at 715.832.6601 or cindy@trinity-ec.org

Circle Listings

MIRIAM, SARAH, AND DEBORAH

Wednesday, August 17, 9:30 A.M. Trinity
Hostess: Sheila Running/Norma Bohman
Leader: Pastor Heather Wigdahl

Circles not meeting this month are: Ruth, Dorcas, Martha/Mary

TRINITY LUTHERAN MISSIONS



Greetings from Kumamoto, Japan

Greetings from Kumamoto, Japan, where our family serves as missionaries on behalf of you and the ELCA. We miss summer fun in Wisconsin—everything from the Dunn County Fair to some of the summer activities offered through the Mabel Tainter Theater. As you fire up the grill, please enjoy some "Better Cheddar Brats" or some pan-fried walleye on behalf of the Bencke's this summer! These summer treats only come our way when we are on home assignment. Somehow, fresh eel doesn't quite measure up to some buttery.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend our heartfelt thanks to you for your ongoing prayers of support, your enthusiasm for this partnership in mission, and for your continued financial contributions to the ministry of global missions. These are tough times—weather and climate are presenting major issues for you in Wisconsin, economic issues have many of you wondering about your futures, and political issues continue to confuse everyone. I know that there are many ways for you to engage in being Jesus' hands and feet, and we would like you to know how much we and the people you serve through us appreciate your commitment to this relationship.

Read the entire newsletter from the Benckes online at www.trinity-ec.org or pick up a copy at the Information Desk in Trinity's lobby.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Meet Anita . . .

Anita visited Trinity's Food Pantry every Tuesday for the past year. Her husband was unemployed, and they struggled to make ends meet for their two boys. Anita came to visit the office on July 26 to let us know that her husband had found a wonderful job, and they were moving out of town. She came to thank Trinity for helping her family week after week during their challenging times saying that it "made all the difference in the world to her family." She was grateful for the friendly, helpful volunteers who always made sure her boys would not go hungry.

Together through prayer, time, and donations, Trinity is making a difference in the lives of those in need. Thank you!

The Sojourner House

The Sojourner House, a new homeless shelter opening in downtown Eau Claire, has begun renovations and hopes to open on October 1, 2011. The shelter will include sleeping for up to 30 men and 8 women, shower and laundry facilities, and referrals to other community resources. The shelter's mission statement is:

To provide a safe, clean place for single men and women, regardless of what their ambitions or hopes are, to sleep overnight; shower, clean their clothing, and have breakfast while ensuring our guest's personal dignity, respect, and safety.

The Sojourner House invites you to join as a supporter in this mission. If you would like to financially support this ministry, please direct your donation to Trinity Lutheran Church with a memo "Sojourner House." To track the progress of this project, visit the Sojourner House on Facebook.



Friends of Flynn News

Friends of Flynn needs your help! We will be providing healthy snacks for Flynn twice a week in September. If you would like to be a snack packer or a delivery person, look for the sign up boards in the lobby towards the end of August.

We will also be collecting school supplies for Flynn kids. There will be a collection box set out the last week in August. We need the following items: four oz. bottles of white glue, small glue sticks, boxes of Kleenex®, child size Fiskar® scissors, plain two-pocket folders, eight or ten count Crayola® classic markers, erasers, yellow highlighters, pencil sharpeners with attached container for shavings, red pens, and colored pencils.

We will still be collecting new underwear and socks, milk tops, Campbells® soup labels, General Mills® box tops and pull tabs off soda cans. If you would like to financially support this ministry, please direct your donation to Trinity Lutheran Church with a memo "Friends of Flynn."

Community Table

Join us on Friday, August 26, as Trinity serves the hungry in our area at the Community Table. Two shifts are available. The first shift (3:00–5:00 P.M.) helps prepare the meal while the second shift (4:45–7:00 P.M.) serves the meal. This is an excellent opportunity for couples, families, youth, or anyone who wants to serve! Sign up at Clipboard Central or contact Suzanne Becker at 715.832.6601 or suzanne@trinity-ec.org.

Soles for Special Souls

We are gearing up to distribute almost 200 shoe vouchers this month to children getting ready for school. Children will be able to select their shoes at K-mart, and the discounted cost will be billed back to Trinity. We've received wonderful feedback from families who are SO EXCITED for a new pair of shoes before school starts in the fall. We are also coordinating with the Bolton Refuge House and providing their staff with vouchers to be used at their discretion for families in need. If you would like to donate to "Soles for Special Souls," cash or checks may be made out to Trinity with a designation of "Shoe Project."

Haiti Partners for Kids

We support Haiti Partners and have received word the school year just finished. Our support has helped 1000 children receive an education. In addition, more than 1,500 teachers have received training in participatory education and collaborative leadership. Haiti Partners works to leverage the motivation and good will of Haitian educators to help kids and adults discover their God-given potential. Your offerings are investments in these Haitians. Thank you! You can learn more at haitipartners.org

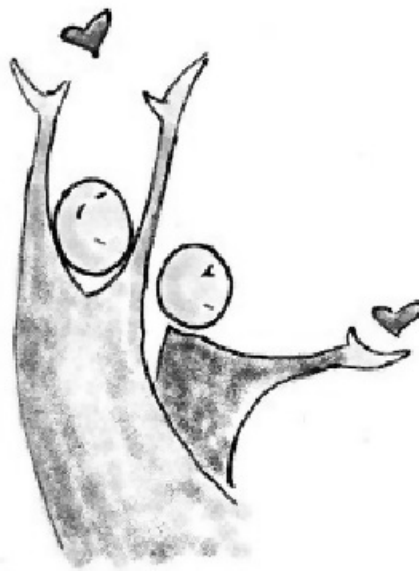
Mission Jamaica is about Friendships

Bob and Mary Schoenknecht have been an instrumental part of Mission Jamaica for many years.

From the very beginning, one of the most rewarding aspects of our mission trips to Kingston, Jamaica is the good friends we make there. Each year as we return, we warmly renew our connection with old friends and welcome new friends as well. This past spring we spent our last day touring the Mavis Banks Coffee Factory in the Blue Mountains just outside of Kingston. On the way back, I asked if we could visit Hope Valley Experimental School where we had worked during our first two mission trips. We chose Hope Valley for our first trips because we had a number of teachers in our group who wanted to visit classrooms in Jamaica. We also had a number of young people who we thought might like to connect with other Jamaican children. The school site was a good choice because we had seventy-five people in our first group and forty in our second group.

One of the friends that we made at Hope Valley was Patrick. Patrick lived in the Mona Rehabilitation Center which is located right next to the school. Patrick had birth defects caused by thalidomide. He was born missing the lower portions of both legs, and he had only two fingers on each hand. Despite his limitations, Patrick could do many things and was a great help to us during our stay. His preferred mode of transportation was a skate board which he handled with perfection from a sitting position. As we approached the school for our visit this year, I thought immediately of Patrick. We had not seen him in almost ten years, and I wondered if he was still around. When we got to the gate of the school, there was Patrick ready to let us in. He was riding in his new electric wheel chair. We were so excited to get reacquainted again. We warmly welcomed each other as if no time had passed. I noticed that his skate board was still tucked in the back pocket of the wheel chair.

When people ask me what I get out of going on this mission trip, I tell them the most important things are the friendships. Jesus tells us that we are to love our neighbors. I invite you to consider coming with us next time and meet some of our Jamaican neighbors. I think you will find that you, too, will want to go again and again to visit those good friends that you make there. —Pastor Bob Schoenknecht



Beacon House

With the incredible volunteer efforts of over 20 area faith based organizations, the Beacon House in downtown Eau Claire provides emergency shelter, meals, and hospitality to families and single pregnant women for up to 30 days. In 2010, 57 families received shelter including 101 children. 90% of these families left the Beacon house with stable housing. 72% left with stable employment. Trinity is proud to be a supporter of the Beacon House. Four times a year we serve by providing meals and acting as hosts to the guests. It's a wonderful, rewarding opportunity to serve those in need in our community. Our next serving opportunity is the week of September 18. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer, please contact Roman or Diane Fritz at 715.835.5021 or dsfritz@charter.net. Please consider joining us!

Share The Growth

Trinity's Food Pantry welcomes the vegetables you grow in your garden. Please remember our congregation's ministry of sharing food in the community through our pantry when you have an abundance of produce.

Your donations may be left in the church office between 8:00 A.M.–1:00 P.M. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Our pantry is open those afternoons, so your contribution will be fresh to share with our guests.

For more information about donating produce, volunteering in the pantry, and financial support, please contact Suzanne Becker at 715.832.6601 or suzanne@trinity-ec.org

Received in June

Memorials & Gifts

Day Camps

- In memory of Larry Collison: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In memory of Jeanne Cruciani: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Children's Bibles

- In memory of Irene Harder: Darcy & Vicki Fields
- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Rose Sippel
- In memory of Loretta Voelz: Rose Sippel
- In memory of Larry Collison: Rose Sippel
- In memory of Jean Sweer: Rose Sippel

Food Pantry

- In memory of Irene Harder: Jim & Barb Johnson, John & Nancee Burbank
- In memory of Ken Eggen: Jim & Marge Oleson, Barb Tischer, Joanne Stange, Char Finseth
- In memory of Iver Jacobson: Diane Nelson
- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Clifton & Doris Husberg, Gar & Shirley Freeberg, Jack & Carol Baringale
- In memory of Jean Sweer: Gar & Shirley Freeberg

Volunteer Ministry

- In memory of Jean Sweer: Mark Sippel, Al & Judy Guite, Win Hanson, Doug & Jean Parr, Thomas & Judi Wolter, Dorothy Norby, George & Jill Bleskachek, David & Carol Anderson, Barry & Frances Babbitt

Memorials

- In memory of Jean Sweer: Morris & Audrey Brumberg, Jon & Maureen Homstad
- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Morris & Audrey Brumberg, Avis Grambo, Kermit & June Walker, Agnes Borton-Smith, Richard Peterson, Brenda Degenhardt, Jon & Maureen Homstad, Michael Siker, Daniel Berg, Family & Friends, Elayne Peterson, Patricia Ness, Anna Trullinger, Vila Nygaard, Norman & Vi Berg, Bob & Janet Roemer, Richard Walker, Sandra Nordlund, Todd & Emily Nordlund, Jon & Patty Nordlund, Peter & Beth Garza, Berniece Kramer, Helen Leipnitz, Pamela White, Milo & Carleen Tiefenthaler, Marlo & Beverly Orth, Elwood & Norma Forde, Roshan Sharif, Paul & Carla Lokken, Herbert & Doris Olson, Marilyn Ferrell, Howard & Patricia Aspenson, James & Mary Farrell, Robert & Helen DuBois, Glenn & Judith Arnault, Lee & Gloria Seidel, Gerald & Sharon Schlewitz, Mary Mills, Harold & Floy Ann Dorgan, Andrew & Brenda Schlafer, Judy Scott

Music

- In memory of Iver Jacobson: Richard & Norma Gordon

Quilters

- In memory of Irene Harder: Jim & Marjorie Oleson

Organ

- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Al & Pat Hanson

Handbells

- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Ann Ayres

Noah's Ark Preschool

- In memory of Larry Collison: Ron & Marilyn Thompson

ELCA U.S. Severe Storm Relief

- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Family & Friends

Library

- In memory of Irene Harder: Barb Tischer
- In memory of Bonnie Aspenson: Jerry & Joanne Dow
- In honor of Elaine Lonning's 85th birthday: Ardelle Brown

Creating Spiritual Identity

How parents help teach kids to see themselves as children of God!

Kids identify themselves in a variety of ways. Young children learn to see themselves as sons or daughters, brothers or sisters. Through their daily activities, older children view themselves in additional ways: students, athletes, musicians, the list goes on.

Growing up with an overarching sense of belonging to God is a vital way for kids to define themselves. Helping them tap into their identities as children of God is something parents can nurture.

"Parents are apostles, priests and bishops for their kids," said Pat Eidsness, a lay mission developer and associate in ministry at Westside Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, S.D. "What happens at home literally doubles the chances that kids will grow up connected to a church and seeing God in their lives."

Parents help ground their children with a stronger spiritual identity when they:

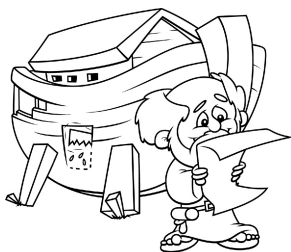
- **Talk about God's Presence** • Share the day's highs and lows with each other, perhaps at a meal or at the end of the evening, and talk about ways that God was part of those experiences. "Informal conversations like these help children develop a sense of watchfulness for God's fingerprints in their daily lives," said Eidsness, former director of the South Dakota Synod's "Faith Family Style" program. "When we start paying attention, we start to see that God's presence is with us everywhere," she said.
- **Show and Tell** • Collect and display items that tie to your family's faith, such as a grandparent's confirmation certificate or a candle from your child's baptism. Talk about these items and what they represent in your family's ongoing journey of faith. Stories like these can help anchor children in their family's faith heritage and spur a stronger sense of spiritual identity.
- **Document It** • Start a faith scrapbook for your child, and encourage them to add to it as they grow. Include pages for special Sunday school drawings, pictures of your child at volunteer projects or church events, and other memories that highlight your child's faith formation. Over the years, children can look back on these pages and remember God's work in their lives.

Noah's News

As I write this, I am flying "high" with the energy and powerful message of Trinity Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School worship! What an opportunity for all ages! I'm seeing LOTS of Noah's Ark alumni and currently enrolled students, and it's a trip down memory lane for me. I LOVE all the BIG kids who were part of our Noah's Ark ministry years ago. Some of them are now teachers, in the band, and/or parents who come back to be a part of this amazing experience together!

This propels me into the NEW year. The 2011–2012 school year is soon to kick off. It'll be great to see parents and teachers gather at Orientation Night on Monday, August 29, at 6:00 P.M., to prepare for our great year together. We'll also be gathering in the preschool room for Visit Week Tuesday, September 6, thru Friday, September 9. Parents, please check the special calendar sent out in the summer mailing with class lists and the school calendar.

FYI....as the congregation of Trinity, you are our best advertisement. Please tell your family/friends that Noah's Ark has M/W/F P.M. (12:45–3:15 P.M.) openings for children who are four before December 31, 2010. SPREAD the news! Hugs to you all for a peaceful August! Love, Ms "C"



Be Part of the Team!

Be part of the team for sharing 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. I am inviting you to be that person! We start our Sunday lessons on September 11 and our Wednesday lessons on September 14. For more information, please contact me, Mary Schoenknecht, at 715.832.6601.

Sunday Morning Teaching Positions

- Session 1 (8:55–9:30): two year olds—Grade 6
- Session 2 (10:30–11:05): two year olds—Grade 6

Camp T.G.I.F. Teaching Positions

Consider job sharing. Find a partner or ask to be assigned one! There are teaching spots for Grades 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Qualified People Are:

Adults and youth (youth teachers must be in high school—completed 9th grade; 7th, 8th, & 9th grade students can be helpers when they aren't participating in confirmation classes) who are committed to sharing the Good News of Jesus with our young people.

To Volunteer

- 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 the church office and ask for Mary Schoenknecht (715.832.6601).
- Email Mary at marys@trinity-ec.org

Teacher Orientations

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—Wednesday, September 7, from 5:00–6:25 P.M.
- Sunday School Teachers—Thursday, September 8, at 7:00 P.M.

Important Dates

- Registration Events: Tuesday, August 30, and Wednesday, August 31. Both evenings start at 5:00 P.M. (before Club 78 and Club 9 registrations).
- Rally Sunday is September 11—Bibles distributed to three year olds and third grade students.
- Wednesday, September 14—Choir and T.G.I.F. schedule begins.
- Sunday, September 25—Education Staff Installation at 9:45 A.M. worship service.

Thank you for saying "YES" to teaching our children about God's love.

Camp Come and Play—Semester 1 • Beginning September 7

For: Children with birthdays between 8.1.2008 and 5.31.2009 (limited to 12 children in each session)

Time: Session Two 12:15–2:15 P.M.

Dates: On Wednesdays beginning September 7 for 14 class periods

Cost: \$182

Friday Friends • Beginning January 2012

For: Children who are three by 12.31.11. **Register now to hold your place as enrollment is limited!**

Time: 9:00–11:15 A.M.

Dates: On Fridays beginning January 6 for 18 class periods

Cost: \$240 (\$120 deposit due at the time of registration; the remaining \$120 due in December)

The Great Pretenders • Beginning September 13

Come and join the fun. Dynamic drama and awesome art will be combined to enhance children's literature and Bible stories. After creating props and costumes, children will use them to act out the stories. Theater games, creative movement, story structures, and creative artistry will be explored in this high energy class.

For: Children who are four by 12.31.11.

Time: 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Tuesdays beginning September 13 for 14 class periods

Cost: \$180

Thrilling Thursdays • Beginning September 15

Spend Thursday mornings engaged in a wide variety of preschool activities. Children will cook, read, paint, experiment, sing, and dance. The class will allow children to explore and discover in the areas of language, science, music, math, and art. A hands on discovery approach will be emphasized in a Christian environment. **For:** Children who are four by 12.31.11. Limited to eight students per group.

Time: 9:00–11:00 A.M. OR 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Thursdays beginning September 15 for 13 class periods

Cost: \$167

Music & Movement Mondays • Beginning September 12

Move and groove to the music with both new and old songs. We will explore music with song, dance, and instruments—a wonderful bonding experience for you and your child. New theme each week and Bible stories conclude each class. Parent or caregiver must attend class with child.

For: Children ages 1–3

Time: Session 1–9:15–10:00 A.M. or Session 2–10:30–11:15 A.M. on Mondays beginning September 12 for 13 class periods

Cost: \$84



Registration: To register or for more information call, Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601. **Please share this information with your friends.**

August Activity Night

ALL 2011–2012 Club 78 students are invited to a GREAT night of fun, food, and fellowship on Wednesday, August 17, from 5:30–7:30 P.M. outside at Trinity! We will meet at the picnic tables in the back parking lot. The High School Youth Council will lead us in games. Pizza, pop, and root beer floats will be provided. Sign up at the Tool Bench and meet everyone in your new confirmation classes. Contact Lisa or Cassie with any questions at 715.832.6601 or cassie@trinity-ec.org



Confirmation Kick-Off!

There's something incredibly exciting happening at Trinity on Wednesday, September 7, from 6:30–8:30 P.M. Youth Minister Josh Corbett is going to be here! Josh has been in Youth Ministry full time for the past 12 years. Over those years, Josh has used his musical gifts in worship and at a variety of other venues and experiences. Josh believes that every person has value, is beautiful, and that grace is available to all. Josh's desire is that every person would realize their true potential in Christ and that they truly believe in themselves. One of his greatest passions is worship. Josh's songs are lessons about life, crafted from personal experience, full of palpable emotions, and underscored by an unshakable faith and articulate, percussive guitar that uplifts those who are hearing and seeing the work of his heart. A fun fact about Josh...he served as Youth Ministry Director at Trinity Lutheran from 2000–2004!

All Confirmation students must attend. All high school students are strongly encouraged to experience this inspirational event. Join us for worship and Josh's message, music, and fellowship. You don't want to miss it!

2012 National Youth Gathering

Youth and families are invited on Sunday, August 28, at 5:30 P.M. to gather at St. John's Lutheran Church, in Eau Claire, for a New Orleans style BBQ. This Sunday marks the kick-off to the 2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering scheduled for July 15–23, 2012. We are partnering with St. John's Lutheran Church to venture to the gathering together. Come learn about the sites we'll visit in Memphis and New Orleans, and learn about the Youth Gathering's mission. We'll talk details and answer questions. All students entering high school the summer of 2012 are eligible to attend. Contact Lisa or Cassie at 715.832.6601 or cassie@trinity-ec.org with questions.

Mark Your Calendars! Confirmation Orientation Dates

- Club 78 Student and Parent/Guardian Orientation Dates: Tuesday, August 30, 5:30–6:15 P.M. in the Trinity Room or Wednesday, August 31, 5:30–6:15 P.M. in the Trinity Room.
- Club 78 Group Guide Orientation: Wednesday, September 21, 7:15 P.M. Room 208.
- Club 9 Student and Parent/Guardian Orientation Dates: Tuesday, August 30, 6:30–7:15 P.M. in the Trinity Room or Wednesday, August 31, 6:30–7:15 P.M. in the Trinity Room.
- Club 9 Mentor Orientation: Wednesday, September 14, 7:15 P.M. in the Chapel.

CrossWord Youth Band

Calling all high school students who love music! Trinity's high school praise band, CrossWord, is preparing for another year of music, worship, and fun. Look in future bulletins for our first meeting date. Contact Lisa at 715.832.6601 or youthministry@trinity-ec.org with any questions.





Keep Summertime Pastimes Safe by Preventing Gasoline Burn Injuries

Tips for Parents • Parents can keep summertime pastimes, like grilling and building campfires, safe for their kids this season by following the simple guidelines below. The consequences of gasoline burn injuries can be severe and lifelong. They are also preventable.

Tips for parents in the safe handling of gasoline:

- Never use gas to start a fire. Parents who mix gas and fire put themselves—and anyone near them—at risk of injury or death. Kids also learn by example.
- Talk to your kids about gasoline. Teenager Austin Bailiff nearly died in a gas fire. Share his video with your child at www.StopGasFires.org.
- Keep gas out of reach of children. Out of sight isn't enough, for any age. Store your gasoline where children cannot access it. Many parents keep their gas in a locked location.
- Use a proper container. Never use old soda bottles or other makeshift containers to store gas; someone might think it's a beverage and drink it. And even a small cup of gasoline can emit vapors and may ignite.
- Store gasoline in a well-ventilated area outside your vehicle and living space. Consider a detached garage or outdoor storage shed.
- Keep gas away from any source of heat, spark or flame. Even common household appliances like water heaters and clothes dryers can ignite gas vapors.
- Read the warning label on your gas can. A list of safety precautions is imprinted on every approved portable gasoline container. Make sure you read the warnings if you store gasoline at home.
- Visit StopGasFires.org for more information and to help spread the word to other parents.

StopGasFires.org is a program of the National Gasoline Safety Project, which is sponsored by the Portable Fuel Container Manufacturers Association in partnership with Shriners Hospitals for Children and Safe Kids USA. An estimated 1,500 children are injured or killed in gasoline fires each year. Overall, approximately 14,500 people die every year from burn injuries and burn-related infections.

Marti Hofer, Parish Nurse

Greek Salad

Yield 6 servings

Take the ingredient list to the Farmers Market and pick up as much fresh veggies as you can!

INGREDIENTS

- 1 head romaine lettuce- rinsed, dried, and chopped
- 1 red onion, thinly sliced
- 1 (6 ounce) can pitted black olives
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped
- 1 cucumber, sliced
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 6 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 lemon, juiced
- ground black pepper to taste

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large salad bowl, combine the Romaine, onion, olives, bell peppers, tomatoes, cucumber, and cheese.
2. Whisk together the olive oil, oregano, lemon juice, and black pepper. Pour dressing over salad; toss and serve.

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION

Amount Per Serving Calories: 265 |
Total Fat: 22.4g | Cholesterol: 22mg
Powered by ESHA Nutrient Database





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

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Jeanne Cooper—God's Little Singers
Shirley Sands—Totally Joyous Christians, Children's Choir,
Harmony in Spirit
Ryan Poquette—Trinity Tollers
Jami Brieske—Worship Music Leader
Brian Pressler—Worship Music Leader

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- Please submit all articles for the Tidings electronically in MS Word, WordPerfect 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 23.