

Trinity Lutheran Church

Saints Alive! Living Generously

—1 Corinthians 16:1-1 (NRSV)

Proverbs 19:6 • Many seek the favor of the generous, and everyone is a friend to a giver of gifts.

Generous people in our lives are gifts from God! Our lives have been touched by people who have been generous in spirit and faithful to God and neighbor. There are people who have been generous to us with their love, attitude, time, and resources shared. Who are these people?

This month Trinity is exploring “Saints Alive: Living Generously” as a way of helping us shape a response for our financial giving for the mission of Christ through our church in 2012. By thinking of generous “saints” in our lives and in biblical history, we will be encouraged in living generously now and blessing a mission forever!

Come and worship each Sunday or Wednesday this October, and touch the joy of generosity we experience in God and the saints who mark our lives.

“The best motivation for generosity comes from a deep sense of gratitude to God. The spiritual grounding that comes from such gratitude feeds one’s desire to be generous and impacts many other life practices.” -John P. Mobley

The Inquiring Mind

“If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.” James 1:5



Become a Member in October!

If you’ve been waiting to join our church or if you know someone you want to see become part of Trinity, note this: Tuesday, October 25, from 6:00–7:30 P.M. This is a one time gathering for all interested in joining Trinity. Please RSVP suzanne@trinity-ec.org For more information now, please contact any of the pastors: kurt@trinity-ec.org, jim@trinity-ec.org, heather@trinity-ec.org

Noah’s Ark Spaghetti Supper

Come and help Trinity’s Noah’s Ark Preschool celebrate at the Fall Harvest Spaghetti Supper Bash on Tuesday, October 11, from 4:00–7:00 P.M. Come and indulge yourself on spaghetti & meatballs, Texas Roadhouse rolls, dessert, and fellowship. There will be games and activities for children of all ages. We’ll also have a silent auction with thematic gift baskets. In advance, individual tickets are \$3.00–age 12 and under; \$6.00–age 13 and older. Advance tickets are available in the office during the week. Tickets will also be sold on Sundays October 2 and 9, and Wednesday, October 5 at the Information Center in the lobby. At the door, adult ticket prices will increase to \$7.00.



Dear Friends:

*new ways
to apply
eternal
truths*

The advent of another school year turns our attention to the development of young minds that shape people and the future of the human community. In the ministries of our church, we are about shaping minds and souls for the growing of the reign of God on earth. It's an endeavor that compels us forward, but it involves the challenges of inquiry and change.

In one of my favorite quotes, Brian Dillworth comments on times of rapid change: *"Change now tends to outdistance our ability to learn.*

Established knowledge can quickly be outdistanced by the pace of new challenges and events... Knowledge on hand [existing knowledge] tends to misdirect inquiry rather than facilitate problem resolution."

In other words, in times of rapid change, what you know can misdirect you!

In my field of work, I've seen many changes. Having been in ministry with you since 1988, the changes are profound for our life together and the living of our faith in daily life. But change isn't limited to my profession! I could say, "I have been a pastor for over two decades, and I know what I am doing," but it would be more appropriate to say, "I knew what I was doing." Such a statement could be made in virtually every field of human endeavor today. Things are changing.

No matter our place in life, our calling to a vocation, or our age, the gift of an inquiring mind is a necessary tool to continue growing and engaging in the life that God gives us. We need new knowledge — new ways to apply eternal truths and essential principles to present opportunities for our daily ministries in places and relationships where our faith is employed.

There is no substitute in our day for the inquiring mind—a mind that asks "why?" and "what if?" questions; a mind that reads and reflects; a mind that is not locked on repeating only what is familiar.

Such an inquiring mind shows appropriate honor to God who was, and is, and is to come. God is open to inquiry and change! An inquiring mind also shows appropriate honor to past and present practices of community life while having the courage and flexibility to experiment with new patterns and approaches.

May you give thanks for your inquiring mind and enjoy exercising the gift of your mind.

Peace,

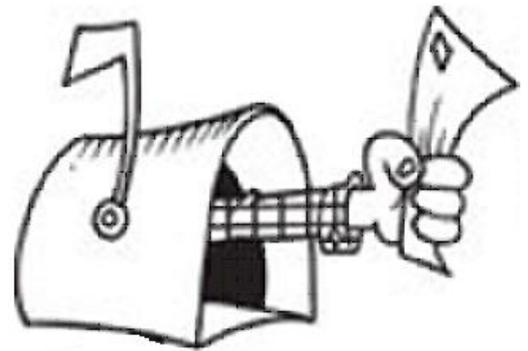
Pastor Kurt Jacobson

St. Olaf Chapel Choir

The St. Olaf Chapel Choir of Northfield, Minnesota will sing on Saturday, October 22, at 6:30 P.M. at Trinity Lutheran Church. With "Transformations" as their theme, the 100 voice Chapel Choir will share a worship/music event based around the Vespers liturgy found in the ELW, the newest Lutheran hymn book. A free-will offering will be taken. The Chapel Choir will also sing on Sunday morning, October 23. Call Shirley Sands at 715.832.6601 or visit www.trinity-ec.org for more information.

Flying South for the Winter?

Don't forget to arrange with the US Post Office to have your mail forwarded to your temporary mailing address. Give our office a call, and we will make sure you don't miss any newsletters or other important mailings!



Adult Education

Book Study

“What Good is God?”

The Men of Integrity ministry invites men to a study beginning October 8 of journalist Philip Yancey's book “What Good is God?” This book recounts Yancey's search for an answer to the question that “occurs in some form to every person.” The author met with a variety of people including leaders of an underground church in China, Dalits (untouchables) in India, and Bible college students in the U.S. This ministry meets on Saturday mornings from 8:00 A.M.–9:00 A.M. in the Fireside Room. The book is \$20. Visit our website trinity-ec.org for more information or contact Pastor Jim at jim@trinity-ec.org to order a book for you!

Chippewa Valley Learning in Retirement

Since Trinity is providing a venue for this group, members of Trinity are invited to attend the following sessions free of charge. For more information, please contact the office at 715.832.6601.

- **Teaching Adventures in Argentina** • Hola y bienvenido! In spring 2011, three professors and 17 students from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire studied Geology, Biology, and Economics in Mendoza, Argentina. Through pictures and stories, hear about their adventures horseback riding and camping, learning the language and culture, hiking in the desert, field science, and much more. This class will be presented on Monday, October 10, from 2:00–3:30 P.M. in Trinity's Chapel.
- **Lessons from an Armenian Geographer in Turkey** • For many years, Prof. Kaldjian's interests have focused on such topics as the geography of food, Turkish agriculture, urban food security, the Middle East and North Africa, and Istanbul's green cities and market gardens. He has traveled often in the Middle East and, in this presentation, will discuss travel, the relationships he has built with the people and places of Turkey, and the experience of turning those relationships into a study abroad program for University of Eau Claire students in the summer of 2011. This class is being presented on Monday, October 17, from 1:30–3:00 P.M. in Trinity's Chapel.
- **Justice: What's the Right Thing to Do?** • These six sessions, based on Michael J. Sandel's famous course at Harvard University, will use his book by this title and the companion videos of his lively classes. Each session will consist of a 55-minute video followed by 45 minutes of discussion. You should have a copy of the book and, if you wish, check out the course ahead of time by going to www.justiceharvard.org. There, at no cost, you can sign up on your own and even watch the presentations that will be shown in class. This presentation is being offered on Tuesdays: October 18, 25; November 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 10:00–11:45 A.M. in Trinity's Chapel.

Serving the Community

Trinity is fortunate to partner with various organizations who work to improve the lives of those in need. This month we continue with our educational opportunities focusing on the homeless, the hungry, and those at risk in our community. The speakers will offer their presentations after the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship services. All are welcome to attend!

- Sunday, October 9: Rachel Keniston, Director of the Community Table
- Sunday, October 16: Emily Moore, Director of Feed My People

Memory Care Community Meeting

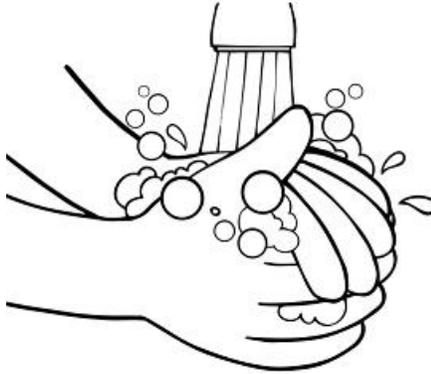
The Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County is pleased to announce the upcoming event, “Memory Loss: Empowering Communities through Early Detection,” to be held on Thursday, October 13, at the Plaza Hotel and Suites from 3:00–7:00 P.M.

The goal of this event is to help educate our community about the importance of early detection of memory loss. Dr. Amber Gerber-Richgels, Clinical Psychologist in the Neuropsychology Department at Mayo Clinic Health System in Eau Claire, will provide a presentation to attendees on this subject matter. We will also offer the option of receiving a 1-1 memory screening prior to the event. This no-cost event includes dinner and resource exhibits. Register by October 10 by calling 715.839.4735.



Sharing the Peace or Sharing Germs?

During this cold and flu season, should we be worrying about our faith community's practice of sharing the peace by shaking hands? Just remember, we come into contact with germs by nearly ANY surface we touch; the door knob, the bathroom faucet, or the grocery cart handle to name just a few. We pick up germs from other sources and then infect ourselves when we touch our eyes, nose, or mouth. Hand washing is the first line of defense against the spread of infectious diseases for adults, as well as children, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Wash your hands frequently and regularly (for at least 15 seconds) or carry your own small container of Instant Hand Sanitizer to use before and after church. Remember, the ritual of Sharing the Peace (originally the "Kiss of Peace!") is centuries old and is a form of healing in and of itself, symbolizing reconciliation, forgiveness, unity, and wholeness as a community of faith. If you are uncomfortable shaking hands, a pat on the arm and warm smile can convey the same sentiment.



After-Hours Pastoral Care

The Trinity pastors work in cooperation with the Parish Nurse, Director of Visitation Ministries, and area chaplains at hospitals and other care facilities to provide for Trinity members when an unexpected health event happens. In the rare occasion that this comes into your life during the night time or weekend, please know the Trinity pastors are ready to respond when you phone them directly using the numbers listed on the back cover of this newsletter. Please keep it handy or mark it in a permanent place in your home. When such events happen and you or your family member is being treated in a hospital or care facility, the staff there will respond to your request to contact a pastor. Don't hesitate to ask.

When You Find Yourself in the Hospital

The pastoral care team of Pastors Kurt, Jim, Heather and Parish Nurse Marti Hofer share responsibility for making regular trips to area hospitals to visit Trinity members during in-patient stays. However, they can only visit you or your loved one when they are informed. While the hospitals do their best to track our members, there are times when the pastoral care team doesn't get the information.

You can be assured good pastoral care if you or a family member calls (715.832.6601) or emails (trinity@trinity-ec.org) the church office in advance or during a hospitalization. Getting this information in these two ways (call or email) is very helpful. The information you share directly with this team allows them to bring the best in care to you. Thank you for taking the first step in keeping them informed.

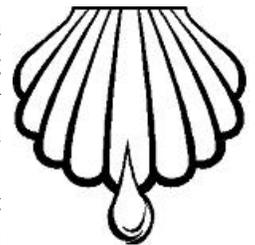
Friendship Group Autumn Leaf Tour

The Friendship Group (for senior citizens) Annual Autumn Leaf Tour will leave from the church parking lot on Wednesday, October 12, at 9:30 A.M. The group will enjoy a roast beef and mashed potato lunch at 11:00 A.M. at the Twin Bluff Restaurant and will travel to the Nelson Cheese House for an ice cream dessert. After dessert they will tour the Castle Rock Museum in Alma. The cost for the day is \$34.50; reservation deadline is October 7. Send checks to Elaine Lonning, 1210 E. Lexington Blvd., Eau Claire WI 54701.

When You Desire Baptism

The vitality and hope for new generations emerging for Trinity is seen about 50 times a year when a child is baptized in worship. We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism in Sunday worship normally on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Dates available are October 9; November 13, 22,

When a child is born, schedule a baptism by calling or emailing any pastor to begin arrangements. The pastor presiding at the baptism will meet with you in



advance to discuss the meaning of baptism and answer your questions. If you are not baptized, it's never too late. Baptism of youth and adults is more common today. Don't be bashful. Call or email a pastor at kurt@trinity-ec.org, jim@trinity-ec.org, heather@trinity-ec.org

Saint John's Bible Arrives in Chippewa Valley

In 1998, Saint John's Abbey and University in Collegeville, Minnesota commissioned renowned calligrapher Donald Jackson to produce a hand-written, hand-illuminated Bible. The Saint John's Bible is a work of art, and the first of its kind in over 500 years. A team of artists and scholars brought together the ancient techniques of calligraphy and illumination, and the result is a truly magnificent and monumental achievement.

In January, a group of local individuals began to champion an effort to acquire a Heritage Edition of The Saint John's Bible for the Chippewa Valley community. These individuals made up the Heritage Foundation and included nine members of Trinity. At a cost of \$140,000, the Heritage Edition is a seven-volume, full-size fine art reproduction of the original and is limited to only 299 signed and numbered sets in the world.

Sacred Heart Hospital and Mayo Health Systems collaborated to receive the St. John's Bible as a gift to the Chippewa Valley and prominently display them in each institution.

This is a tremendous gift of God's work to the Eau Claire community and the Chippewa Valley overall!

Memorials & Gifts

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Larry Gourdoux: Ron Retzlaff

Children's Bibles

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Ruth Circle
- In memory of Larry Collison: Family & Friends, Allan & Patricia Hanson

Soles for Special Souls

- In memory of Mary Carter: Dan & Jackie Helgeson
- In honor of Jackson Roecker: Dan & Jackie Helgeson

Food Pantry

- In memory of Vonnie Wangen: Anonymous
- In memory of Larry Gourdoux: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In memory of Susan Anderson: Ron & Marilyn Thompson

Chloe Richie Memorial

- In memory of Larry Collison: Family & Friends, Robert & Nancy Molde

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Larry Collison: Family & Friends, Leland & Anna Mayer, Scott & Cindy Webb, Jean Close, Roger & Shirley Shepler

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, October 20, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Ann Felton
Leader: Nancee Burbank

Dorcas

Wednesday, October 19, 1:00 P.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Rose Sippel
Leader: Pat Hanson

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, October 18, 7:00 P.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Vila Nygaard
Leader: Marilyn Johnson

Miriam

Wednesday, October 19, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Sonia Becker
Leader: Group

Ruth

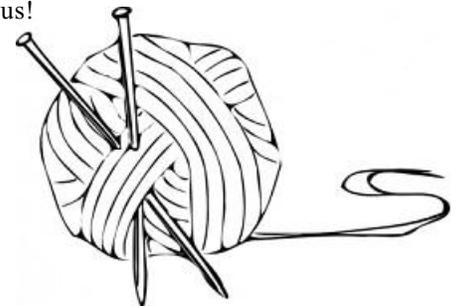
Wednesday, October 18, 1:30 P.M.
Hostess: Lori Juneau, 3056 Neptune
Leader: Shirley Freeberg

Sarah

Wednesday, October 19, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Phyllis Burrows
Leader: Barb Vorhes

Come Knit with Us!

We invite you to join a group of enthusiastic knitters Tuesday, October 25! The group meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month in the Fireside Room at 6:30 P.M. We are open to the public! Please join us!



Stewardship and Financial Data

Gift that Lives Forever

Trinity has a permanent (endowed) fund to receive contributions that come from your estate or current giving. The Trust Fund benefits from designated memorials you give upon the death of someone in your life. The endowed principal generates income which is extremely beneficial for current ministry support. In 2011 grants from the Trust Fund have provided:

- Tuition assistance for needy preschoolers to attend Noah’s Ark.
- A grant for a seminarian from Trinity attending Luther Seminary.
- Grants to employ teenagers and develop their leadership skills in our summer day camp ministries.
- A grant to support the men’s mission at Jabneh Christian Academy in Jamaica.

Please remember the Trust Fund when you wish to give a memorial to Trinity or honor someone upon a birthday or anniversary. Then remember the Trust Fund as you’re updating your will. A simple designation in your estate plan can live on forever through the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. For more information, please visit our Trust Fund or Giving page on the web at trinity-ec.org

Thank You

Thank you for sharing in ways that impact lives and the good of our world in the name of Christ! Please remember you can always give online at trinity-ec.org There you may set up automatic transfers so that your charitable intentions are always fulfilled!

Regular Ministries January–August	2011	2010
Offering Income	\$607,663	\$585,581
Expenses	\$632,726	623,863
Variation	-\$25,063	-\$38,282

Getting Out of Debt

Like many people, Trinity lives with a mortgage because we’ve invested in a facility that serves hundreds of people every week. Each week your mortgage payment offering, in addition to regular ministries offering, helps Trinity make a \$10,485 monthly payment to the ELCA Mission Investment Fund that holds our note. Thank you for every offering you make.

A wise person once said, “Bad habits are developed when times are good and good habits are developed when times are bad.” Given all that is happening in the economy these days, it’s a great time for all of us to rethink our gift-giving habits.

Nathan Dungan at sharesavespend.com

Looking to 2012

On Sunday, October 30, all members of Trinity will be asked to make financial commitments for 2012, expressions of faith and trust in God. The 2012 commitment will again be two-parts:

1. For regular ministries.
2. For mortgage payment (toward the \$10,485 monthly mortgage payment on our improved facility).

Watch your mail for your commitment card arriving the week of October 24. Then prayerfully consider your generosity and respond on Sunday, October 30, or Wednesday, November 2, in worship. You may also make your 2012 commitment online at trinity-ec.org

Favorite Picks from Trinity Library Committee Members

Reviewed by Sonnie Jacobson

“When Everything Changed” (The Amazing Journey of American Women from 1960 to the Present) by Gail Collins.

Gail Collins’ masterful narration of 50 years from the time when most women had to get their husband’s permission to apply for a credit card until the historic presidential campaign of Hilary Clinton. Told in an amazing down to earth style, older readers will remember much of this and younger readers will see their past in a new way. Great!!

Reviewed by Barb Johnson

“The Help” by Kathryn Stockett.

This best selling novel is the story of African American maids in Mississippi in the 1960’s and is written by a Caucasian woman. The novel has been made into a movie which is currently playing in theaters nationwide. Both are number one favorites in their genre. (FIC STO)

Reviewed by Marg Satre

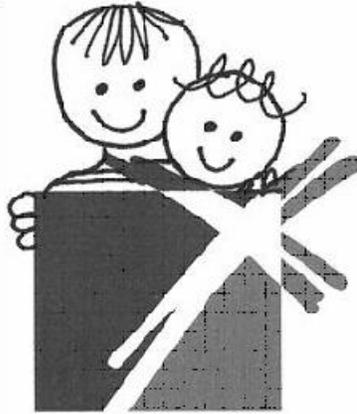
“Trail Through the Mists” by Barbara J. Rolland and Houa Vue Moua.

And you think you’ve had a bad day? Because the Communists were coming, Houa and her family had to go by foot through the jungle and across the river to get to Bouam Long. When they finally got to Bouam Long, they lived with relatives and had more challenges. They tried to get back to their homes to farm but learned their area was being bombed. The story continues as they make their way to a Thai refugee camp and the promise of an American man. Houa and her family came to Eau Claire, and she and her husband are currently members of Trinity Lutheran. An inside look at a people, a place, and a war that most of us know little about. (959.704 MOU)

Children's Ministries

Tie Dye Saturday

Join us on Saturday, October 8, at 10:00 A.M. in room 201. No reservations are needed; just come and join the fun! This is for anyone who likes to tie dye or wants to learn how to do it! Bring your own items to dye, i.e. white t-shirts, socks, onesies, shirts, etc. (if it is a new item, please wash at home before you come). The dye, rubber bands, and soaking agent will be furnished. Ginny Lien will be on hand to help and teach. There is no cost; however, you can bring extra kids' t-shirts to dye for Mission Jamaica.



Camp T.G.I.F. and Sunday School

Registration continues to remain open for the classes (Grades 3–6) and for the choirs (Pre-Kindergarten–grade six) on Wednesdays at Camp T.G.I.F. and for children two years old—grade six on Sundays. For more information, contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601; marys@trinity-ec.org; or the website www.trinity-ec.org

Reminder to all parents: Children should bring their Spark Bibles to each Sunday class and Wednesday T.G.I.F. class.

“My Church” for 2 Year Olds

Designed for two year olds (two by 9.1.11). Guardians/Parents and child will create together a personalized book of pictures. By using a digital camera, the child is photographed in various settings throughout the church. These pictures will then be placed in a binder that the child keeps and uses at home and brings to worship. Class will begin on October 9, 2011.

“My Church” Registration Forms are available by calling Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or on Trinity's website trinity-ec.org

Mark Your Calendars! First Communion Instruction

Children in second grade and higher who have not participated in Communion instruction and their parents/guardians have an opportunity to meet for instruction on Saturday, November 5, from 9:00–11:00 A.M., in Rooms 204/208. (Note: children in first grade will receive their instruction in March 2012.) Their Communion celebration will be at the 6:30 P.M. Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on Wednesday, November 23. To register, call Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or e-mail marys@trinity-ec.org

Day Camp Openings

Day Camps are great faith-based learning opportunities for young children. Call Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 for availability and registration information.

Music & Movement Mondays

Child and parent will explore music with song, dance, and instruments. There will be a theme each week ending with a Bible story. Parent or caregiver attends the class with child.

For: Children ages 1–3

Times: **Session One:** 9:15–10:00 A.M. or **Session Two:** 10:30–11:15 A.M. on Mondays for 13 class periods

Cost: \$84

The Great Pretenders

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 for 14 class periods

Cost: \$180

Come and Play—Semester 1

Children will have an opportunity to play with other children of their age. They will hear Bible stories, participate in art and music activities, and take time out to share a treat.

For: Children with birthdays between 8.1.2008 and 5.31.2009

Time: Session Two 12:15–2:15 P.M. (two spots remain; call now!)

Dates: On Wednesdays for 14 class periods

Cost: \$182

Thrilling Thursdays (Two sessions available)

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 learning 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 for 13 class periods
Cost: \$167

Noah's Ark News

September was a quick month at Noah's Ark. The first month of a school year always flies by with the beautiful children here at preschool. We filled our days with "name sticks" for our special names, our own "people sticks" for attendance, 3-D art sculptures, dehydrating a "fruit rainbow," painting with the primary colors, and remembering how wonderfully God created us. We are children of God forever!

We also had a FIRST at Noah's Ark. Our very own Echo delivered multiple baby hamsters! Something you should know; Noah's Ark has had a gerbil or hamster for years. Just not the same one, but we keep the same name so the children think that Echo lives on. Well our newest "replacement" hamster, bought on Labor Day for the new school year, had babies on September 20. To date we haven't been able to count them, as they are nursing and hanging close to mom. It's going to be an exciting month because they can't be separated from mom until they are weaned in 25–28 days. We'll be watching with excitement until then, when the pet store will buy back any that are left. The official announcement went out to the Noah's Ark families via e-mail, and we've already had requests to adopt.

Could it be more exciting??? NO! Well, YES...if we could enroll a few more children to fill our classes (4–5 year olds for M/W/F A.M./P.M). We're having an awesome time here, so tell your friends to call Ms "C" at 715.832.6601 or e-mail noahsark@trinity-ec.org for more information! Noah's Ark is a great place to be!

We'll keep you posted on the rapidly growing Noah's Ark family of hamsters. Until then, Go In Peace!!

PS....our annual Fall Harvest Spaghetti Supper Bash is Tuesday, October 11. Tickets will be on sale on Sundays, October 2 and 9, in the lobby and at the Wednesday worship service on October 5. Tickets are also available in the main office during the week or on October 11 at the door!! We have added an awesome "Theme Basket" silent auction. This year's themes include: A Coffee or Tea Experience, Kitchen Favorites, Family Book Nook, and Fall Harvest!! Join in the fun and support our wonderful preschool program! Sponsors to date include: The Coffee Grounds, Indianhead Foods, Texas Roadhouse, and Noah's Ark! If you would like to sponsor in big or small ways, give Noah's Ark a call!



Youth Dates to Remember:

Sunday, October 2

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306, from 10:35–11:05 A.M.

Wednesday, October 5

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 9 in the Trinity Room from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 9

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306, from 10:35–11:05 A.M.

Wednesday, October 12

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- High School Youth Council in the Youth Room at 7:15 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 16

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306, from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- Confirmation Dinner in the Trinity Room from 6:00–7:30 P.M.

Wednesday, October 19

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 9 in the Trinity Room from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 23

- Affirmation of Baptism at the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. Services
- No Teen Study Today

Wednesday, October 26

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 30

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306, from 10:35–11:05 A.M.

Sunday Morning Teen Study

Teen Study begins on October 2 from 10:35–11:05 A.M. Teen Study offers students an opportunity to explore the Faith Book in an interactive Bible study. Teen study is led by a team of volunteers. Club 78 Teen Study will meet in the Trinity Room, and High School Teen Study will meet in Room 306. High School students...be prepared to brew your own coffee, tea, or hot cocoa!

Retreats

2012 National Youth Gathering

The National Youth Gathering will be held next summer, July 18–22, in New Orleans, LA. We are joining together with St. Johns Lutheran Church, and we hope to fill a bus! This gathering is held every three years, so you really have one chance (maybe two) to attend this AWESOME EVENT! In 2009, 37,000 ELCA high school youth went to New Orleans as guests. We return in 2012 as friends, Citizens with the Saints. The 2012 Youth Gathering's mission is to accompany young people in their faith journey to understand their vocation and articulate their faith in Jesus Christ. Through this mission, participants will Practice Discipleship, Practice Peacemaking, and Practice Justice. We'll depart Sunday morning, July 15, to spend time in Memphis, TN and we will also have a day to explore New Orleans before the gathering begins on Wednesday. Contact Cassie (cassie@trinity-ec.org), Lisa (lisa@trinity-ec.org), or Pastor Heather (heather@trinity-ec.org) with questions and for more information about registration and fundraising. Registration deadline is October 2! We hope you will prayerfully consider this amazing opportunity.



Luther Park Recharge Club: 78 Retreat

Luther Park Recharge is coming up on the weekend of November 4 and 5. Campers and adult chaperones are encouraged to come away to Luther Park to engage in Holy Play and RECHARGE their lives of faith. This weekend will have three transforming themes: “Faith . . . What Is It,” “Seeing is Believing,” and “Faith Crossing.” These themes will be supported through large group sessions, small group Bible studies, devotions, music, and active games. Registration materials and more information are available online at lutherpark.org and at the Tool Bench.

Godstock 2011–High School Retreat

Godstock is scheduled for the weekend of November 11–13 at the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire. This year's theme is “We are One.” Additional information is at the Tool Bench.



Adopt A Highway

Highway Clean Up: Club 78 and High School students are invited to join John Rush on Saturday, October 15, for the fall Highway Clean Up service event. Volunteers will meet at Trinity at 9:00 A.M. for a short informational video and then proceed to Little Red School. Trinity has a designated two-mile stretch of the highway to keep clean. A sign up sheet is posted at the Tool Bench. Adults are also needed for this event.

Lutheran World Relief Load A Truck

Trucks will be ready to be loaded on Saturday, October 8. We need volunteers ready to help load and unload here at Trinity, as well as at CVTC West Campus, throughout the morning. Parents, we need all the trucks or vans we can get to load up here at Trinity! Please sign yourself and your child up at the Tool Bench.

Crop Walk

Our annual fall Crop Walk is here! Envelopes were given out during Club 78 and Club 9 service fairs. Each participant is responsible for collecting donations and bringing them to Carson Park on the day of the walk. The group will meet at Carson Park on Sunday, October 9 at 1:30 P.M. Please contact Pat Hassemmer at 715.797.5870 with any questions.

Please contact Cassie or Lisa at the Youth Office for any additional information or with any questions at 715.832.6601 or youthministry@trinity-ec.org.

Information courtesy of Bolton Refuge House, Eau Claire's Domestic Abuse Shelter

What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior in which one partner routinely exercises power and control over the other partner. The perpetrator may use physical violence, emotional abuse, verbal abuse, threats, coercion, isolation, economic or sexual abuse to dominate the victim.



How can I tell if my relationship is abusive?

- How do you feel about your relationship? Do you feel like your partner is caring and supportive? Are there things about your relationship that scare you?
- All couples have disagreements. What happens when you don't agree with your partner? Do you ever change your behavior because you're afraid of what will happen if you don't?
- Has your partner ever threatened to hurt you, your children, your property, or your pets? Has your partner ever followed through on those threats?
- Does your partner act jealously, calling you at home or work to check up on you? Is it hard for you to keep friends or family members in your life? Is it hard for you to hold down a job or go to school?
- Has your partner ever forced you, physically or emotionally, to do something you didn't want to do?
- Does your partner withhold money or financial information from you? Do you know where the family bank accounts, investments, and other financial information is found? Does your partner spend large amounts of money without consulting you?
- Does your partner make it difficult to seek medical attention, take the medicine you need, or get the exercise and/or sleep you need?
- Does your partner ever force you to engage in sexual activity that makes you uncomfortable? Does your partner demand sex, even if you don't want it?

There is no sure-fire way to tell if your relationship is abusive, but if the answers to these questions raise concerns for you, call us (715.834.9578). An advocate will answer your questions and suggest services that may help. For more information, go to www.boltonrefugehouse.org

Learn How to Recognize Abuse

Not all abuse is physical, and every situation is different. Verbal threats, coercion, emotional isolation, financial control, and intimidation are all forms of abuse. Bolton Refuge House provides services to anyone who has been subjected to any form of domestic or sexual abuse. You don't have to have been physically injured to use our services.

Join us in the Fireside Room on Sunday, October 2, when Gerry Wilke, director of Bolton Refuge House, shares information regarding Domestic Abuse Awareness at the adult forum following the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. services.

Social Ministries

Friends of Flynn

We have been very busy in the month of September. Thank you so much to everyone who donated school supplies! We delivered several boxes filled with supplies on the first full day of school. They were delighted! Underwear and socks were also delivered and much appreciated. We provided healthy snacks on every Tuesday and Friday in September. Flynn's 298 children enjoyed apples, bananas, raisins, and carrots along with cheese sticks! Thank you for all of your contributions! Thanks to those who volunteered to pack and deliver snacks. We will keep you informed of opportunities to help. We are still collecting Campbell Soup labels, General Mills box tops, the caps off milk containers, and the pull tabs off of 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." We love this growing relationship with Flynn, and they are so thankful!

CROP Walk October 9!

The Eau Claire CROP Walk will be on Sunday, October 10, at 2:00 P.M. at Carson Park. Mark it on your calendar and plan on walking with others! CROP (Christian Rural Overseas Program) began in 1947 as a means for mid-west farm families to share their grain with hungry neighbors in Europe and Asia. 25% of the proceeds benefit local efforts to fight hunger in our community. This year there is a new cycling option! Please sign-up at the Information Center in the lobby and pick up a registration packet! If you have any questions, contact Suzanne at 715.832.6601.

Memories from Jamaica

Since its inception, my husband, Gary, and I have been drawn to "Mission Jamaica." We financially supported it for years before our first trip in 2007. We learned to love the people of Jamaica based on other missionaries' experiences and testimonies. We decided to be part of a team. I wanted to love these people up close and not only from a distance.

One distinct memory from our first trip happened during our food distribution in the poorest part of the Waterhouse District. Traveling on severely ill-repaired streets, I saw shacks teetering towards collapse; children carrying sweet drinks and chips; people stopping mid-stride and staring at us in our bus with curiosity; goats, dogs, and chickens walking randomly in search for food; all what appeared to be scenes of despair and great need. And then I saw above a little corner shop, a faded, chipped, blue sign with white lettering that said, "With Jesus you have everything." I came to give them food and left that neighborhood inspired.

During our March 2011 trip we again had the privilege of being part of our third Mission Jamaica team. We were again awed by the abundant support from our Wisconsin supporters and blessed by the gracious hospitality of our Maranatha Church partners. From the school cooks who daily prepared our lunch to the member of Parliament that came for our house blessing on the last day of work, I saw Jamaicans and Wisconsinites, all included in God's family, working together with a shared goal. They have become friends of my heart. Indeed, with Jesus we do have everything.

On behalf of the Jamaican people, thank you to everyone who supports Mission Jamaica. With the combined efforts of all involved, God uses us to truly make a difference in His Kingdom.

In the name of Jesus,
Mary Rambo

Fair Trade Products

Fair Trade products are those items which are purchased directly from the growers. The purpose of fair trade is to promote healthier working conditions and greater economic incentive for producers. Coffee farmers producing Fair Trade certified products are required to be part of a co-op with other local growers. Growers are guaranteed a minimum price for the coffee, and if market prices exceed the minimum, they receive a per pound premium. Trinity supports this mission by offering Fair Trade coffee and chocolate for sale in the lobby the second Sunday of every month. Stop by and take a look!



Gift Giving from the Heart for 2011

Can you name one holiday gift you received last year? If you are like most, it might stump you for a while. Often the gifts we do remember as special were ones someone made for us or gave in our honor, like a charitable donation.

Before you make any shopping list this fall—hold off! The people you plan to gift probably already have more than enough stuff! So plan to shop at Trinity this fall and make your gift memorable and charitable. We'll offer hens and goats, soccer balls and bikes, roofs and doors—all gifts that will make a difference in the lives of people in distant places. You can honor someone with a lasting gift in that person's name to the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. Remember, when you give a charitable gift in honor of someone you love, they'll see your faith in action and feel good about others benefitting.

Thank You!

It's difficult to imagine that hunger exists in America's Heartland, the breadbasket of the world. However, thousands of our Wisconsin neighbors and community members are food insecure (meaning they don't know where or when they'll have their next meal) or hungry (meaning there is no next meal). So far this year our Food Pantry at Trinity has received almost 4,000 visits from families in need. Your donations of time, money, produce, and other groceries made this possible! As we gear up for what is traditionally our busiest time of the year, we ask that you remember the pantry in your prayers and consider a gift to help the hungry in our community.

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

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1314 East Lexington Blvd, Eau Claire WI 54701

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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

Missions

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

Seminary Student

Jami Brieske—Luther Seminary

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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 November Newsletter is October 25.