

Trinity

Lutheran Church

Making Commitments for 2012 Living Generously

"Saints Alive: Living Generously" is the 2012 annual stewardship theme designed to remind us of how generous God is and encourage us to live generously. Thank you for the generosity you share which blesses the ministries and mission of Trinity.

The 2012 financial commitment card was mailed to all member households in late October. Please return the card at your earliest convenience or make your commitment online at trinity-ec.org

Your 2012 financial commitment is a faithful guide for planning your charitable intentions and assisting your church in making plans for the next year. Your commitment includes two-parts:

1. A commitment for Regular Ministries.
2. A commitment for Mortgage Payment.

The Regular Ministries offerings empower all the facets of our church and go beyond to the ELCA and across the world. The Mortgage Payment offerings are used solely for the \$10,485 monthly payment. By making this commitment, we hope to pay off our loan in a shorter time. Please respond to both requests.

Thank you for your commitment and your offerings every week. The generosity you share every week blesses people and extends the reign of God here and across the world.

Meeting for Elections

A meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, November 13, at 9:10 A.M. in the Trinity Room. The election of new Trinity Council members for 2012 will be the item of business. The Nominating Committee will forward the following persons for election to three year terms: Sharon Bram, Brandon Thorsness, Peggy Casper, Cindy Taylor, Nathan Nybrotten, and Dave Benning. The 2011 Nominating Committee was comprised of Anne Josephson, Kari Winkler, Kathy Rau, Diane Nelson, Jane O'Connell, and Kirk Myhre.

Thanksgiving Day Meal

You are invited to be a part of our annual Thanksgiving Day meal for the community. Come and eat, serve, or provide food for this traditional holiday meal! Sign-up sheets for various volunteer opportunities are available at Clipboard Central in the lobby. Or, you can sign up via our website trinity-ec.org under the link "Thanksgiving Dinner." There is no fee for this meal though donations are greatly appreciated. We attempt to have all the food donated, and any donations which exceed expenses will be used to support our monthly ministry at the Community Table. The meal will be served on November 24 with serving times at 12:00 and 1:00 P.M. Please RSVP to Suzanne in our office (suzanne@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601) so food preparations can be made in an efficient manner. Thank you!



Sesame Street and Hunger

Elmo. Big Bird. Grover. Abby Cadabby.

As a father of a three and a five year old, I remain well-versed in the many characters of Sesame Street. For many of us, the above names bring back memories of learning the ABC's, counting with the vampire deemed "The Count," singing "Rubber Ducky" alongside Ernie, and you may recall the craze surrounding the "Tickle Me Elmo" back in 1996. It's still startling how a toy selling for \$28.99 could fetch as much as \$1,500. (*People* magazine, January 13, 1997)

Did you know Sesame Street introduced a new character this past October 9? On October 9, a one hour prime time special was aired titled "Growing Hope Against Hunger." It starred country music star Brad Paisley, his wife Kimberly Williams Paisley, and the Sesame Street Muppets. Made possible through a generous grant, this special presented the personal stories of families to raise awareness of the widespread issue of hunger in the United States. In addition, strategies were shared that have helped such families find resources and grow stronger together.

The Sesame Street website now has videos titled "New Foods Are Fun!," "Healthy Snacks!" and "Healthy Food on a Budget." This is the title of one section on the Sesame Street website that leads to additional information: "*For Parents/Caregivers: Learn strategies for coping with uncertain or limited access to affordable, nutritious food and get tips for teaching your child healthy eating habits.*"

All this information stems from the new Sesame Street character: Lily.

Lily's family has an on-going struggle with hunger. In the prime time special, she tells Elmo about her family's challenges, describes what the local food pantry does for people in need including her family, and how she receives her breakfast and lunch for free at school.

Feeding America's new study, "Food Banks: Hunger's New Staple," reports that 18% of people surveyed said they used food pantries 6-11 months of the previous year, while 36% said they used them every month.

The report "really put kind of a fine point on the fact that food banks are becoming the new normal for a large percentage of the population," according to Vicki Escarra, president of Chicago-based Feeding America. "It's not the role they were created for, but we are doing that right now because we have to."

Lily, the new Sesame Street character, is a reflection of our current times. Our Trinity Food Pantry has been serving many in need in our community through the generosity of Trinity members. We have been able to grow through financial gifts, volunteers giving hours of service, and detailed staff oversight to make our pantry an effective ministry of outreach. We are the second largest food pantry in Eau Claire behind the St. Francis Food Pantry. Thank you for your generous support!

Yet, November has historically been our record month for need, far surpassing any other month of the year. As we worship under our Fall Stewardship theme "Saints Alive! Living Generously," I encourage you to take time to reflect upon, and discern, how you can share a portion of what you've been given to bless the hungry in our midst.

Here in November, consider the following:

1. A financial gift to Trinity's Food Pantry of \$1 purchases \$10 worth of food to feed hungry children and adults.
2. Volunteer in our Trinity Food Pantry to help with our expected busy month of November. Contact Suzanne Becker (suzanne@trinity-ec.org) if you can help!
3. Pray for those in need...that their basic need of hunger may be addressed and, in so doing, subsequent factors such as emotional, spiritual, and physical health will be enhanced.

Together, we can continue to "Serve in Christ's Love and Share the Good News" with all, especially the Lily's in our midst.

Blessings to you!
Pastor Jim



The Sesame Street website now has videos titled; "New Foods Are Fun!," "Healthy Snacks!" and "Healthy Food on a Budget."

Worship

Sunday, November 6—All Saints Sunday

All services this week give honor to God for the faithful people who have gone before us. In generous love, God has provided us with these 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 to continue into the future.

These are the saints of this church who have gone on in the past year and now rest from their labors: Mabel Quinlan, Don Maug, Tedd Wright, Loretta Voelz, Zeena Novotny, Bonnie Aspenson, Larry Collison, Jean Sweer, Susan Anderson, Lowell Pepper, Garfield Freeberg, Maren Grams, Eugene Peeso, Wayne Devery, Jerry Gomsrud, Elaine Mikesell, Helen Pepper, Margery Lurndahl, Charlotte Jensen, Millie Weaver, and Glenn Anderson.

Wednesday, November 23—Thanksgiving Worship

Come and worship at 6:30 P.M. ON Wednesday, November 24. This festive worship includes the Trinity Brass and all choirs. The Lord's Supper is offered, and many children will make their first communion this evening.

Sunday, November 27, Advent Begins

The weekend after Thanksgiving includes the start of Advent which is designed to prepare us for the coming of Christ. The biblical texts announce the preparation for Christ's coming again even more so than preparing for the celebration of Christmas and Jesus' birthday.

Christmas Worship Schedule

Join us on Christmas Eve for worship: 2:00 P.M. with Children's Choirs, 4:00 P.M. with Harmony In Spirit, and 10:00 P.M. with the Trinity Orchestra, Choir, and Tollers.

Then the Festival of Christmas will be celebrated on Sunday, December 26, with one worship service at 10:00 A.M. with the Trinity Brass!

Wednesday Worship

Join in worship each Wednesday at 6:30 P.M. whenever you've missed Sunday. The message is the same, but the spirit and music have a youthful flavor thanks to the leadership of Crossword and many youth leaders. This worship offers the Lord's Supper the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

Carrying Guns in Church

Wisconsin Act 35, allowing individuals to carry concealed weapons, took effect November 1. This law does not exempt churches, but Trinity's mission of "Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News" upholds providing a safe environment for everyone who comes into the building.

To prohibit concealed weapons from coming into Trinity, signs must be posted. But a provision in this law raises an organization's liability should a weapon be used in a facility that has posted a no-carry designation.

The Trinity Council has discussed this issue several times since the law was introduced. They sought guidance and from the NW Synod of WI. We contacted our insurance carrier for guidance, received information from the Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce. We reviewed information provided by the WI Council of Churches. The outcome of the entire conversation did not clarify uncertainty as to how the issue of liability might come to bear upon Trinity as much of this legislation is still being interpreted and is yet to be tested.

Thus for now, the Council has decided that we will not post our facility. But we will ask those who do have a permit to carry a concealed weapon to not bring it into the building.

If you have concerns about this legislation, now is a good time to contact your state representative and senators. legis.wisconsin.gov/w3asp/contact/EmailDirectory.

Blood Drive

Trinity will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, November 21, from 12:30 P.M.–6:30 P.M. Donors need to be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental consent), be in general good health, and weigh a minimum of 110 pounds. You are eligible to donate blood at this drive if your last donation was on or before September 26. Sign up at Clipboard Central or make an appointment online at www.givebloodgivelife.org and enter zip code 54701. Contact Jane Olsen at 715.830.9581 with any questions. Give a gift of life!

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist with reception and the canteen at our fall Blood Drive on November 21. Volunteer shifts are as follows: 12:00 P.M.–2:30 P.M., 2:15 P.M.–4:45 P.M. and 4:30 P.M.–7:00 P.M. Other volunteer opportunities include providing baked goods. Please sign up at Clipboard Central. Thank you!

Family Camp at Outlaw Ranch

It's getting colder outside, so why not think about next summer? As you do so, consider making Family Camp a part of next summer's plans! Trinity folks will once again travel to Outlaw Ranch in South Dakota for a week of Family Camp from August 5–10, 2012.

Family camp at Outlaw Ranch is a week long trip that allows families to spend quality time together in a relaxed atmosphere amid the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota. All families are welcome couples, singles, one parent or two, step families, infants to adolescents, grandparents. Everyone is welcome!

The mornings are marked by adults spending time together in conversation and learning. Dr. Karoline Lewis from Luther Seminary will lead discussion under the theme "The Book of Revelation-Final Tribulation or Testament to Hope?" Children and youth will enjoy Bible study and activities led by well-trained counselors. Afternoons are open for families to spend time together in an array of activities including horseback riding, canoeing, and venturing out to enjoy Custer National Park and Mount Rushmore. Evenings draw to a close with worship around a campfire.

Pastor Jim will be leading this exciting trip alongside his family and you're invited to join them! Online registration begins November 7, and we have ten spots reserved. Families can register and learn more about Outlaw Ranch at www.losd.org. Please contact Pastor Jim (jim@trinity-ec.org) if you are interested in this fine excursion or if you have any questions.

Friendship Group

Trinity's Senior Citizens will meet on Wednesday, November 9, at 10:00 A.M. in the Trinity Room. After a short meeting, they will have a Thanksgiving Service in the Worship Center. At noon they will travel to Yankee Jacks in Princeton Valley for a Thanksgiving Dinner complete with pumpkin pie. Send your check for \$14 to reserve your spot to Pat Cliff, 6681 Talmadge Road, Eau Claire WI 54701. The deadline for reservations is November 2.

Moving or Going South?

If you're 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. Sign-up to receive a paperless copy of the Tidings and get it even faster! Whenever you change address, please let Trinity know! Contact Suzanne at suzanne@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601.



The Quilt Ladies

Now that the quilters have shipped out all of their quilts, kits, and layettes, we want to thank you! To everyone who gave of their time, money, and materials, we so appreciate all of your donations. Thank you to Trinity Youth and Lisa Goetz for transporting our boxes, to Don Peterson for setting up tables and making coffee for us, and to Cindy for getting our news out. We could not have accomplished all that we did without your help!

Check out our completed project list for 2011! School kits–119; health kits–100; quilts for Lutheran World Relief–50; quilts for Mission Jamaica–22; quilts for Sojourner House–21; quilts for Bolton Refuge House–25; layettes–60.

Faith Lights For Christmas

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 Endowment Trust Fund Board of Trinity 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 to 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 15. Forms are available in the Church Office. All Faith Light gifts will be acknowledged in the Christmas worship bulletins.



Christmas Wreaths

National Youth Gathering students will be selling Christmas Wreaths and Door Swags from Baroka's Wreaths on Sundays, November 6 and 13, and on Wednesdays, November 9 and 16. Place your order and view the wreath samples at the table in the lobby.

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 27, from 2:00–5:00 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 the Christ child. Members are encouraged to invite friends. Treats will be served throughout the afternoon.

People are needed to help lead the activities. This is a great service project for confirmation age students and their leaders or mentors. ***Please watch for the display and sign up beginning November 13*** For more information, contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or by email at marys@trinity-ec.org

Angel Breakfast

Preschool and kindergarten age children and one adult guest per child are invited to the Annual Angel Breakfast on Saturday, December 3, from 8:30–10:00 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. Breakfast and a special activity are included. Registration forms are available in the Children's Ministries Office. Reservations are required.

A Service of Comfort and Hope Blue Christmas

This is a worship service offering comfort and hope for anyone dealing with the loss of a loved one, broken relationships, health issues, job changes, or other life issues. Please join us in the lighting of candles, ringing of bells, anointing with the laying on of hands, and

the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you know someone who would be comforted and refreshed by a worship service like this, please pass the word, or better yet, offer to come with them. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the

service, on Monday, November 28, at 7:00 P.M. at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1804 Highland Ave., Eau Claire, WI, 715.834.9571.

Cookie Baking Retreat

Enjoy baking holiday cookies in the fellowship of others without messing up your kitchen. Luther Park Bible Camp is hosting a day long retreat from 9:00 A.M.–4:00 P.M. on Saturday, December 10. The cost is \$40 which includes all ingredients. You'll take home 10 dozen cookies from a wide range of recipes. Bring your friends, kids, grandchildren, spouses—all are welcome! Youth need to be accompanied by an adult. Register at lutherpark.org or 715.859.2215

Going for Green

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 2011, your donations are especially important. Your leaders have held expenses all year and plan a similar approach for 2012. We still hope to finish the year with no red ink. But to do that, you are needed!

Please be generous in your year-end giving. Give online at trinity-ec.org Every gift touches a life with the truth of God’s love!

January through October	2011	2010
Income - Regular Ministries	\$771,656	\$752,906
Expenses	\$799,850	\$785,594
Difference	-\$28,194	-\$32,688

A Great Facility and A Mortgage Payment

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 \$10,485 monthly payment. Thank you for your offerings to Mortgage Payment.

Remember you can give to the Mortgage Payment online and set up electronic fund transfers on our website. See the “Giving” page at www.trinity-ec.org

Gifts of Stock Creative Giving

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 Amber Moltzau at 715.832.6601 or amber@trinity-ec.org

12th Annual Grief Education Day

Please join us for "Grief, Loss and New Beginnings" presented by Ben Wolfe, on Saturday, November 5, at Wissota Springs Assisted Living, 2801 County Hwy 1, Chippewa Falls, WI, 54729 (Next to St. Joseph's Hospital). Those experiencing pain or sadness from the death of a loved one, or those helping friends and family dealing with loss, are invited to attend. Refreshments provided at 9:30 A.M., followed by the program from 10:00–12:00 noon. This event is free of charge, and no pre-registration is needed. Free materials and handouts are available. Sponsored by the Chippewa County Grief Guidance Team and Wissota Springs Assisted Living. For more information, call 715.717.7581.

Youth Make Affirmation of Faith

Confirmation is an educational ministry of the Church that is designed to help baptized children identify with the life and mission of the adult Christian community and that is celebrated in a public rite. On October 23 the following high school youth publicly affirmed their baptism in worship: Austin Altmann, Kaitlyn Alvarez, Amanda Ashley, Tabitha Blaisdell, Joseph Breneman, Marshall Breneman, Samuel Glaser, Annie Halloin, Hunter Hanson, Madison Hesse, Julia Hilgedick, Zoe Hirsh, Laura Kemper, Amelia Kirkhorn, Mitchell Knapp, Kate Lauer, Emily McCormick, Courtney Meyer, Alyse Passi, Lucas Printz, Nicholas Richards, Jennifer Russell, Andrew Schnack, Faith Seltun, Kylie Southard, Ella Strei, Claire Studt, Madison Tosseth, Lisa Valk, Jonathan Walker, Kayli Werk, Sarah Wright.

Missions Near and Far

Men's Trip to Jamaica

Trinity men are going to build at a school near Savanna La Mar, Jamaica January 26–January 31, 2012. Information and registration forms are available online at www.trinity-ec.org Global Mission or at the “Jamaica house” in the lobby. For more information, contact Pastor Kurt at kurt@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. Thank you for your offerings to the Missionary Fund.

New to the Library

Adult Non-fiction DVDs—Look for these in the new A-frame display. Our library recently acquired a 12 set DVD collection of true biographical stories of the New Testament. They are each 50 minutes in length and were produced by A&E Television Network. They would be helpful for Bible studies, travel experiences (*In the Foot Steps of Paul*, Holy Land), and devotional material. Titles include: *Jesus His Life*, *The Last Supper*, *Pontius Pilate*, *Jesus' Jerusalem*, *The Trial of Jesus*, *The Execution of Jesus*, *Judas*, *Mary of Nazareth*, *James: Brother of Jesus?*, *Paul*, *The 12 Apostles*.

Children's Fiction—Look for these also in the new A-frame display.

- ***Llama Llama Home with Mama*** by Anna Dewdney. This is the latest in the popular Llama Llama series and is just right for anyone who is feeling under the weather and needs a little cheering up. (++) FIC DEW)
- ***One More Hug for Madison*** by Caroline Jayne Church. This story is about an adorable little mouse who wants just one more thing before going to bed. (++) FIC CHU)
- ***I Miss You Mouse*** by Greg Foley. Children love “flap” books—this one is filled with surprises and love. (++) FIC FOL)
- ***The Kiss Box*** by Bonnie Verburg. Children often feel anxious when they are apart from their parents. The Kiss Box is a tender reminder that we are always together where it matters most: in our hearts. (++) FIC VER)

Children's DVD

- ***The Easter Story***, produced by Hanna and Barbera. This 30 minute animated DVD tells the the story of Jesus beginning with Palm Sunday and ending with his triumphant resurrection and ascent into heaven. (+ 232 GRE)

Look for Thanksgiving books this month—they can be found in a display on the small round table.

Questions of Life

On Thursday, November 10, at 10:00 A.M. in the Fireside Room, Deborah Circle is hosting a video introduction to "Questions of Life," a book written by Nicky Gumbel. The book is a thoughtful and insightful commentary on some of Christianity's basic beliefs, many of which are discussed in the Alpha Series, a Christian education study. Mr. Gumbel was among the founders of this study and is a stimulating and dynamic speaker. Do join us for this excellent presentation.

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, November 17, 9:30 A.M.,
Trinity

Hostess: Lynn Gautsche
Leader: Barbara Johnson

Dorcas

Wednesday, November 16, 1:00
P.M., Trinity

Hostess: Group
Leader: Rose Sippel

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, November 15, 7:00 P.M.,
Trinity

Hostess: Marilyn Johnson
Leader: Kathy Gjesfjeld

Miriam

Wednesday, November 16, 9:30
A.M., Trinity

Hostess: Shirley Anderson
Leader: Group

Ruth

Tuesday, November 15, 1:30 P.M.
Hostess: Joan Siewert, 2312 Hayden

Ave. Altoona
Leader: Lori Juneau

Sarah

Wednesday, November 16, 9:30
A.M., Trinity

Hostess: Alyce Bertelson
Leader: Phyllis Burrows

Received September Memorials & Gifts

Noah's Ark Preschool Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Joanne Stange

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Susan Schaefer, Evelyn Carlson, Dagny Johnson, David & Gloria Weiss, Todd & Peggy Munden, Jim & Lynn Gullicksrud, Dick Cable, Elayne Peterson
- In memory of Maren Grams: Dana & Mary Burns

Library Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Larry & Mary Hoepner, Willard & Ann Johnson, Don & Barb Lee, Elmer & Ann Felton, Jerold & Joanne Dow

Children's Bible Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Anna Trullinger, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht, Lori Juneau
- In memory of Larry Gourdoux: Jim & Sherry Jones
- In honor of Easton Wehling's Baptism: David & Mary Larson
- In honor of Makayla & Makenna Moen: John & Leslie Moen
- In honor of the arrival of the St. John's Bible to the Chippewa Valley: Dick Cable

Seminary Student Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Shirley Freeberg

Organ Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Roger & Phyllis Burrows, Ann Ayres
- In honor of Ron & Yvonne Nixdorf's 50th wedding anniversary: Ron & Yvonne Nixdorf, Dean Van Amber & Kirsten Alvarez

Prayer Shawl Fund

- In memory of Mabel Colburn: Jim & Jeanne Reppe

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Larry Gourdoux: Vila Nygaard
- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Jack & Carol Bartingale, Doris Berg, Alyce Bertelson, Helen Amundson, Jill Bleskachek, Dave & Jeanette Suchla, Char Finseth, Elroy & Agnes Strand, Jim & Marge Oleson, Steve & Vicki Borsheim, Vern & Shirley Purchatzke, Louree Kelsey, Mark & Marti Hofer, Norman & Viola Berg, Clifton & Doris Husberg, Rose Sippel, Ralph & Norma Marking
- In honor of Carl & Lorraine Higgins 65th wedding anniversary: Carl & Lorraine Higgins.

Mission Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Orville & Shirley Anderson, Dan & Carolyn Johnson, Marvin & Leatrice Solberg, Ted & Ardy Nystuen, Arnold Talford, Jack & Lois Olson, Pat Cliff, Robert & Lois Bodeau, Arlene Martinson, Barb Tischer

Community Table Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Bernt Martinson

Friendship Group Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Norris Nelson

Mortgage Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Morris & Audrey Brumberg

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Garfield Freeberg: Curt & Trisha Travis

Mission Jamaica Fund—Jabneh School

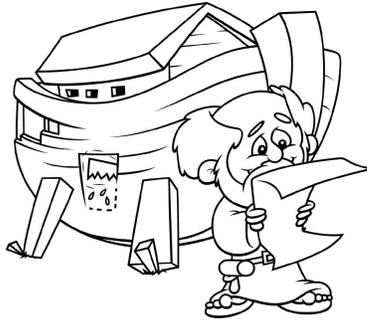
- In honor of the marriage of P.J. Toutant & Stephanie Salazar: Patrick & Kerry Toutant

Knittin' Time!

Join us on Tuesday, November 29, at 6:30 P.M. in the Fireside Room. Get a jump on that Christmas knitting! You can bring any project you are knitting on. You can swap some yarn, receive some assistance on a project, and have a sweet treat. Everyone is welcome . . . new knitters who want to improve; good knitters who want to excel; excellent knitters who want to fuel their addiction! We are open to the public!

Noah's Ark News

THANK YOU for your wonderful attendance at our Noah's Ark Fall Harvest Spaghetti Supper Bash. It was a special evening complete with great food, special visitors and alumni, a fun thematic basket Silent Auction, Trinity Youth led activities for children, and great fellowship. It was fun to greet 390 guests and the many volunteers who made the evening lots of fun! Our evening included a visit from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Men's Basketball team and their assistant coach, Keith. Spencer Tollefson, a Noah's Ark alumni, is one of the tall young men on the team this year! WHAT A GREAT EVENING! We give God thanks!



November finds us looking forward to a visit from a fire station and a field trip to a good food store. We'll also celebrate Thanksgiving with a special feast together, giving God thanks and praise.

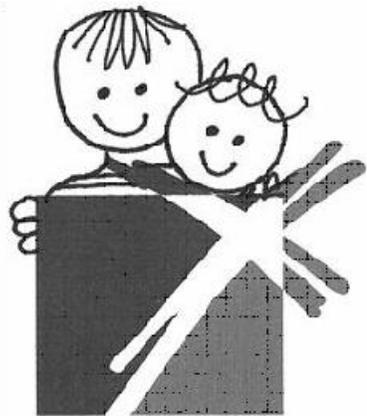
During the last weeks of October we hope to plant some bulbs in our circular garden on the preschool playground. Maybe you noticed our great rainbow of flowers planted by the Camp Cooking and Booking children this past June. We want to keep the "rainbow" going!!

Hugs to you as we give thanks for our many blessings!
Love, Ms "C"

Children's Ministry

Camp Come and Play Semester 2

Children with birthdays between 9.1.2008 and 8.31.2009 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. We meet in Trinity's nursery from 9:15–11:15 A.M. or 12:15–2:15 P.M. on Wednesdays and are limited to 12 children in each session. We meet for 19 class periods beginning January 5. The cost is \$247 which includes snacks and supplies for activities and can be paid in installments. **Registration begins at 8:00 A.M. on Wednesday, December 7, by phone only. Call 715.832.6601**



Child Safety Issues

- **Inclement Weather & Kids' Programs:** During the winter there are times when we cancel kids' programs due to snow or ice storms. Please check our web site for updates or call the church office if unsure. Usually if the schools close, we do too.
- **Drop Off/Pick Up Policy & Reminders:** Now that the days are getting shorter, we would like to remind people driving cars to be on the alert for students crossing the street to the parking lot. Preschool-grade 2 children are to be dropped off and picked up at the classroom (choir rehearsal rooms). Children in grades 3–6 are also encouraged to be dropped off and picked up at their classroom. Parents, please take the time to park your car and come into the building to pick up your child. Thank you.

Rainbow Bags

Have you had the opportunity to use the Rainbow Bags with your young children or to notice others using them during the worship services on Sunday or Wednesday evenings? If you have, you know they contain paper, crayons, books, and small toys. Trinity Children's Ministries team is looking for people who would help once a month to sort out the items in the bags and refresh the papers and crayons. This task takes about an hour to accomplish and can be done during week days when the church building is open. If you are able to assist, please contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org. Thank you!

Volunteer in the Nursery

If you like to help care for young children and would be willing to help out in our nursery during the 9:45 A.M. service 1–3 times a year, contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org. We have a full time nursery attendant, so your job would be to assist. We will be making a new schedule of volunteers for January–May, 2012. Please consider helping out in this ministry for our young families. Thank you.

Youth Dates To Remember

Wednesday, November 2

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 9 in the Trinity Room from 7:15–8:30 P.M.
- Group Guide Meeting in Room 302 at 7:15 P.M.

Sunday, November 6

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

Wednesday, November 9

- 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, November 13

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

Wednesday, November 16

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15–8:30 P.M.
- Club 9 in the Lobby from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, November 20

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

Wednesday, November 23

- Thanksgiving Break No Classes

Sunday, November 27

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

Wednesday, November 30

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

Cookie Bake

The annual Cookie Bake is scheduled for Sunday, November 13, from 12:30–2:30 P.M. in the Trinity Room. Youth will decorate bags and bake cookies. The festive bags of cookies will then be delivered to Trinity congregation members during pastoral or parish nurse visits.

ELCA Youth Gathering

Seventeen Trinity high school youth and adults are registered for the Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana from July 15–23, 2012. We are thrilled to prepare for this gathering as, "citizens with the saints," Ephesians 2:14–20. The Gathering program is built around three core practices in which we will be immersed before our trip, while we are in New Orleans, and in our community when we return home. These three core practices are Discipleship, Peacemaking, and Justice. Over the next 10 months, we will share with the congregation how we will learn to love the Lord our God and our neighbor as ourselves through discipleship, peacemaking, and justice.



Student Fundraising "Trip" Accounts

All students in grades 7–12 at Trinity have the opportunity to fund-raise for their own Trip Account. For every fundraising activity they participate in through Trinity, they will be given a portion of the proceeds from that fundraiser according to the time they spent at the fundraiser. The students are then able to use this money towards any Trinity sponsored event to help ease the burden of financial cost. If a student does not use the money by the time they graduate high school, then this money may either be given to a younger sibling's account or it will be given to the Scholarship Fund for all students.

\$\$\$ For You!

A scholarship program is available to all students of Trinity Lutheran Church. It is our hope that all students, regardless of financial ability, have the privilege of participating in any event that will nurture their growth in Christ. In light of this, every student in grades 7–12 is eligible for a 25% reimbursement of registration costs for all events at Trinity. If further assistance is needed, arrangements can be made with the Youth Ministry Team. Scholarship forms are located next to the Tool Bench in the blue side bins. We hope this will continue to encourage students to participate in the life changing opportunities here at Trinity!

From the Parish Nurse Cold Vs. Flu

"Yet I said to myself, 'This is my sickness, and I must endure it.'" Jeremiah 10:19 NIV

During this time of year we often wonder if the upper respiratory infection we have is a cold or the flu. Here is a chart to help determine which it is:

COLD	SYMPTOM	FLU
Pretty rare	FEVER	Usually present
Slight body aches & pains	ACHES	Severe aches & pains
Uncommon	CHILLS	Fairly common
Fairly mild	FATIGUE	Moderate to severe
Develop over a few days	SUDDEN SYMPTOMS	Rapid onset of 3-6 hrs.
Hacking & productive	COUGHING	Dry and nonproductive
Common	SNEEZING	Uncommon
Common	STUFFY NOSE	Uncommon
Mild to moderate	SORE THROAT	Uncommon
Mild to moderate	CHEST DISCOMFORT	Often severe
Fairly uncommon	HEADACHE	Very common

Unlike colds, flu can lead to complications like pneumonia, especially in the old, the young, and those with serious health issues. Viruses are transmitted by contact with objects that the infected person has touched after coughing or sneezing. Germs can be transmitted 1 day before symptoms appear and up to five days after getting sick.

Stay healthy by eating well, exercising regularly, getting plenty of rest, and practicing good hand washing. If you have a cold or the flu, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow when coughing/sneezing, avoid people while ill, wash your hands after coughing/sneezing, and avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

If you are ill stay home; don't share your germs. Treat your symptoms by hydrating yourself, getting plenty of rest, gargling to moisten a sore throat, drinking hot liquids to relieve nasal congestion, taking a steamy shower to clear nasal passages, applying hot or cold packs to congested sinuses, using an extra pillow when sleeping to relieve congestion, and avoiding travel by air. If you are healthy, share Jesus' love by taking the sick one the standard chicken soup or fluids and caring for the children. (Source: Mayo Clinic, www.mayoclinic.com)

Marti Hofer, Parish Nurse

Social Concerns

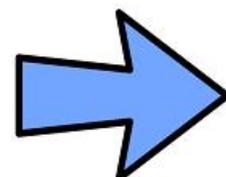
Holiday Bell Ringing for Salvation Army

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign has become a fixture for ushering in the holiday season. All are invited to share their time as a bell ringer this holiday season. We will be bell ringing at Festival Foods on Friday, December 2, from 1:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Volunteer shifts are one hour in length. A sign up sheet is available at Clipboard Central in the lobby. Thank you for considering this ministry of service!

Invitation to Food Pantry Open House

In August Trinity's Food Pantry was converted to a "Client Choice" pantry, allowing guests to choose their food. Client Choice reduces waste since clients only select what they will use and provides increased dignity during their visit. We've also given our pantry a "make-over" to be more welcoming to everyone. We invite you to take a few minutes on Sunday, November 6, after the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship services to see what we've done! The pantry will be open, and volunteers will be available to answer any questions. Grab a cup of coffee and join us!

More Social Concerns



Food Pantry Receives Matching Grant

Today 1 in 3 children in the Eau Claire school district receive free or reduced lunch. We continue to see this increased need in our own food pantry with November and December traditionally being our busiest months.

We are, therefore, excited to announce a matching grant from "Buckets for Hunger" led by Wayne Bisek. Buckets for Hunger is a Wisconsin-based organization (endorsed by Feed My People) that works with professional athletes to raise money for hunger relief efforts. Trinity's Food Pantry has just received word that Buckets for Hunger will donate thirty-five cents for every dollar that is donated through December 12, 2011. If you are able to help, please make your check out to Buckets for Hunger (not Trinity) and leave it in the offering or in the church office. These donations, along with the match, will be returned to Trinity for use in purchasing food for our pantry.

Please consider a donation as a way to celebrate God's love by making this season a little easier for many in our community. If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Becker at 715.832.6601 or suzanne@trinity-ec.org. Thank you! **Note: Only checks made out to "Buckets for Hunger" are eligible for this match.**

Friends of Flynn

This fall Trinity provided healthy snacks to students at Flynn Elementary along with school supplies, underwear and socks, and new shoes. Thank you to all who helped with this ministry!

As cold weather approaches, the school is in need of new or gently used snow pants for the children. All sizes are needed for both boys and girls. Drop off your items in the office or by the Friends of Flynn display in the lobby.

In 2012, Friends of Flynn is considering offering a weekend meal program for Flynn children in need. If you are interested in helping with this program, please contact Ginny Lien at 715.832.6601 or gabby@trinity-ec.org

If you would like to financially support this ministry, please direct your donation to Trinity Lutheran Church with a memo "Friends of Flynn." Thank you!

Soles for Special Souls

As our cold winter draws near, Trinity is once again providing boots to children in our community. Living in Wisconsin, we all know the need for warm, dry feet! Imagine walking to and from school without boots or not being able to play at recess. In November, vouchers for boots will be offered to school counselors who in turn will distribute them to families in their schools. The vouchers may then be redeemed at K-Mart in Eau Claire. Thank you to all who have helped make this possible!



Gift Giving this Holiday Season

In this holiday season of gift-giving, there is the pursuit of the "perfect" gift. With such a pursuit, there is the question, "What do I give someone who seems to have everything?" The Social Concerns Team is offering a variety of gift-giving options that benefit the recipient along with someone in need. Through Trinity's "Gifts that Give," you can give unique gifts such as supporting a meal at the Community Table, sponsoring a bag of food for our food pantry guests, or purchasing a pair of shoes for a child in need in our community. Trinity will also once again offer gift-giving options through Heifer International. Purchasing gifts such as a share of a pig (\$10) or a flock of chicks (\$20) help empower families in poverty-stricken countries to achieve self-reliance and enhance their livelihood.

All of these gift-giving options will be available at the "Gifts that Give" table in our lobby on Sundays, December 4, 11, and 18. As you purchase a gift, you will receive a special card that you can then give to that special loved one or friend in whose honor you have given the gift.

Jamaica Memories

—Kathy Rau

Recently we were asked by Pastor Heather to think back to whom it was that has been a special influence in our lives in regards to Generous Giving. I have to say that without the basic youth teachings and life influence of my Mom and Dad, I would never have accepted the challenge my sister put to me when she said, "We are going on a Mission Trip." But when I was asked this question by Pastor Heather, the first name that came to mind was Angie Gordon Simms. Angie is a friend I met on our second trip to Kingston, and has become a great friend over these many years. I, along with Mary and Bob Schoenknecht, have been on each and every one of the Mission Trips to Kingston Jamaica. When I first met Angie, she was the Principal of the Basic School at Maranatha Church. Basic School is the equivalent of our Preschool. She was outgoing and friendly. She gave us a tour of the school as it stood at that time. It was a huge warehouse with a section of the building partitioned off with two-by-fours and plywood walls. There were 24 children coming to the Monday through Friday learning sessions. Angie and the other adult leaders were there because of love for the children and a sincere hope that early learning would change their lives. Angie and the others rarely took home a paycheck. They provided noon meals that consisted of mostly a rice bowl and freshly made fruit drinks from the fruit that grows wild on the trees near the church. Since those first years of getting to know each other, I have learned that she *Generously Gives* each and every day.

When we went on our first few years of Mission trips, we worked mainly at the Church and Basic School building. We helped to create a better play area for outside activity, painted and repainted many walls within the building, helped create larger bathroom facilities and a much needed kitchen for meal preparation. Then we branched out to building a home for one (and sometimes two) of the families that the leaders in Maranatha had identified as living in a house below even the ghetto standards of life. We started a food pantry and food distribution project to 25 of the neediest families in the community. These branching out projects all came with the help of Angie. She *Generously Gives* to the young learners, the teens that need a physical outlet such as soccer, the elderly, the infirm, the hungry, and anyone that asks. When I think of a person that I would like to "follow in their footsteps," I think of my very special friend whom I would never have met if I hadn't said "Yes" to a request from my sister to go with her on a mission trip.

Deliver Us From Multi-Tasking

Researchers at Carnegie Mellon in Pittsburgh found that just listening to a cell phone while driving reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by 37%. In a press release issued by the university earlier this year, researchers found that "driving and listening draw on two different brain networks . . . this study demonstrates that there is only so much that the brain can do at one time." Remember the words of the prophet Isaiah: "Those of steadfast mind You keep in peace." Isaiah 26:3



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

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Jami Brieske—Worship Music Leader
Brian Pressler—Worship Music Leader

Missions

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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 December Newsletter is November 22.