



We invite you to celebrate Easter with us! *Please note adjusted times.* For all the news about Holy Week and Easter at Trinity, visit trinity-ec.org

- 6:30 A.M. The youth of Trinity invite you to worship in the Chapel. They will lead the entire service which includes Holy Communion.
- 8:00 A.M. Traditional Worship with the Trinity Choir, Tollers, and Brass Ensemble.
- 9:30 A.M. Contemporary Worship with the Brass Ensemble and Harmony in Spirit.
- 10:45 A.M. Worship and all three children's choirs.



**Day Camp Registration
on Sunday,
April 1, at 8:00 A.M.
in the Library.**

Easter Breakfast

Come join us on Easter Sunday for brunch for the whole family! Trinity Youth and families will serve from 7:00–9:30 A.M. for a free will donation. We look forward to serving you and sharing in the joy of Easter!

Worship Before Easter, Too! Sunday, April 1

Please come to worship on Palm Sunday April 1. According to the Bible, Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem about a week before his resurrection. The people lay down their cloaks and small branches of trees in front of him, while singing part of Psalm 118:25–26, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord."

The Last Supper

Come to worship on Wednesday, April 4, or Thursday, April 5, at 6:30 P.M. (*no mid-day service due to low attendance in recent years*) as we remember the Last Supper Jesus shared with His disciples in Jerusalem before his crucifixion. The Last Supper provides the scriptural basis for the Eucharist, also known as "communion" or "the Lord's Supper."

Good Friday

On April 6 at 12:15 P.M. or 6:30 P.M. join in worship on Good Friday commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his death at Calvary. Based on the details of the gospels, the Crucifixion of Jesus was most likely to have been on a Friday (*John 19:42*).

Children's Choirs Voice Praise

You're invited to be led by our 70+ kid musicians in praising God on Sunday, April 29, at 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship with the theme: "God of this City." This is a great Sunday to bring friends to worship at Trinity. Totally Joyous Christians, Children's Choir, and God's Little Singers will challenge you to be a servant in God's world.



Dear Friends

Why Easter? One of the joys of my work is reading and relating history to others as it applies to life and faith. Recently I asked myself the question, why is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection called "Easter."

There is no certainty, but it is likely that the name Easter, in connection with the Christian festival commemorating the resurrection of Jesus, began in the 700's and overtook a pagan festival which took place at the spring equinox. That pagan observance honored the goddess of fertility named Eostre. St. Bede, a monk and Doctor of the Church appointed by Pope Leo XIII, is said to have taken her name and supplanted this pagan festival with the commemoration of the resurrection of Jesus. Thus the date of Easter floats and falls on the Sunday after the full moon following the spring equinox. As an aside, hot cross buns are a pagan custom from the Eostre celebrations which was Christianized, too. Easter lilies, not a Christianized pagan symbol, were brought to the USA from Bermuda in the 1880s and are commonly associated with Easter because they grow from a bulb that is "buried" and "reborn."

But enough of the pagan origins to the title Easter because there's so much history leading up to the resurrection of Jesus. The week prior to Easter, on Thursday, the Church commemorates the Last Supper of Jesus, getting its name from the Latin translation of Jesus' saying that evening, "A new commandment (mandate) I give to you. (Mandatum novum do vobis). "Take this bread, it is my body. Drink the wine, it is my blood. Do this (mandate) to remember me."

Friday, of course, is Good Friday. Christians commemorate Jesus' death and call it "Good." In Lutheran tradition from the 16th to the 20th century, Good Friday was the most important holiday, and abstention from all worldly works was expected.

By the way, if you're interested in the origins, histories, and customs of various holidays, be sure to check out the book *Holiday Symbols* (Omnigraphics, 1998) edited by Sue Ellen Thompson.

Come and worship at Trinity starting with Palm Sunday, April 1, and recall all events of Jesus' last days culminating with resurrection, Easter, on April 8.

May the joy of life conquering death make a difference in your life.
Pastor Kurt Jacobson

Luther College Collegiate Chorale

The Luther College Collegiate Chorale, the junior/senior mixed choir from Decorah, Iowa, will present a concert at 4:00 P.M. on April 22 here at Trinity Lutheran Church. Conducted by Dr. Timothy Peter, the program will feature pieces by J.S. Bach, Duruflé, Rachmaninov, and other sacred and secular works. A freewill offering will be taken for the choir during the concert.

Lutheran College Fair

Trinity will be hosting a Lutheran College Fair on Wednesday, April 18. The event is sponsored by Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA) and Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Forty Lutheran Colleges from around the country are part of the LECNA network. Over half of these schools will be represented at Trinity. A Financial Aid Seminar will be offered to learn about the process and financial support available to students. All are welcome to participate in any or all of the evening! Learn more at lutherancolleges.org

- 7:00 P.M. Registration (also prior to worship at 6:20 P.M.)
- 7:15 P.M. Financial Aid Seminar
- 7:45–9:00 P.M. College Fair

Coffee & Biscotti Fund-raiser

Noah's Ark is once again offering great "Coffee Grounds" coffee and yummy biscotti during our annual Spring Coffee Biscotti Fund-raiser. Both regular and decaf coffees are available in Noah's Ark blend, Snickerdoodle, and Highlander Grog. All coffees are FAIR TRADE. Plus, we also have five different biscotti flavors available for purchase.

All coffee and biscotti will be ready for delivery the week prior to Mother's Day. Please look for the coffee and biscotti sales cart in the lobby April 1–April 18 before and after worship to place your orders.



Final Affairs Seminar

Final Affairs is a daylong program on Thursday, April 12, from 8:00 A.M.–3:30 P.M., with several speakers (including Pastor Kurt!) addressing topics such as funeral planning, options for veterans, hospice and palliative care, legal matters, financial issues, and many other factors to consider in advance care planning. The cost is \$10/person, \$15/couple which includes morning refreshments, lunch, and a "Final Affairs" folder. The registration fee is payable at check-in. This seminar will be held in the Trinity Room. Please contact the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County by Monday, April 2 to register. You can call 715.839.4735 or 1.888.338.4636 or TTY: Use Relay (711)

"Speaking Christian"

Join Pastor Heather for a three week series in April discussing the newest book by Bible scholar Marcus J. Borg, "Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power and How They Can Be Restored." For many, Christianity has become an unfamiliar language. For many others, the language of faith is ill-formed and misunderstood. In open and respectful conversation, we will consider ways we might redeem and reclaim our Christian language in all its richness and wisdom. Classes will meet Wednesdays, April 11, April 18, and April 25 at 5:30 P.M. prior to Wednesday worship. Please sign up at Clipboard Central. Maximum of 15 participants.

Register for Spiritual Parenting

"It's not about perfect behavior. It's about passionate hearts." Parents, grandparents, and godparents are invited to connect with other parents in a four week class on Sunday nights from 5:30 P.M.–7:00 P.M. titled "Spiritual Parenting." Beginning on Sunday, April 15, through Sunday, May 6, Pastor Jim will use a time of teaching, small group exercises, and a resource book to empower parents to be the primary nurturers of their child's/children's faith. Child care will be provided, and additional information is available on our website trinity-ec.org Contact Pastor Jim to register at jim@trinity-ec.org or sign up at Clipboard Central. Cost of \$15 will cover the book and supplies.

National Healthcare Decisions Day

April 16, National Healthcare Decisions Day, is a national initiative to encourage adults of all ages to plan ahead of a health crisis. Making decisions ahead of time and putting your wishes in writing brings peace of mind to families. It helps to avoid the difficult situations that are so common when a person becomes seriously ill and the family is left to guess what their loved one would have wanted. Take this opportunity to complete your advance directive. The Five Wishes document is available at the bulletin board across from the office door, or visit <http://www.agingwithdignity.org> for more information. The WI Department of Health Services also has advance directive documents available to print, with good information, at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/guide/legal

Become a Member in April!

If you've been waiting to join our church or if you know someone you want to see become part of Trinity, join us on Tuesday, April 24, for Discover Trinity 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, see our website at trinity-ec.org or contact any of the pastors: kurt@trinity-ec.org, jim@trinity-ec.org, or heather@trinity-ec.org

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, April 19, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Helen Mateski
Leader: Vicki Fields

Dorcas

Wednesday, April 18, 1:00 P.M.,
Trinity
Hostess: Joanne Johnson
Leader: Group

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 P.M. Trinity
Hostess: Marilyn Johnson
Leader: Vila Nygaard

Miriam

Wednesday, April 18, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Jeanann Stone
Leader: Group

Ruth

Wednesday, April 17, 1:30 P.M.
Hostess: Joanne Stange, 2029
Declaration Drive
Leader: Joanne Siewert

Sarah

Wednesday, April 18, 9:30 A.M.,
Trinity
Hostess: Barb Vorhes
Leader: Phyllis Burrows

Diaper Drive

Help stock Trinity's Food Pantry with diapers during the month of April. Many people coming to Trinity for food assistance have young children and need diapers. Please donate packages of diapers (any size) or make a monetary donation to help stock Trinity's pantry. Bring your diapers to the lobby (look for the sign in the entry way). Help us build a "Wall of Diapers" in our lobby that will be shared through Trinity's pantry and help children and parents in our community! Thank you!



Blood Drive

Trinity will host an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, May 10, from 12:30 P.M. to 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 March 15. Sign up at Clipboard Central or make an appointment online at www.redcrossblood.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 spring Blood Drive on May 10. 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!

Senior Citizens Friendship Group

Don't forget our annual trip to Chanhassen Theater. Those with reservations will meet Wednesday, April 4, at 8:30 A.M. in the church parking lot.

On Wednesday, May 2, we will meet in the church parking lot for a trip to see "Mark Twain's Mississippi." It will be presented by Flying Pig Productions and performed aboard the Minnesota Centennial Showboat docked at Harriet Island in St. Paul. The cost is \$58 for the play, dinner, and transportation. This trip is limited to 25 people. The deadline for your reservation is April 2. Checks should be made out to the Friendship Group and sent to Laverne Nagel, 816 Revere St., Eau Claire WI 54701.

CVA Sing

Congratulations to CVSing (Chippewa Valley Singers Involved in Neighborhood Giving) on a wonderful concert in March. \$5,000 was donated to Feed My People. Thank you to composer Warren Hermodson, director Gary Rambo, and all of the choir members and musicians for their wonderful music.

Wool on Mind!

Join us on Tuesday, April 24, at 6:30 P.M. in the Fireside Room. You can bring any project you are knitting on. 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!

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Trinity has had a Prayer Shawl Ministry for nine years. Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has grown out of the desire to combine the healing power of prayer with the healing ministry of human touch. We envision each shawl extending that "hug" and bringing comfort and solace when we're not physically present.

Each year several knitters knit shawls of healing and caring for people in need of comfort or for parents celebrating the birth of a baby. Our shawls are knit from a soft and washable yarn. Thank you to the knitters who knit these gifts of prayer shawls. This ministry is not limited only to knitters! If you are willing, you can deliver shawls to people in need or simply donate to the Prayer Shawl Fund to assist in purchasing yarn.



Flamingo Insurance will be available beginning April 15.

Adult Fiction

Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson (Suggested by Irene Friend) • In Simonson's debut novel, she takes us to the English countryside and introduces us to Major Pettigrew, retired, who leads a quiet life valuing proper things such as honor, duty, decorum, and a properly brewed cup of tea. This novel is a charming contrast of "change for the better and change for the worst" as it examines the father/son relationship as the father clings to traditional values and the son moves into the modern corporate world. Against all odds, Major Pettigrew forms a relationship with Mrs. Ali, the Pakistani shopkeeper from the village, that starts with a shared love of literature and the loss of their spouses. Sometimes love *does conquer all*. (FIC SIM)



Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford (Suggested by Ann Felton) • This book is a moving story of friendship, young love, and conflicted loyalties. In 1988 the Panama Hotel in Seattle Washington, which has been boarded up for years, is opened. The basement contains the belongings of Japanese American families who had been sent to internment camps during the war. Henry Lee, a Chinese American, searches through the basement looking for articles belonging to Kieko Okabe and her family. Kieko, a Japanese American, was his lost friend and first love, forty years ago. What he finds sends him on a search to revisit his past. This is a well written book and worth reading. (FIC FOR)

Biography

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot (Suggested by Barb Johnson) • Henrietta Lacks was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells, taken without her knowledge in 1951, became one of the most important tools in medicine for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, and more. Her cells have been bought and sold by the billions. More than 20 years later, her children found out and their lives have never been the same. *One of the more fascinating non-fiction books I have read in a long time.* (B SKL)

About The DVD Collection

(Suggested by Joanne Dow)
The church library has several DVD's to check out. Those with double plus (++) on the spine label are for younger children. Examples include *Veggie Tales*, *Star Fish Cove Never Trust A Krum*, *Greatest Heroes and Legends of the Bible*, and many more.

The single plus (+) on the spine label indicates materials for upper elementary students. Examples include *The Chronicles of Narnia*, *Jacob's Gift*, and *The Fall of Freddie the Leaf*. Adults may also enjoy any of these DVD's, especially if they watch them with their children.

The third area consists of DVD's for adults—both fiction and non-fiction. Examples include *Fireproof*, *Never Leave Your Partner Behind*, *Jesus His Life*, *Mary of Nazareth*, *The Story of the Twelve Apostles*, *The Story of Paul the Apostle*, and many more. Check us out!

Join Prayer Link

Pastor Kurt invites you to join in praying for others who ask for our prayers and becoming part of Prayer Link (formerly the "Prayer Chain.") Each week many people ask for the prayers of the pastors, staff, and several people who've agreed to pray for others. Will you join this effort?

It's simple. Join Trinity's Prayer Link and begin to receive prayer requests via email or phone message. Then you pray wherever and whenever you can! We'll provide you a monthly update of prayers and some inspiration for your praying.

If you appreciate the benefits of prayer and are willing to pray for those who share requests, email Pastor Kurt at kurt@trinity-ec.org or note your willingness via the Prayer Link on the homepage of trinity-ec.org. *Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.* ~ Romans 12:12



The Quilt Ladies

Come join the group! Quilting pros and novices alike are invited to join at any time. The group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month at 9:00 A.M. in Trinity's lobby. Sew a quilt, and give the everlasting "warmth" and "comfort" of God's love! Join us April 10 & 24, and May 8 & 22.

Flamingos

They are pink, they are sneaky, and yes, they are coming to a neighborhood near you! In fact they are hiding here somewhere. Get your Flamingo insurance beginning on Sunday, April 15. Stop by the Flamingo table and learn what policy is best for you. Money raised from the Flamingo fundraiser will go towards those Youth serving in Christ's love this summer at the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering.



Our Building Serves Thousands in March

Trinity's facility is a major tool in our mission of "Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News." During one five-day period in March, we welcomed nearly 2,000 people into our facility for the Feed My People Food Bank fundraiser "Empty Bowls." The Boy Scouts, area Learning in Retirement participants, Lutheran Social Services, Thrivent, the NW Synod of WI, musical events, weight loss groups, and an array of activities for children and youth find our facility to be a great resource for good things! This is one example of how our facility reaches out to serve well beyond ourselves!

To make this possible, we invested greatly in building in the past 15 years. In 1998 the Trinity Room opened, and in 2005 the new lobby and Worship Center opened. Thus, Trinity carries a debt and makes a \$10,485 monthly mortgage payment.

Your contributions to "Mortgage Payment" make this monthly payment. Thank you for giving to "Regular Ministries" and "Mortgage Payment" each month via the blue offering envelopes, via free electronic fund transfer, or online at www.trinity-ec.org "Giving" page.

Positioned for Sharing Good News

Thank you for your regular offerings which empower a great mission and provide rich opportunities for people to learn of God's love in Christ and how to live faith in daily life. Your weekly offerings, stock gifts, and automatic transfers from your bank help keep your church healthy and alive!

These numbers show good news, and behind them is the Spirit of God working in you and many people. Please continue to share your faith through financial contributions, for in doing so you impact the world with God's mercy and grace. Thank you for every offering you share.

Regular Ministries January 1–March 20

	2012	2011
Offerings	\$234,742	\$229,867
Expenses	\$243,400	\$241,666
Variation	-\$8,658	-\$11,799

Making Your Offering with Ease

Your offerings to Trinity may be automatically transferred from your bank account or applied to a credit card by visiting Trinity's website. This service insures that your charitable intentions are regularly fulfilled. It also provides your church with a great blessing. Visit trinity-ec.org Give page to set up your transfer. For assistance or to have this option set up for you, please contact Amber at amber@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601.

Trust God and Entrust Your Plans

You matter to God, and God's timeless care for you is part of the mission of Trinity's Endowment Trust Fund: *"Serving God's people in Christ's name by providing financial foundations to the ministries and missions of Trinity Lutheran Church for all generations."*

The Endowment Trust Fund exists so that your values and legacy of Christian faith will live on and further God's work for generations to come.

As you plan to give gifts for birthdays or anniversaries, remember the Trust Fund. When you're making the bigger plans for your estate, the Trust Fund is an excellent way to influence the future and the Church with God's love for generations to come!

There are several designations within the Trust Fund that welcome your gifts or planned giving in the future:

- Missions throughout the World
- Ministry with Children
- Ministry of Worship and Music
- Ministry with Youth
- Ministry with Seniors
- Future Church Leaders
- God's House—Our Building
- Unrestricted Fund

We invite you to explore the many creative ways you can give to the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. A thirteen member Board of Trustees elected by the congregation guides and carries out this mission. For more information, please contact Amber Moltzau at 715.832.6601 or amber@trinity-ec.org

Grant Applications Wanted

Though the 2011 market wasn't fruitful for Trinity's Endowment Trust Fund, the Board at its March meeting approved making 2.5% of investable funds available for grants. This is to honor the fund's mission: To serve God's people in Christ's name by providing financial foundations to the ministries and missions of Trinity Lutheran Church for all generations.

Grant applications for the spring (due to Amber Moltzau in Trinity's office by May 1) are welcome. Find the application form on the GIVE page of trinity-ec.org or contact the church office.

Grant applications are evaluated with consideration to the policies, funding objectives, and mission statement of the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. Therefore, special emphasis is given to funding programs in the areas of:

1. Helping people grow in faith and service to God and neighbor.
2. Promoting the mission of the congregation and greater church.
3. Strengthening the ability of our congregation to respond more effectively to needs of people not funded through regular contributions and budgeted funds.
4. Helping develop new leaders for the church.

Eligibility for Grant Funds

1. Members of Trinity may apply on their own behalf or the behalf of qualified organizations or groups within the congregation.
2. Organizations may apply and must be classified as a charitable organization under Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or another qualified 501(C)(3) organization must agree to serve as fiscal agent. A letter of agreement signed by both parties must accompany the proposal.

Hunger in a Changing Climate

The impact of changes in climate fall most heavily on people and nations struggling in poverty. How does the Bible, our faith, and our call to be good stewards of the earth and helpers to brothers and sister in need relate? Pick up "Climate Change: Poverty and Hunger in a Changing Climate," a publication of the ELCA, at the Information Center in the Lobby or online at elca.org.

Child Abuse Prevention Month

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness about child abuse and neglect and to create strong communities to support children and families. While we prepare for the resurrection this Lenten season, let's hold this cause close. Every year hundreds of thousands of innocents are abused nationally, some in our own community. Together, we can work to prevent abuse by trying to resolve the problems that trigger it, such as substance abuse, mental illness, and other social problems. Learn more at <http://www.lsswis.org/Services/CF/Sexual-Assault-Services>

Women of the ELCA NW Wisconsin Synodical Convention

The WELCA Synodical Convention will be held Friday, April 27, through Saturday, April 28, at the Plaza Inn and Suites here in Eau Claire. The Keynote Speaker will be Mary Pierce, the Presiding Pastor is Pastor Paul Oman. There will be eight different Awareness Sessions held. More information and registration forms are on the Women's Bulletin Board in the hallway.

Teaching Generosity to Your Kids

The changes in economic realities in our lives have generated lots of discussion about cutting spending and increasing savings. But for the Christian, the discussion about sharing cannot be eliminated.

The one money habit that is often left out of most money conversations is sharing. Imagine how different our country's current narrative, and in turn our national priorities, would be if more youth and adults really understood the power of sharing with others.

Families across America need to proactively seize the moment because everybody wins when we have a balanced diet of healthy money habits based on a simple values-based philosophy – Share Save Spend.

It's not a philosophy of convenience. Rather, it is a lifestyle that defines the role money plays in our lives — a lifestyle that is built around generosity, not austerity.

Here are a few ideas to help your family jumpstart your money conversations:

1. Lead with Sharing • By sensitizing children and teens to the needs of others, you will teach them the power of generosity. Give them numerous opportunities (money and time) to respond to the needs of the world.
2. Set Saving Goals • Use goal setting to counter the "I wants." If your child wants something, let them save for it. The patience and discipline instilled will be invaluable when saving for big-ticket items like a car or a home.
3. Start Talking • Healthy money habits and shared values are learned through conversations and experiences. Seize the moment and prioritize these essential activities.
4. Walk the Walk • Your money narrative will shape how your children and grandchildren use money for decades. Periodically review that your habits and values match your desired outcome.

By Nathan Dungan www.sharesavespend.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

NOAH'S NEWS!

Ahhhhh April! AND March felt like April, too. We have been blessed by some great "early" spring days. The children have been eager for regular outside playground days. Running, jumping, screaming, giggling, and just enjoying God's outside world is such a special gift!

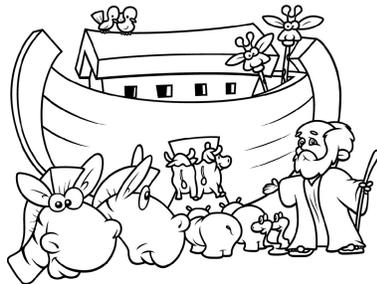
During Holy Week, the children of Noah's Ark will celebrate Easter. We'll hear the Easter story, sing Easter songs, and create Easter fun together! We have been thinking about the Lenten theme of "ONE ANOTHERS" throughout our Journey to Jerusalem, and we'll review our ideas and share them on our bulletin boards for all to see. Ms "C" enjoyed sharing some of their ideas at a Lenten Wednesday worship service, along with the weekly theme of "accepting one another." Mrs. Lien shared on the theme "agree with one another."

In April our themes will include Easter, taking care of the Earth and Earth Day, bugs and insects, and parent teacher conferences. We also will have our last story time visit from the Eau Claire Public library storytellers. We are blessed by their participation at Noah's Ark.

Spring Party Programs are just around the corner on May 7 and 8. We'll celebrate a great year together.

Happy Spring...hugs, Ms "C"

PS ... don't forget to register your children or grandchildren for summer Day Camps, and Vacation Bible School. There is always LOTS of fun happening at those. I especially love the opportunities I have to work with great lead teachers in planning and organizing our week-long camps. PLUS, the youth who join us in leadership roles bless our lives tremendously!



SUMMER 2012 DAY CAMPS

Registration is Sunday, April 1, beginning at 8:00 A.M. in Trinity's lobby/library area.

- Camp Discovery: June 11-15
- Trinity Sports Camp: June 18-20
- Camp Come & Play: June 25-28
- Camp Cooking & Booking: June 25-29
- Camp Veggie Tales: July 9-13
- Camp Tell The Good News: July 9-12

For more information check our website at trinity-ec.org or contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org



KID'S IN GOD'S WORD

Join us for Vacation Bible School this summer to explore how KIDS play an important role in spreading God's Word! Baby Moses, David, and a boy with a basket of fish and bread will tell us how to "name," "listen," "protect," "share," and "bless" the Good News! Vacation Bible School is July 23-27 from 8:45 A.M.-12:00 P.M. and is for children who were three by 9.1.11 through those who have completed grade six. There is a suggested \$20 donation per child. Our special Kick Off Event is Sunday, July 22, at the 9:45 A.M. worship service.

STAFF NEEDS FOR VBS

Teachers and student helpers are needed for all grade levels. Please sign up on the poster in the lobby on Sunday mornings or at the Children's Ministries office during the week. Contact Mary Schoenknecht for specific information at 715.832.6601 or by email at marys@trinity-ec.org

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELORS NEEDED

Trinity's Summer Day Camp ministry is looking for current high school students (completing grades 9-12) to work as paid counselors during sessions in June and July. Information and application forms are available through Mary Schoenknecht, 715.832.6601, or can be picked up at the youth tool bench. Please be aware of the May 1 deadline for application.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Trinity's Summer Day Camp ministry is looking for middle school students (completing grades 6, 7 & 8) to work as volunteers during our sessions in June and July. Information and application forms are available through Mary Schoenknecht, 715.832.6601, or can be picked up at the youth tool bench. Please be aware of the May 1 deadline for application.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

In March students made Christ the King posters to carry in the Palm Sunday procession at the 9:45 A.M. service on April 1. Both sessions of classes will be asked to participate in the procession and sit as a group with their teachers during the service. Look for information on our website. There will be no Sunday School classes on Easter morning. Classes resume on April 15.

CAMP T.G.I.F.

Our final Wednesday session of Camp T.G.I.F. for this school year is on April 25. We will have a picnic followed by games for T.G.I.F. kids, TJC choir, the Children's Choir, and GLS. There will be a commissioning service for the sixth grade students during the 6:30 P.M. Wednesday Worship service in the Worship Center. Parents of sixth graders are encouraged to attend the service.

LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP

It's not too late to sign up your children for Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek, WI. Pick up a brochure at the Youth Tool Bench or the information rack in the lobby, or go online at lutherpark.org to learn more. We offer 25% of the registration fee as a partial grant. Contact Mary Schoenknecht for more information at marys@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601

Youth Dates to Remember

Sunday, April 1

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306 from 10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M.

Wednesday, April 4

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

Sunday, April 8

- Easter Sunday—No Teen Study

Wednesday, April 11

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

Sunday, April 15

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306 from 10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M.

Wednesday, April 18

- CrossWord practice in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.
- High School Youth Council in the Youth Room at 7:15 P.M.
- Prayer Friend Event in the Trinity Room at 8:00 P.M.

Sunday, April 22

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306 from 10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M.

Wednesday, April 25

- CrossWord practice in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.
- Club 9 End of the Year Bowling Party at Wagner's at 7:15 P.M.

Sunday, April 29

- Last Day of Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room, High School in Room 306 from 10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M.

Wednesday, May 2

- Club 78 End of the Year Party at Action City from 5:00–7:30 P.M.

YOUTH NEWS

Trinity Dairy Queen Night

Stop by Dairy Queen on Golf Road and enjoy a cool treat on Sunday, April 22, from 5:00–8:00 P.M. Dairy Queen will donate a portion of the evening sales to Trinity's 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering students.

Prayer Friend Event

Meet your Prayer Friend on Wednesday, April 18, at 8:00 P.M. We will meet in the Trinity Room after the large group lesson. Club 78 students and prayer friends will meet for the first time. See who has been praying for you!



YOUTH NEWS

Make a Difference While Having Fun!

GATHER together to learn from the Bible and one another, SERVE our community with our time and presence, PLAY together with activities and fellowship. Summer Stretch is a faith centered approach to connecting community service learning and youth. Summer Stretch gives incoming 6, 7, 8, & 9 grade youth a safe, healthy place to belong where they can contribute to the community along with socializing with their peers. Participants will meet five times during the summer including a day at Valley Fair. Brochures and registration materials are available at the Tool Bench. Registration deadline is May 1st. Summer Stretch counts as a camp experience for confirmation students. Contact Cassie at cassie@trinity-ec.org for more information.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES!

Highway Clean Up

Club 78 and High School students are invited to join John Rush on Saturday, April 28, for the spring 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 2-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.

Load-A-Truck

Load-A-Truck is a two-step service event. First, we will hand out grocery bags and envelopes after each worship service on Sunday, April 29. Then, second, we will collect the filled grocery bags and envelopes the following Sunday, May 6. Donated food and money will be loaded onto a truck and delivered to Feed My People Food Bank. Club 78 and High School students may sign up for a shift at the Tool Bench.



Community Table

Food is a basic need of humankind, and it is our privilege to serve those who go without! We will be serving a meal to the hungry in our community at the Community Table on Friday, April 27, from 4:30–7:00 P.M. Both students and parents are needed to provide this service. A sign up sheet is available at the Tool Bench.

Received in February Memorials & Gifts

Mission Fund

- In memory of Roger Hansen: Lawrence & Deyon Ziehme
- In honor of Susan Effinge: Tami Satre, Barb Nelson

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Gary Thom: Ralph & Norma Marking, Hazel Cook
- In memory of Dennis Napton: Sheila & Tom Zahorik, Marie Sherman
- In memory of Morris Stokes: Marshfield Clinic
- In memory of Richard Mahoney: Richard & Norma Linn

Children's Bible Fund

- In memory of Dennis Napton: Joanne Stange

Friends of Flynn School Book Fund

- In memory of Judy Kramer: Marjorie Satre

Library Fund

- In memory of Dennis Napton: Larry & Mary Hoepner

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Steven Litchfield: Wayne Larsen
- In memory of Dennis Napton: Shirley Freeberg
- In memory of Lois Myre: Jackie Krumenauer

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Dennis Napton: Dick Cable

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Chippewa Valley Free Clinic Mission—To provide health care to and advocacy for the people of the Chippewa Valley who have no health care alternative.



The Chippewa Valley Free Clinic is a safety net that provides much needed healthcare support to our community, filling a gap for the uninsured, the under insured, the unemployed, and the underemployed. They believe that access to care is a fundamental human right.

It costs approximately \$4,500 per week to keep the clinic open. Trinity is proud to partner with the clinic by financially sponsoring the clinic the first week in May.

Did You Know?

- The Chippewa Valley Free Clinic presently serves over 215 patients a month. This is a 6% increase compared to last year and a 22% increase over the last five year average.
- Almost all services are provided by volunteers (reception, acute and chronic medical care, administration, and maintenance) who give over 80 hours of support each week to the clinic.
- Over 42% of the clinic's patients are employed. Some are seasonal or part-time; some are full-time working a low wage job; some are waiting for insurance or Badger Care. The clinic is committed to serving the most fragile and vulnerable among us.
- Medication costs at the Free Clinic to date have been trending 63% higher than last year. The rise is due to a combination of the increased patient load, patients who are more ill, and an overall increase in the wholesale cost of medication.
- 2011 Clinic Statistics: 771 Unique Patients; 2,545 Patient Visits; On average 212 patient visits per month, August 2011 highest number of patient visits in Clinic's history—255; 6,921 prescriptions filled (on average 577 per month).
- Clinic Challenges: Critical shortage of clinicians; continue to absorb an increasing number of uninsured patients with complex medical, dental, and behavioral needs; decrease in financial and other resources, primarily grants, plus fewer medical supplies and samples; as a Primary care facility —mental health needs are growing.

How Can We Help?

- Monetary Donations: It costs approximately \$4,500 per week to keep the clinic open. Trinity hopes to sponsor the clinic during the first week of May. Your donations will make this support possible.
- Education: Maribeth Woodford, Director of the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic, and Dr. Kristin Wogahn, Trinity member, will offer more

information about the clinic after the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship services on Sunday, April 15.

- Time: The clinic needs medical and non-medical volunteers throughout the year. Sign up at Clipboard Central.
- Meals: During the first week of May, we plan to provide meals for the clinic volunteers. Sign up at Clipboard Central.
- Prayers: Please keep the viability of the clinic in your prayers.

Please consider a donation as a way to celebrate God's love through the work of the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic. Please direct your donation to Trinity Lutheran Church with a memo "Free Clinic." If you have any questions, please contact Marti Hofer (marti@trinity-ec.org) or Suzanne Becker (suzanne@trinity-ec.org) at 715.832.6601. Thank you!

A Healthier Recipe

Cauliflower Mac and Cheese

Serves 4 or more

Ingredients

- 1 pound penne pasta
- 1 cup 2 percent or skim milk
- 1 pound shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 head cauliflower, cut into florets
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- salt and pepper to taste
- Bring salted water to a boil and cook the pasta until al dente. In the meantime, cook the cauliflower until soft and transfer to a blender to puree.
- In a medium-size pan, combine the pasta and hot cauliflower puree. Add the milk and cheese, and season with salt and pepper to taste.
- Sprinkle with chopped parsley, and serve immediately while hot.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

We Gathered HUNDREDS of Books!

Thank you to those who donated books for children at Flynn Elementary School. Putting books in the hands of kids not only encourages their love of learning but also increases their self-confidence! Through your generosity, nearly 300 children enjoyed spring break this year with a new book in their hands to keep. If you would like more information on "Friends of Flynn School," please contact Trinity's office at 715.832.6601.

Run/Walk to Help B-Side

You're invited to B-Fit for B-Side 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, April 14, starting with registration at Phoenix Park at 8:00 A.M. and the race at 9:00 A.M. All proceeds will go to B-Side Community, which is a community that believes the unity of the church is not bound by social, economical, or education barriers. Advance registration is \$15 adult; \$7 youth under 13. Registration forms at the Information Center today or at first-lutheran.org Learn more at Bsidecommunity.com

Sojourner Update

Since opening on November 1, 2011, the Sojourner House in downtown Eau Claire has provided 3,094 nights of service to 135 different guests (averaging 25.5 people per night). They have steadily seen the nightly census grow, as evidenced in February when the average census was 32 people each night. On Tuesday evening, February 28, the night of the late winter snowstorm, the shelter had 39 overnight guests (capacity is 40). Thanks to your generous donations, many in our community had a warm bed on a cold night this winter. If you would like more information on the Sojourner House, visit their website at <http://www.cclse.org/sojournerhouse.php>

Empty Bowls

The numbers are in! Empty Bowls 2012 had the best year EVER! Over \$43,000 was raised! Feed My People wants to thank the sponsors (including Trinity who donates the use of our building), committee members and volunteers, and the more than 1,400 people who joined them for soup! Proceeds from this event will help provide over 215,000 meals for people struggling with hunger in west central Wisconsin!

What does it mean to serve at the Beacon House?

My husband and I have been volunteering at the Beacon House for a number of years. Our evening schedules are very busy, so we usually sign up for the overnight shift since that is the only free time we have to give. We get our own locking bedroom and bathroom and are always met by a staff member before they head home for the night. We interact with the children a little before bedtime (playing many card games of War!) and chat with the parents before lights out. When we had our first child, we switched to the dinner shift. We split the dinner preparation with someone else from Trinity and bring great food to share (recently, we brought tacos and Spanish rice). There are two large dining room tables, so the families and the volunteers all get to eat together. My son, who is now two, loves going because he gets to play with the other kids... last time, the little girls were putting ribbons in his hair! All the parents are so grateful and many are happy to talk and laugh with

you. Every time we leave, I feel great satisfaction that my family has played a small part in providing this vital safety net for other families who have fallen on tough times. I also thank God for the gifts that we have and are able to share!

Holly Hassemer

Our next serving opportunity is April 8–12. Several volunteers will be needed each day to fill the duties. If you are new to the Beacon House, you will be paired with someone with experience. Please join us for this rewarding experience! Sign up at Clipboard Central or contact Trinity's office at 715.832.6601 if you can help.

Hearing the Cries Faith and Criminal Justice

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is addressing issues in the U.S. criminal justice system in a new statement on criminal justice. Composed by a task force in response to concerns expressed by many synods about high incarceration rates in the US, the draft affirms the fundamental principles of the U.S. criminal justice system, such as due process of law and the presumption of legal innocence. It also recognizes serious deficiencies—overly harsh sentencing and persistent inequalities based on race and class.

The draft statement calls ELCA members to ministry and compassion through four practices: hearing the cries of those affected, accompaniment, hospitality, and advocacy. It asks members of this church to recommit themselves to visiting the prisoner, correcting the flawed criminal justice system, participating in God's work with hands and hearts, and hearing the cries of people affected.

Pick up a summary copy of the draft statement at the Information Center in the Lobby. The full 57 page document is available at elca.org "What we believe" page or call 800.638.3522. The task force will use feedback to prepare a proposed social statement for the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.

Vacation Bible School—Meet & Greet!

“KID’S IN GOD’S WORD”



BABY MOSES



HANNAH & SAMUEL



DAVID



**JESUS FEEDS
5000**



**JESUS BLESSES
THE CHILDREN**

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

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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People of Trinity

Congregational President

George McLeod

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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
Jamie 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

Jamie 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 May Newsletter is April 17.