



trinity

Lutheran Church

Prayer Friends Meet!

On April 18 nearly 70 adult Prayer Friends, who have been praying daily for our 7th and 8th grade youth, met together for the first time. A Prayer Friend is paired with a student in the fall. Without knowing the identity of the adult until now, students pass along prayer requests through a general email address of Trinity to the Prayer Friend. When the meeting takes place, there is anticipation, joy, and gratitude for prayers offered. Thank you to these adults who were Prayer Friends this year. Watch for opportunity to become one this fall.

Suzanne Becker, Pam Craker, Dorothy Sorlie, Gary Rambo, Kayla Clark, Judy Pielhop, Lois Olson, Jamie Fawcett, Mike Voelker, Jim Urness, Kris Lauer, Leslie Moen, Peggy Holmstrom, Seth Penigar, Denise Tape, Jennifer Geurts, Michelle Glaser, Darrin Schober, Missy Emberson, Mary Karker, Jill Brandenburg, Sharon DeRusha, Emily Nordlund, Ron Retzlaff, Tracey Belmont, Jennifer Nielsen, Nick Berger, John Moen, Lori Walsh, Davis Walsh, Suzanne Brinkmeyer, Jack Olson, Scott DeRusha, Jim Schroeder, Pam Burrows, Jane Hilgedick, Julie Brown, Natalie Hanson, Hunter Hanson, Peter Hanson, Anne Josephson, Sarah Stansfield, Janet Arnette, Anne Risen, Rose Sippel, Dana Schroeder, Kay Hayden, Sarah Pedersen, Andrea Jadeke, Jackie Krumenauer, Carol Bartingale, Cindy Webb, Helen Mateski, Sherri Auleta, Pam White, Mary Schoenknecht, Marlee Knickerbocker, Jeanne Cooper, Angi Goodwin, Marti Hofer, Michelle Page, and Lanette Hesse.

Team of Visitors Expands

The care of our congregation reaches directly to over forty-five people who are limited by health and cannot enjoy worshiping with us on Sundays. They are the recipients of Trinity Visitation Ministry that is led by Director Pat Garber and blessed by the regular visits (which include sharing the Lord's Supper) of individuals who comprise our Home Communion Visitors Team. Each team member is matched with one or more people to visit on a regular basis. They are trained by Pat and extend Trinity's care and Christ's love. Thanks to these members of the team: Sharon Colburn, Sally Goetsch, Kathy Gjesfeld, Mary Jo Hanson, Caryn Linn, Pat Ness, Dawn Stienessen, Ken and Linda Anderson, Morris Brumberg, Charlotte Finseth, Helen Mateski, Ron Retzlaff, Tom Rouse, and Mike Voelker.

Church Picnic!

Trinity's Annual Church Picnic will be held on Sunday, May 20. Food will be available beginning at 10:30 A.M. Carnival games and inflatables start at 10:45 A.M.

Volunteers are needed to help with setting up, serving food, leading the games, and making cakes for the cake walk (need 25–30). If you are willing to help, please sign up at Clipboard Central in the lobby or contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org





Life After Resurrection”

“Christ is risen!” “He is risen indeed!”

Yet, what does it mean to live in a world where the resurrection happened?

We tend to think of Easter as a one-time event. It’s such a high that we cannot stand it for too long, so it’s best to get back to life as usual. We return to our routines. Normality reigns supreme and comfort-ability sets in like a pair of old slippers under our bed.

Rev. Patricia de Jong wrote the following about normality: “My father, after my mother’s death, sat around a table with his three daughters and passed out her jewelry. After each piece had made it’s way to the daughter who claimed it, we sat in stunned silence together and wept. Finally, dad said in a whisper, ‘Well, that’s all done now.’”

How quickly we want the pain, the joy, the sadness, and the fullness of the moment to be over. We cannot stand glory or sadness too long. It threatens our natural state of ordinariness.

Yet, what does it mean to live in a world where the resurrection happened?

For one thing, we live with the message that goodness and hope are not overwhelmed by evil and despair, regardless of what is transpiring at any particular moment in history. Yes, there are days that such a testimony sounds far-fetched, unrealistic, and perhaps even naive. Reality in our world today involves the murder of 17 Afghan adults and children by a disturbed American soldier. Reality includes the killing of a 17 year old African-American youth by a neighborhood vigilante.

On Good Friday, the followers of Jesus saw reality before them. With Jesus hanging on the cross they lost their faith. Before his death they believed, contrary to conventional wisdom, that the peacemakers and the meek were the blessed and truly happy ones, that it was better to give than to receive, that forgiveness is better than retaliation. All of this was shattered when Christ was crucified. The world’s reality was that Jesus was unrealistic, dangerous, and needed to be eliminated. The world needed to get back to normalcy.

Then came a resurrection! “Christ is risen!” “He is risen indeed!”

For the disciples, and for us, Christ’s resurrection shows us again that God’s love is all-powerful, that Jesus’ words were true, and that following him is a holy task.

What does it mean to live in a world where the resurrection happened?

It means that everything is different because death and despair do not have the final word. Truth, goodness, and hope are the final realities. We are both recipients and sharers of this marvelous joy!

Blessings to you as you live your life in a world where the resurrection happened.

Christ is risen!
Pastor Jim Page

Contact Us!

When You Desire Baptism

We celebrate Holy Baptism with about 50 families throughout the year at Trinity. That’s a sign of the youthfulness of the congregation and the excellent ministries that draw young families to Trinity! Baptism is offered in Sunday worship usually on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Upcoming dates available: May 13, 27; June 10, 24. For more information about baptism, access our webpage at trinity-ec.org or call one of the pastors at 715.832.6601.

When You Are Hospitalized

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

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

**“Christ is
risen!”
“He is risen
indeed!”**



Women's Summer Study

Another Beth Moore study will be held at Trinity this summer on the book of Esther. This is an amazing study of tragedy and triumphs Esther calls us to think beyond our individual lives. We study Esther not as strangers but as fellow citizens of God's household. Come and learn about this woman of immeasurable courage as she saves her people from annihilation. Please join us. The study begins on Monday, June 18, from 1:00–3:00 P.M. This is a nine week study ending on August 27. We do not meet the week of Vacation Bible School. Sign up at Clipboard Central. You will need a workbook which is ordered through the church office. The cost is \$15.50.

Senior Citizens The Friendship Group

Please join us on Wednesday, June 13, at 10:00 A.M. Our program will be the highlights of Pastor Bob & Mary Schoenknecht's trip to Greece. Lunch will follow at Applebees. Then join us again on Wednesday, July 11, when we go to the Apple Valley Home, 6700 Hwy 53, Eau Claire for a catered picnic luncheon. We will leave the parking lot at 11:30 A.M. The lunch will consist of pulled pork and beef sandwiches, various salads, and strawberry shortcake for a cost of \$12.00. Send your check to Elaine Lonning, 1210 East Lexington Blvd., Eau Claire WI 54701.

Join Prayer Link

Pastor Kurt invites you to join in praying for others who ask for our prayers and become 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 May 8 & 22, and June 12 & 26.

Italy Trip for 2013

Plans are being made for a Trinity trip in early autumn 2013 to Italy! This ten day trip will include stops in Rome and Assisi and then a six night stay in Tuscany. From that point, we will enjoy day trips to Florence, Siena, and San Gimignano, with plenty of time to linger and soak up the beauty and taste the riches of Tuscany. The full trip brochure will be available later this year, and registration will open by January 1. To receive advance notice of this travel opportunity, please contact Pastor Kurt Jacobson at kurt@trinity-ec.org



Please "go green" and ask to get your monthly Trinity Tidings via our website with an email that will come to your inbox as soon as it's available each month. Email Suzanne Becker at suzanne@trinity-ec.org to request this convenient, free service!

Visit Trinity at www.trinity-ec.org and find pertinent and up-to-date information about ministries and events. In addition you can find on the website:

- The monthly Trinity Tidings newsletter.
- Sunday sermons in print or downloadable audio format.
- How to join Trinity
- Our Core Values.
- Children and youth events.
- Vacation Bible School and Day Camp registration information.

Our website is also a great tool to guide a new neighbor or coworker to Trinity. Find out the steps to join Trinity on the "I'm New" page.



Leave A Legacy

God wants you to be good stewards of all that has been given to you, including the assets accumulated over a lifetime. In order to provide you a vehicle to be as charitable upon your death as you were while on this earth, the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund welcomes designations in your will or other estate plans.

Great things are done as Trinity's Trust Fund grows. Your bequest is invested carefully for the rest of time, and only the proceeds from your contribution are used. Read about the possibility to be charitable with your accumulated assets at "Endowment Trust Fund" trinity-ec.org

Mortgage Update

Thank you for your offerings to Mortgage Payment and Regular Ministries. Both contributions empower the ministries of our church and make possible our monthly payment. Your offerings to Mortgage Payment provide the monthly payment of \$10,485 to the ELCA Mission Investment Fund that holds our note. So far in 2012 we've paid an additional \$53,527 directly to principal! This will shorten the mortgage and reduce the interest costs. Thank you.

Your offerings or automatic fund transfers for regular ministries and mortgage payment give life in so many ways. Thank you for giving. If you're not already making the free automatic transfers from your financial institution, set it up today online at "Give" trinity-ec.org. For assistance, please contact Amber Moltzau, 715.832.6601 or amber@trinity-ec.org

Save A Life!

Trinity will host the spring Bloodmobile on Thursday, May 10, from 12:30–6:30 P.M. You must be at least 17 years of age (16 with a parent's signature), weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, and be in general good health. Sign up at Clipboard Central or make your appointment online at www.givebloodgivelife.org and enter our zip code. Other volunteer opportunities include baking treats or acting as reception host or canteen host. Give the gift of life! Contact Jane Olsen with any questions at 715.830.9581.



Volunteers Needed for Blood Drive!

Volunteers are needed to assist with reception and the canteen at the American Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, May 10, in the Trinity Room. Volunteer shifts are as follow: 12:00 A.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 for the donors. Please sign up at Clipboard Central or contact Jane Olsen at 715.830.9581 with any questions. Thank you!

Community Resources

Caregiver Information

Caring for the Caregiver will be held on Friday, May 4, at Sacred Heart Hospital, from 11:30 A.M.–3:30 P.M. The cost is \$5 plus a non-perishable food item. Join them for inspirational speakers, resource materials, refreshments, and more. There is limited seating, register by calling 715.717.1600. Senior Care will provide a professional caregiver on-site or in your home at no cost. Call 715.552.8040 for more information.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

This educational program for family caregivers will be held on May 9, 16, & 23 from 1:00–4:00 P.M. at Dove Health Care West. The \$20 fee includes the Caregiver Helpbook, materials, and refreshments. To register, call the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Eau Claire County by Friday, May 4, at 715.839.4735 or 888.338.4636.

The GAP

Grandparents and Others as Parents (GAP) meets the third Tuesday of the month, at 6:30 P.M. at Eau Claire Wesleyan Church, 2403 Keith Street, Eau Claire WI. For more information, contact Barbara Manzo at 715.835.1944 or Rae Tipler at 715.225.0404.

Family Caregiver Support Group

This group meets every other Thursday at 1:00 P.M. at Bethesda Lutheran Brethren Church, 123 W. Hamilton Avenue, Eau Claire WI. For more information and the next meeting date, please contact Mary Pierce 715.598.9307.



Flamingos are Flying!

If you wake up one morning to a sea of pink in your front yard, just look for the lead Flamingo. Instructions will be attached to the lead Flamingo. Each evening the flock of flamingos will find a new yard in which to rest. Flamingos will continue to fly through May 23. Money raised from the Flamingo fundraiser will go towards the thirteen youth serving in Christ's love this summer at the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.



Received March 2012

Memorials & Gifts

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Richard Mahoney: Mitch & Barb Piper, Jack & Lois Olson
- In memory of Twylah Wolynec: Ruth Circle, Lori Juneau, Pam Burrows, Roger & Phyllis Burrows, Shirley Freeberg
- In memory of Tony Schleppenbach: Shirley Freeberg

Youth Ministry Fund

- In memory of Richard Mahoney: Dale & Anita Reid

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Twylah Wolynec: Ron Retzlaff
- In memory of Dennis Napton: Char Finseth

Children's Bible Fund

- In memory of Twylah Wolynec: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In memory of Lorraine Ashbough: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Health Ministry Fund

- In memory of Jeffrey Case: Jim & Sherry Jones
- In memory of Roger Casper: Jim & Sherry Jones

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Twylah Wolynec: Morrie & Audrey Brumberg
- In memory of William Kriesel: Jessie Schultz, Cleo Peuse
- In memory of Tony Schleppenbach: Elroy & Agnes Strand, Wayne Larsen

Prayer Shawl Ministry

- In memory of Tony Schleppenbach: Ann Ayres, Patricia Cliff, Elaine Lonning, Elayne Peterson, Rose Sippel

Parents Who Host

The Parents Who Host Lose the Most Campaign has been kicked off again this spring. If you took a sign home last year, now is the time to put it out on your lawn. Please keep your sign out through June. If you need a new sign, feel free to pick one up in Eau Claire at any Middle or High School. Thank you for supporting these efforts in our community! For more information about Parents Who Host or other efforts to reduce underage drinking, contact Kristin Hildebrand at 715.839.2874.

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, May 17, 9:30 A.M. Trinity
Hostess: Betty Lee
Leader: Barb Johnson

Dorcas

Wednesday, May 16, 1:00 P.M.,
Trinity
Hostess: Ardy Nystuen
Leader: Joanne Johnson

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 P.M. Trinity
Hostess: Dianna Miller
Leader: Kathy Gjesfeld

Miriam

Wednesday, May 16, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Joan Harris
Leader: Group

Ruth

Wednesday, May 15, 1:30 P.M.
Hostess: Lori Juneau, 3056 Neptune Ave.
Leader: Joanne Stange

Sarah

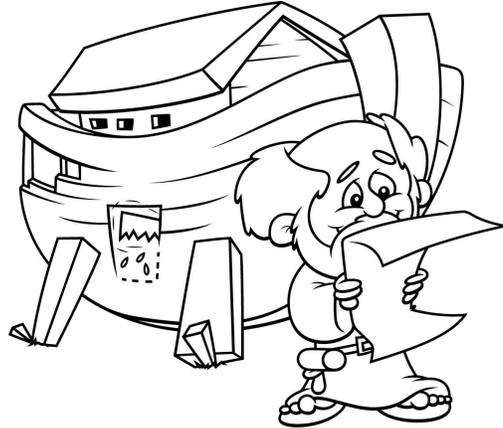
Wednesday, May 16, 9:30 A.M.,
Trinity
Hostess: Dottie Petzold
Leader: Barb Vorhes



Noah's Ark News

"MAY" there always be sunshine.
 "MAY" there always be blue skies.
 "MAY" there always be God's love.
 And "MAY" there always be me!!

We love May! The April showers will bring the May flowers on the Noah's Ark playground. Our "rainbow bulb garden" has already bloomed and has been picked! Our special "flower circle" will be the colors of the rainbow, too, for us to enjoy all summer. We'll be adding a "musical" addition to the playground this spring; look for it!



Noah's Ark will celebrate our 2011–2012 school year with our annual party programs on Monday and Tuesday, May 7 and 8, at 7:00 P.M. If you'd like to enjoy beautiful children singing praise music, come be part of the fun!

Noah's ark will close out the school year on Thursday AND Friday, May 24 and 25, with a special end of the year field trip. We'll also take home our really special homemade Noah's Ark Journals to remember our year together. God has surely blessed us with friends and fun!

The 2012–2013 school year is fast approaching. We have two M/W/F A.M. openings for 4–5 year olds (before 9.1.12) and one T/Th P.M. spot for a child three before 9.1.12. We're filling up fast, and we are so excited about it! Many new families will join us next year for a fun "ride" on the ark!

Look for coffee/biscotti orders to arrive the weekend before Mother's Day. There will be a cart in the lobby for delivery. Thanks for all your orders. Hugs to you all for a beautiful May!

Sports Camp

Dates: June 18–20 • **Time:** 9:00 A.M.–12 noon • **Location:** TBA - one of our middle schools • **Cost:** \$40 • **For:** Children who were 3 by 9.1.11 through those who have completed grade four. • **Description:** The camp will offer skills instruction in various physical activities. Leaders will focus on teamwork, fair play, and Christian values.

Camp Come and Play

Dates: June 25–28 • **Time:** Session 2 12:15–2:15 P.M. • **Cost:** \$50 for four sessions • **For:** Children whose birth dates are between 9.1.2008 and 8.31.2009 • **Description:** Children will have an opportunity to play with other children of their age. They will hear Bible stories, participate in related activities, and take time out to share a treat. This camp is limited to 12 children in each session.

Camp Cooking & Booking

Dates: June 25–29 • **Time:** 9:00 A.M.–12 noon • **Cost:** \$65 • **For:** Children who were 3 by 9.1.11 through those who have completed grade five. • **Description:** Kids will experience adventures in cooking, crafting, and playing while leaders share related stories from the Bible and children's literature. God's amazing story will come alive in meaningful ways!

Camp Veggie Tales

Dates: July 9–13 • **Time:** 9:00 A.M.–12 noon • **Cost:** \$65 • **For:** Children who were 3 by 9.1.11 through those who have completed grade five. • **Description:** Bob the Tomato, Larry the Cucumber, and all their Veggie friends are back for another summer appearance at Trinity. Sessions will include Bible lessons, skits, Veggie Tale videos, crafts, games, food, and more!

Children's Ministries

Summer Day Camp Opportunities

A few openings are still available. Contact Mary Schoenknecht to register or for more information at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org

Camp Discovery

Dates: June 11–15 • **Time:** 9:00 A.M.–12 noon • **Cost:** \$65 • **For:** Children who were 3 by 9.1.11 through those who have completed grade five. • **Description:** Children will be challenged to discover the magic and beauty of God's world by investigating science and nature through experiments, projects, artwork, and a field trip.





Camp Tell the Good News

Dates: July 9–12 • **Time:** 1:00–4:00 P.M. • **Cost:** \$55 • **For:** Children who have completed grades four–six. • **Description:** The goal of the camp is to create the opening video segments for Vacation Bible School week. Participants will learn journalism skills through interviewing, writing, and shooting and editing the film.

Vacation Bible School 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

Luther Park Bible Camp

It's not too late to sign up your children for Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek, WI. The camp is located just 45 minutes north of Eau Claire off of highway 53 at Chetek. Programs for elementary children include:

- Trailblazers Day Camp for Grade K–2
- Trailblazers Overnight for Grade 2–4 /one night
- Trailblazers Bridge for Grade 3–5 / two nights
- Adventures at the Woods for Grade 3–5/ full-week
- Lower Trading Spaces for Grade 3–5 / full-week

Camps are available for middle & high school students as well. Check out the website lutherpark.org for more information, available dates and registration or pick up a form at the Youth Tool Bench outside of our main office area. 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 MINISTRIES

Wednesday Student Leaders

Over the past school year, youth have led all of the Wednesday night services through their talents and generosity. The Youth Ministry Team wants to thank each and every one of them.

- Thank you to all those who served as ushers. You did an outstanding job with offering and communion. Your faces help to light up the middle of our week!
- Thank you projectionists. Our services could not run without your attention and presence each and every Wednesday.
- Thank you to all members of CrossWord. Your musical talents are outstanding! Your leadership and confidence are a driving force for every worship experience.

High School Recognition Sunday

Seniors! You made it! You are FINALLY graduating, and we want to help you celebrate this wonderful transition in your lives. Please join us on Sunday, June 3, at either the 8:15 A.M. or the 9:45 A.M. worship service to celebrate this incredible accomplishment with your community of faith. We are so proud of you!





YOUTH MINISTRIES CONT.

Service Opportunities

Vacation Bible School

Join us this summer for "Kid's in God's Word" at VBS the week of July 23–27. Teach a class, assist in the kitchen or the craft tent, or join the band. There is a place for everyone! Please sign up on the poster in the lobby or contact Mary Schoenknecht for more information at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org

Uff-da Fest

Do you enjoy working with children? Do you like to play games and have fun? Then Uff-da Fest is the service opportunity for you! Sign up at the Tool Bench to help lead carnival games on Sunday, May 20, from 11:00 A.M.–noon. Contact Mary Schoenknecht for more information at 715.832.6601 or marys@trinity-ec.org

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRIES

Trinity Food Pantry

Our pantry continues to be blessed by the generosity of our congregation. For every \$1 donated to the pantry, \$10 worth of food can be purchased through Feed My People. This allows us to stretch our dollars as far as possible. We also welcome food items. Items that we are often unable to purchase include peanut butter, jelly, pancake syrup and mix, baking supplies, and canned fruit. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry! If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne at 715.832.6601 or suzanne@trinity-ec.org

Thank You for Serving

This month Trinity supported the "Beacon House" family shelter in downtown Eau Claire. Thank you to those who served by providing meals and hospitality to the guests. We ask that you please keep the Beacon House, its guests, and volunteers in your prayers.

Please Join Us

The Social Concerns Committee invites you to become a part of our team! We gather monthly to discuss and oversee Trinity's many ministries that serve those in need in our community. If you have a passion for outreach, please consider joining us! Email Pastor Jim at jim@trinity-ec.org or Suzanne at suzanne@trinity-ec.org or call 715.832.6601.

Friends of Flynn

It has been proven that a child's cognitive, emotional, and physical development depend on access to wholesome foods and good nutrition. Research indicates that hungry children do poorly in school and have lower academic achievement because they are not well prepared for school and cannot concentrate. Many children rely on the meals they receive at school as their major source of food. On the weekends, they do not have this resource.

In 2011/2012, 57% of students at Flynn Elementary School in Eau Claire received free or reduced lunch. The economic need in this area of our community has grown significantly and is affecting the academic success of our children. Next fall, as part of our partnership with Flynn, Trinity will provide weekend meals to these children. Look for upcoming information on how you can become involved.

Thank You!

Thank you to our adult and youth volunteers who served at the Community Table this month. Many also baked homemade desserts. What a wonderful treat for the guests of the Community Table. Thank you for sharing your time to serve those in need in our community.

Positively Double

Early this year Trinity gave \$1,000 to the adult day shelter called "Positive Avenues" which is operated by Lutheran Social Services and serves homeless adults. Threatened with closure due to loss of grant funding, our gift helped stave off that threat. Now, an area philanthropist has agreed to match dollar for dollar up to \$20,000 a year for three years. So our \$1,000 gift has now become \$2,000! Thank you for your offerings which extend the love of Christ and bring great blessings upon our community.



Thrivent Builds Plant Sale

Trinity is proud to sponsor Thrivent Builds as they plan for a new home to be built this summer in Eau Claire. On Saturday, May 19, Thrivent will be having a spring plant sale to help raise funds for the build. Join us from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. at Altoona City Park (10th Street and Hayden Avenue) to purchase your spring plants. If you have questions or would like to donate plants, please contact Jennie Childs at 715.829.7024.

CareLink by Trinity Touches Many

Trinity, along with 13 other churches formed CARELink in 2002 to pool financial resources to assist individuals and families who seek emergency aid for housing and fuel assistance. By combining together and partnering with the Salvation Army, CARELink provides better oversight and management of funds and those receiving them.

Today 31 churches form CARELink. Some of your offerings to Regular Ministries helps address needs in our community through CARELink. Thank you for making offerings to Trinity which serve in Christ's love and share the Good News.

The Beacon House An Inspiring Experience

"Are you a dad?"

"Yes, I am."

"I don't have a dad."

Ethan is a four year old that I met while volunteering at the Beacon House. His words above were mixed with emotion: sad in not having a father figure in his life; joyful as he and I played together.

An array of volunteers from Trinity served at the Beacon House during a week in April. Volunteer opportunities include: preparing and cleaning up after meals, being present as overnight host, or simply chatting with the parents and providing child care/playing with the children.

The Beacon House is supported by 20 faith-based organizations to provide emergency shelter, meals, and hospitality to families and single mothers for up to 30 days. Six families are served at a time.

This was my first time serving at the Beacon House. I arrived early and was greeted by Brooke, a Beacon House employee. She answered all my questions, and there were additional things I learned in the two hours I was there. I joined two other students from Memorial High School in providing child care. The adults were in a small group education time where a speaker presented information on "Parenting and childhood discipline." The children called me "George" since the thought the name "Jim" was too simple!

It was a fine experience. My hope is that you are able to volunteer the next time Trinity serves at the Beacon House. A first time experience can leave you with an inspiring memory!

—Pastor Jim



Come and help build a home in Eau Claire. Today, nearly 1.6 billion people worldwide live in substandard housing. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and Habitat for Humanity International have joined together to help address this complex issue.

You are invited to join an array of volunteers in our Eau Claire community to help build a Thrivent Builds home on Folsom Street. Dates for construction are pending though likely beginning in late May. There will be an array of volunteer opportunities in addition to building the home. No building experience is needed! More details on such opportunities will be forthcoming.

Contact Pastor Jim (jim@trinity-ec.org) if you would be interested in volunteering in this effort alongside others from Trinity. A majority of the volunteer opportunities will be in the evening and on weekends.

"I've looked into the eyes of new homeowners and seen their tears of joy at the chance for a new and better way of life. Believe me, it hasn't just changed their lives, it changed mine as well." -Dennis McGinley, Thrivent Builds Participant



HEALTH MINISTRIES

Online Dementia and Driving Resource Center Helps Families Tackle a Difficult Topic

Due to the progressive nature of Alzheimer's, every person with the disease will eventually become unable to drive. Some people are able to continue driving in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease, but it requires ongoing evaluation to ensure safety.

As hard as it is for people living with Alzheimer's to give up driving, addressing the topic is often just as hard on caregivers. In response to this delicate topic and lack of resources to address it, the Alzheimer's Association, with support from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, created a new Dementia and Driving Resource Center (DDRC) located online at alz.org/driving

The DDRC was designed to inform and support the needs of both caregivers and people living with dementia in a compassionate manner. The site features four short videos depicting different scenarios for approaching driving and dementia. In addition, the DDRC has tips and strategies for planning ahead and handling resistance, common signs of unsafe driving, resources for alternative methods of transportation, and additional information on driving and safety.

The Alzheimer's Association recommends that families discuss driving, ideally while the person with Alzheimer's is still able to participate in the conversation and decision-making process. The following are signs that it may be time for the person with dementia to stop driving:

- Forgetting how to locate familiar places.
- Failing to observe traffic signs.
- Making slow or poor decisions in traffic.
- Driving at an inappropriate speed.
- Becoming angry or confused while driving.
- Hitting curbs.
- Using poor lane control.
- Making errors at intersections.
- Confusing the brake and gas pedals.
- Returning from a routine drive later than usual.
- Forgetting the destination.

For more information, contact the Aging and Disability Resource Center, 715.839.4735, 21.888.338.4636, tty: use Relay (711). Eau Claire County Aging and Disabilities

Resource Center, April 2012 www.alz.org/driving



Eat Fresh!

Spring is here—and fresh produce is one delicious benefit of this season of rebirth. This easy and healthy recipe highlights fresh vegetables in season. For produce at its peak, shop the farmers' market or grow fruits and vegetables in your garden.

Mixed Greens with Mustard Dressing

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons whole grain dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons minced shallot
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 6 cups frisée, torn into bite-size pieces
- 2 cups torn radicchio leaves
- 2 large heads of Belgian endive, cut crosswise into 1/2-inch strips
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives
- 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tablespoons fresh tarragon leaves

Preparation

- Whisk vinegar, mustard, shallot, and garlic in small bowl. Gradually whisk in oil. Season dressing with salt and pepper.
- Toss frisée and all remaining ingredients in large bowl. Add dressing; toss to coat. Season with salt and pepper.

*Eat Healthy!
Feel Healthy!
Be Healthy!*



LIBRARY NEWS

Dirty Hands by Jon Steffes • This is a gem of a short novel written by a local author. It explores the struggle of a man and his teen-age son to begin life anew after the death of their wife and mother. The story is beautifully told in the familiar setting of the Mississippi River area. A fast and very worthwhile read. Reviewed by Ann Nelson

Zeitoun by Dave Eggers • Hurricane Katrina will forever be remembered by the people of New Orleans. Many stories have been told about how people survived the storm and the struggle for survival that played out in destruction and flooding in the days that followed. “Zeitoun” is the story of one such family that was at the center of the storm. Abdulrahman Zeitoun is a middle-aged Syrian-American father of four and owner of a successful painting and contracting firm in New Orleans. Abdul grew up in Seria, but after spending the first decade of his adult life as a merchant sailor, he comes to the United States to settle down and find a wife. He works hard and takes good care of his family.

His wife, Kathy, was born in Louisiana and has Southern Baptist roots. After a failed early marriage, she goes on a spiritual journey until she finds a faith in Islam and eventually a loving husband in Abdul. She wears her hijab with pride, but it is a problem for her family, and for many citizens in post-9/11 America. Kathy and Abdul live with their family in an old house in the Uptown neighborhood of New Orleans.

The book starts with the news of the impending storm, but Abdul doesn’t give it much thought because he has heard the warnings many times before, and usually they have amounted to nothing. As the storm approaches, Abdul convinces Kathy to take the children and leave the city, but he stays behind to watch over their home and business. After surviving the initial storm, Zeitoun travels by an old canoe and assists in the rescue of five of his neighbors.

At night, he sleeps in a tent on the flat part of his roof. By day, he’s out among the dirty waters that cover New Orleans. He is able to keep in touch with his wife Kathy via a phone that is miraculously still working in one of their rental houses. Within a week, the sense of despair becomes overwhelming as Zeitoun begins to see some of the lawlessness that comes when all of the normal structures of society are destroyed. The book takes a sudden turn when six armed officers show up at Zeitoun’s house. He thinks they are there to help him, and he’s happy to point them to people in need of assistance. Wrong assumption: Zeitoun is taken away at gunpoint. After not hearing from her husband for six days, Kathy assumes that he’s dead. Check this book out in the Trinity Library to find out what happens. (Biography) Review by Robert Schoenknecht



New Books for Children

- **Olivia** by Scott Gray. Olivia needs something great for show-and-tell. She convinces Ian to let her bring his beloved butterfly, Stinky. But Olivia loses Stinky in the park, and now Olivia needs to get him back before Ian finds out he’s missing! This book is based on the TV series Olivia as seen on Nickelodeon. (++) FIC GRA)
- **See Me Grow** by Penelope Arlon and Tory Gordon-Harris. *See Me Grow* is specially planned to help children discover more about animals and how they grow. It is a lovely book with real photos.

New Adult Fiction in the Library

- **The Judgment & The Mercy** by Beverly Lewis. These are books two and three respectively in The Rose Trilogy. Book one is **The Thorn**, also in our collection. (FIC LEW)

Children’s Book Week

Come and celebrate Children’s Book Week, May 7–13. Join us in Trinity’s Library on Sunday morning, May 6 for a kick off event for children.

Summer Reading Program for Young Children

Please join us on Sundays, June 10, 17, 24 and July 1, 8, 15 & 22, in Trinity’s Library following the 9:45 A.M. service. Library members will be on hand to read story books. Children will receive prizes and have an opportunity to check out books.

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

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

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Phone: (715) 832.6601 • Fax: (715) 832.6700 • E-mail: trinity@trinity-ec.org • Web Page: trinity-ec.org

Ministers

People of Trinity

Congregational President

George McLeod

Pastors

Kurt M. Jacobson
715.832.9726
kurt@trinity-ec.org

Jim Page
715.834.7092
jim@trinity-ec.org

Heather Wigdahl
715.559.2338
heather@trinity-ec.org

Building & Grounds

Don Peterson
Melissa Buchli

Nursery Attendant

Elizabeth Meyer

Ministry Support

Gail Brian
Financial Ministry Assistant
gail@trinity-ec.org

Amber Moltzau
Office Administrator
amber@trinity-ec.org

Suzanne Becker
Ministry Assistant/Food Pantry Coordinator
suzanne@trinity-ec.org

Cindy S. Beck
IT/Ministry Assistant
cindy@trinity-ec.org

Noah's Ark Pre-School Teachers & Day Camp Leaders

Ginny Lien
Jill Kasmarek
Marlee Knickerbocker
Carrie Burnett
ginny@trinity-ec.org
jkasmarek@att.net
jknick6054@aol.com

Choir Directors

Gary Rambo—Trinity Choir
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

Ministry Directors

Mary B. Schoenknecht
Children's Ministries
marys@trinity-ec.org

Jeanne Cooper
Noah's Ark Preschool
noahsark@trinity-ec.org

Shirley Sands
Worship & Music
shirley@trinity-ec.org

Pat Garber
Visitation Ministry
pat@trinity-ec.org

Marti Hofer R.N.
Parish Nurse
marti@trinity-ec.org

Youth Ministry Leadership Team

Lisa Goetz
Youth Ministry Assistant
lisa@trinity-ec.org

Anne Josephson
Club 78 Coordinator
anne@trinity-ec.org

Cassie Brenden
Club 9 Coordinator
cassie@trinity-ec.org

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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 June Newsletter is May 22.