



Season of Civility for Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Council of Churches is calling upon the citizens of our state to enter a "Season of Civility" amidst the partisan rancor of the current recall campaigns and the anticipated divisiveness of the fall election cycle. "As a result of extreme political polarization in Wisconsin, many in our congregations and communities feel marginalized or demonized by their neighbors on account of their economic status, occupation, or political beliefs," the statement says.

Rev. Scott Anderson, executive director of the Wisconsin Council of Churches which represents 14 Christian denominations, commented that "politics is not a zero sum game or a winner-take-all contest. Rather it is a joint effort to reach a workable consensus on how to advance the common good. From the perspective of Wisconsin's religious community, the current political environment is unacceptable in our public life."

The "Call for a Season of Civility" declares that the "ability to cooperate to solve common problems and achieve shared goals is now undermined by rampant disrespect, disinformation, distrust, and disregard for the interests and ideas of others." Calling for change, it draws a parallel between the religious values embodied in "the Golden Rule" to treat others as we would like to be treated, with the idea of democracy which is based on regard for the value of each and every individual. It also calls upon political candidates to adhere to high standards of civility, integrity, and truthfulness in their ads, including those of "third parties."

You can read the statement online at wichurches.org

Going Paperless this Fall

Sign-up to get the monthly Trinity Tidings via email before we shift in September to an electronic version. In order to be good stewards of our resources (paper, ink, machine costs, postage, and volunteer and staff time), we're going to shift everyone for whom the Trinity office has an email address to receive only the electronic version starting September 1. Paper copies will be available in the Trinity office and in the lobby if you desire to read one via that means. For those without internet connection, the paper version will still be mailed. Thank you for providing your email address (if you haven't already) and assisting your church in being a good steward and saving precious resources. To share or update your email address, please email Suzanne Becker at suzanne@trinity-ec.org



A Broader Vision for Worship

A new system for broadening the visual experience of worship at Trinity will come this summer following Council approval of a contract to install cameras in the Worship Center. This project will be done by Audio Architects, Chippewa Falls, WI. Using a dual camera system, views of the front of the worship center will improve for those seated in areas that currently cannot see baptisms, children's choirs, kids' time, etc.

This system will also improve and expand seating options. In the chair seating area of the Worship Center, a 60" monitor will be added which will allow more chairs to be used in that area when demand for seating is high. Previously, a large section of that area couldn't be used due to a lack of sight lines to the screens.

Also, the Fireside Room will have a monitor so the feed from the Worship Center can be seen and heard. Finally, a link will be installed in the Trinity Room providing a connection to the Worship Center using the screen in that room when no seats are open in the Worship Center.

Your gifts and memorials will be necessary to complete this project. Already close to 50% has been received including a grant from the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. Please make your gift today for the "Worship Center Camera Fund." Thank you.



Simple Rituals

"Don't forget to child-of-God me!" our daughter, Eleanor, has said on more than one occasion. What an odd thing to say, you may think. But let me explain. Every night at bedtime, Eleanor and I read together (until recently, she was adamantly opposed

to reading Bible stories, but now we are making our way through her Spark Bible, a few stories at a time). After our story time, we say a prayer (she has taken over the praying task, because my prayers are too long) and we make the sign of the cross on each other's forehead with the words "Child of God Forever." This practice, learned from her days at Noah's Ark Preschool, is our nighttime ritual. She always remembers, and whenever I don't, she will exclaim, "Don't forget to child-of-God me!"

There are countless decisions as a parent that I reflect on now and imagine how I could have done better. Yet this simple ritual has become a much more significant act than most I've agonized over. We often don't have great reverence in it; sometimes it is enacted as little more than an afterthought. Yet, this ritual has become a sign of who we are; a reminder of our identity in God. And every time I forget it, Eleanor's cue is pure grace to me.

Prayer before meals is another simple ritual that can become such a reminder. In our household, we don't always succeed at making time for prayer before every meal. Yet a simple moment of prayer can reshape one's experience of the whole meal. Prayer slows us down, just enough to take notice of God in our midst. Prayer slows us down to really take notice of one another. Prayer slows us down to more fully take notice of ourselves. Prayer can be as simple as a breath of air taken deeply, in a moment of consciousness. Prayer can be as meaningful as setting the table purposefully and lighting a candle. In other words, prayer doesn't always need to be words at all.

Einstein argued there are two kinds of people in the world; those who can see everything as a miracle, and those who can see nothing as such. The little, and often simple, rituals in our lives can be windows that help see many good things: God, love, hope, another.

Think about the simple rituals in your life. Let them slow you down, if just for a moment. Often, that's all it takes to see little miracles all around us. Like a good bed, or a good meal, these are blessings to notice. So try to remember a quick prayer before your home-cooked meal or your fast food grab. And, maybe even think about a little "Child-of-God" before bed!

In Christ,
Pastor Heather



Churches of Our Synod Meet

The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin meets in assembly June 2–3 at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. The theme "The Lord is Good to All" comes from the psalms—originally written by God's people in an ancient world in which God's people were surrounded by worshipers of other gods—and offers remarkably timely words for us. During the Assembly's Bible studies, Luther Seminary Professor Rolf Jacobson will lead the group in considering what it means to live the faith and speak the psalms "out loud." The pastors and former council president Kirk Myhre will attend this synod assembly. To learn more, visit nwsynwi.org

Give A Greeting

Offering a friendly greeting to everyone who comes in to worship on Sundays is a goal we hold. To extend this hospitality necessitates friendly folks who make it possible. If you have the gift of a friendly spirit and hospitality, we need you to join this Greeter Ministry. Sign-up to be a Sunday Greeter at Clipboard Central near the drinking fountains in the lobby, and we'll contact you. For additional information, contact Pastor Jim Page at jim@trinity-ec.org



Music is the Speech of the Soul

The Trinity Choir, Tollers, and three children's choirs have concluded their season of offering music to inspire our praises of God in worship. Thank you to all singers, ringers, and instrumentalists who comprise these groups and bless us in worship. Look for the choirs starting again in September, and consider enrolling your child or joining either the Trinity Choir or Trinity Tollers yourself. The Crossword Band for teens leads Wednesday evening worship and resumes on September 5. Thank you also to Harmony In Spirit who leads praises every Sunday morning at 9:45. They serve all summer long and invite you to join them as they rehearse prior to worship at 9:10 each Sunday morning this summer. Check out trinity-ec.org/Worship/Music.

Serving Others and Saving Lives

Through every season, throughout every community across the nation, hospitals and patients rely on the American Red Cross to meet their needs for blood transfusions. In turn, the Red Cross relies on the generosity and dedication of its donors and volunteers to support its life-saving mission. 31 pints of blood were collected here last week. Without you, lives could not be saved. Thank you!

Caring Adults Appreciated!

Our Sunday School teachers, Wednesday Camp T.G.I.F. teachers and kitchen staff, kids' choir leaders, weekly Day Camp teachers, and lots of other support people are taking a well-deserved rest for the summer. Did you know there are over 150 adults and middle school and high school youth who volunteer on a weekly basis from September through May to teach our children the stories of faith? They come with many different talents and gifts. They love the Lord and want to share their faith with our children. Thank you for all you do! You have made a contribution to God's reign on earth through your loving service this year! Thank you also to you, our congregational members, for your continued support and prayer.

Church Picnic a HUGE Success!

We finished up the Sunday School year with a picnic, carnival, and inflatables in Trinity's own back yard with over 350 people in attendance. Thank you to the many volunteers, adults and youth, who helped with the set up and take down, led games, and prepared and served the food. It was a great event! Watch for pictures on the hallway bulletin boards and website.

Thank You From the Bottom of Our Wings!

The ELCA Youth Gathering participants would like to thank you for your incredible support of the Flamingo Fundraiser. As of May 22, the Trinity congregation helped raise \$985. This money will go directly to the students that helped raise it. Your donations are very much appreciated as our youth continue to do their part in Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News!

Define It

page-turn-er
 \ˈpaj-,tər-nər\
 noun-informal



Definition of page-turn-er

- † written work, usually a novel, which is sufficiently interesting or suspenseful to keep the reader "turning the pages"
- † an exciting novel, such as a thriller, with a fast-moving story
- † **an exciting group coming to Trinity**

Culver's Night

Join Trinity's ELCA Youth Gathering students on Sunday, June 3, from 5:00–8:00 P.M. as they work at Culver's to earn funds for their trip to New Orleans. It costs each student \$1000 to go on this trip. Culver's, on Brackett Avenue, is generously donating a percentage of their profits from Sunday evening, June 3, to the Trinity youth attending the Gathering.



Thrivent Member? The Choice is Yours

If you hold a qualifying insurance or annuity product with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you may have “Thrivent Choice” dollars available that could benefit Trinity and our Noah’s Ark Preschool. Last year \$15,000 in Choice dollars benefitted ministries of our congregation. But about 50% of Trinity Thrivent members eligible to direct Choice dollars have not elected to have them benefit our church. Contact your Thrivent representative or log-in to your account, click Choice dollars, and elect Trinity or Noah’s Ark Preschool today!

Nurturing Generous Lives

Generous living is not just about giving money, or even just about giving. It has to do with the whole of who we are and how we care for our neighbors (see Mark 12:28-31). Each of us brings our heart, mind, soul, and strength. The Old Testament word for "heart" is literally the leaning or thrust of our lives. We might call it our lifestyle or nonverbal witness. In other words, it is about how we steward 100 percent of our lives, not just the "religious" sector or the percentage we give away.

GREAT Financial News!

Your offerings to God through Trinity are so important. Thank you for giving. Each dollar you offer is invested in bringing hope and encouragement to people, advancing ministries that bring healing and faith development, and investing in missions that bring alive here and across the world our desire to “Serve in Christ’s Love and Share the Good News.” Thank you!



For the first third of 2012, your generosity has resulted in a good financial picture. Thank you! Your weekly offerings to Regular Ministries and to Mortgage Payment may be made through the service of electronic fund transfer. You may set this up on Trinity’s Give page at trinity-ec.org or by contacting Amber Moltzau at amber@trinity-ec.org.

Your generosity is appreciated as your church invests faithfully and wisely to make a difference in people’s lives with the grace of Jesus Christ. Thank you!

Trust Fund Awards Grants

“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” is the purpose of the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. This fund exists so that your values and legacy of Christian faith will live on and further God’s work for generations to come. Gifts to the Endowment Trust Fund become part of a perpetual fund with earnings used to advance Trinity’s ministries and global missions.

In May, the Board of the Endowment Trust Fund awarded grants that further this mission. They are grants for:

- ▶ Advancing the education of young people by providing preschool tuition grants for families needing financial support, and by an award to Trinity member Amber Tepsa who is enrolled in a Masters of Christian Counseling program at Denver Seminary this fall.
- ▶ The construction of a permanent case to house the new St. John’s Bible coming to Trinity’s Library.
- ▶ The next phase of classroom development at our partner school, Jabneh Christian Academy in Savanna La Mar, when our mission team is there next winter.

You can leave a lasting gift to the future of this mission through the wise distribution of your estate or gifts/memorials right now. When you include the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund in your charitable giving, your assets can go on to influence lives with God’s love for generations to come.

Please visit trinity-ec.org to explore creative ways you can make a difference in the world through the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. An eleven member Board of Trustees, elected by the congregation, guides and carries out our mission.

Operating Budget

January through April	2012	2011	2010
Offerings to Regular Ministries	\$346,976	\$328,025	\$312,806
Expenses	\$330,961	\$321,479	\$319,557
Variation	+\$16,015	+\$6,546	-\$6,751

Mortgage Information

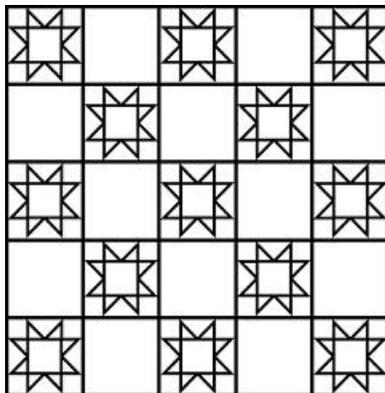
April 2012 Offerings for Mortgage Payment: \$15,322
 Monthly Mortgage Payment: \$10,485
 Total Additional Principal Only Payments made in 2012: \$59,406



The Quilters Have Been Hard at Work!

Our quilters continue to focus their wonderful talents toward serving others in our community. This week they finished 40 quilts which will be donated to Klein Hall located on the campus of the Northern Wisconsin Center for the Developmentally Disabled in Chippewa Falls. Klein Hall houses up to 40 veterans looking to change their lives under the state's Veterans Homeless Program.

Trinity's quilters meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 9:00 A.M. in Trinity's lobby. You are invited to join!



Women's Summer Study

Another Beth Moore study will be offered at Trinity this summer on the book of Esther. Come and learn about this woman of immeasurable courage as she saves her people from annihilation. Please join us. Classes begin on Monday, June 18, from 1:00–3:00 P.M. This is a nine week study ending August 27. Sign up at Clipboard Central. You will need a workbook which is ordered through the church office. The cost is \$15.50. Donations to Trinity, with memo: Women's Study, will be accepted to provide scholarships for this study and to support the costs of the leader materials.

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" under "Give" at www.trinity-ec.org

Garage Sale Shoppers!

The Quilt Ladies would like you to know that Lutheran World Relief has made changes to their item lists for School Kits and Layette Kits. As a result, we no longer need school kit supplies or layette kit supplies. Changes have also been made to the Health Kits, so now we are in need of bath towels for the kits, colored crochet thread, and colored sheets. We thank you for all of your past support. It is much appreciated.

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.

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, June 21, 9:30 A.M. at Trinity
Hostess: Helen Mateski
Leader: Vickie Fields

Dorcas • No meeting

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, June 19, 7:00 P.M. at Trinity
Hostess: Vila Nygaard
Leader: Group

Miriam

Wednesday, June 20, 9:30 A.M. at Trinity
Hostess: Gloria Crossman
Leader: Group

Ruth • No meeting

Sarah • No meeting



Missionaries From Japan To Visit Trinity

Our mission statement of "Serving in Christ's love and sharing the good news" is lived out within Trinity, our Eau Claire community, and throughout the world. Our congregation joins other congregations in financially supporting Jackie and Patrick Bencke as they serve in Kumamoto, Japan.

Jackie entered into a new role in April as the Sacred Music Director of Kyushu Lutheran College. Patrick continues to teach English at the same college. Their daughter, Hannah, recently entered into kindergarten which is a three-year program. Their other daughter, Emilie, is in fifth grade.

The Bencke's will be visiting Trinity on Sunday, August 19. Patrick will be preaching, and Jackie will offer music to complement his message. Please mark your calendar to come and welcome the Bencke's while hearing their inspiring message of how we join them in sharing God's presence in Japan. For more information, contact Pastor Jim (jim@trinity-ec.org).



ELCA Young Adults Put Their Faith into Action

Two years ago Stephanie Berkas set out for Cape Town, South Africa, to work in a Lutheran congregation and an elementary school. Having lived in Minnesota for the majority of her life, she knew she would be stepping out of her comfort zone but did not anticipate just how life-changing her experience would be. "My experience in South Africa was formative in that I grew up as a person, but it was transformative in that there was a death and resurrection for me—part of my identity died, but a new life surfaced before me," said Berkas. She volunteered in South Africa as part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's ministry for young adults serving overseas. Fifty-five participants, ranging in age from 19 to 29, were appointed to serve a year in Argentina, Uruguay, Jerusalem and the West Bank, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Hungary, South Africa, or the United Kingdom. Service opportunities ranged from congregational ministries to health and development, from education to social ministries.

Since this ministry began in 1999, nearly 400 young adults have participated in the ministry. More information is available at <http://www.ELCA.org/yagm>.

Our Church in Syrian Crisis

For over a year, ongoing violence in Syria has led to an increased risk of a humanitarian crisis. Many Syrians have left their homes, choosing to escape the violence by relocating to more stable areas of Syria or neighboring countries. Syrians are also now faced with decreasing levels of security, restricted access to primary healthcare—jeopardizing child nutrition and health—and high levels of unemployment because of displacement.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson, in letters to Christian church leaders in Syria, offered support of the churches' collective call for an end to violence and his prayers for the people in the region. "We stand in solidarity with our companions in Syria and seek ways to encourage their role in the promotion of peace and reconciliation. We are operating through our local partners to help meet the needs of the Syrian people. Our partners are working to provide food and items such as hygiene kits, household items, bedding sets, and clothing. They are also addressing healthcare awareness through psychosocial care and training in

nutritional support for mothers. Additionally, rental subsidies, tuition fees, and classes will be available to help alleviate some of the economic burdens faced by displaced families." For more information: elca.org Our Faith in Action

Helping Haitians Change Haiti Through Education

Thank you for your weekly offerings to regular ministries which empower the advancing of God's reign on earth through Trinity's mission while changing lives here and across the world. Some of your offerings to regular ministries are shared with Haiti Partners that provides education for children and adults in hopes that the mercies of God bring hope and new life to the poorest nation in the western hemisphere. Thank you! Remember your charitable gifts through the summer and consider the electronic service of automatic transfer from your financial institution. You can set this up and give online anytime at trinity-ec.org



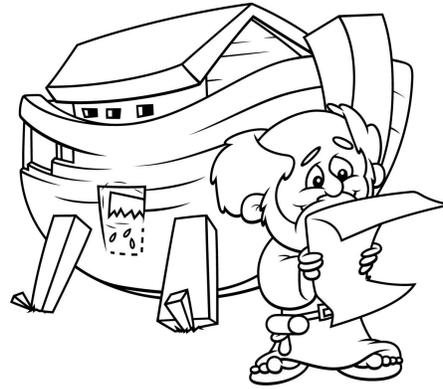
New to the Library

Children's Books

- ***There Once Was a Man Named Michael Finnegan*** adapted by Mary Ann Hoberman. Poet Mary Ann Hoberman has elaborated on this familiar tale to create an absurdly funny story full of quirky characters. Children are sure to have fun reading it. (++) FIC HOB)
- ***Peter and the Wolf*** by Vladimir Vagin. Russian artist Vladimir Vagin gives Sergie Prokofiev's masterpiece a lush, emotional retelling, filled with all the music and drama of a symphony. (+ FIC VAG)
- ***This Land is Your Land*** with words and music by Woody Guthrie. Since Woody Guthrie wrote "This Land Is Your Land" in the 1940s, it has become one of the most familiar and best-loved folk songs in America. This classic is brought to life in a richly illustrated edition. The lyrics and paintings invite readers on a journey across the country. (+ FIC GUT)

Multi Cultural Books

- ***Seven Spools of Thread, A Kwanzaa Story*** by Angela Shelf Medearis. In an African village live seven brothers who make family life miserable with their constant fighting. When their father dies, he leaves an unusual will: by sundown the brothers must make gold out of seven pools of colored thread. If they fail, they will be left with no inheritance and turned out as beggars. This is a story that demonstrates how family members can pull together for their own good and the good of the community. (FIC MED)
- ***Shaker Boy*** by Mary Lyn Ray. In this touching story of a boy's life among the Shakers, Mary Lyn Ray recreates an inspiring world of work and faith. Jeanette Winter's glorious illustrations help the reader experience the music, devotion, and simplicity that was the great Shaker experiment. (FIC RAY)
- ***Milk and Honey, a Year of Jewish Holidays*** by Jane Yolen. This book is full of information about Jewish holidays. Following an account of the history and customs of each holiday are poems, stories and traditional songs accompanied by easily played music for piano and guitar. (296.4 YOL)



Noah's News!

The 31st year of Noah's Ark has come to a close, and we have sent the 2011–2012

children off to summer fun with their families and friends. It was an AWESOME year, and we give God thanks! We celebrated the last days of school by going mini-golfing with all the preschoolers . . . wahoooooo!!

Each child took home a fabulous book of journaling and school year fun to remember their special days at Noah's Ark this past year. The Noah's Ark teachers put together these books celebrating our good times! Thanks to Ginny, Marlee, and Jill!

I've chatted with several parents in recent days who have remembered those preschool days gone by as they prepare for the Class of 2012. Graduating Trinity Lutheran Church Noah's Ark alumni this year include: Katie Saxe, Ryan Goetz, Kevin Watson, Lydia Stanley, Joe Rush, Maggie Quigley, Emmali Hanson, Christian Phelps, Gina Cruciani, Kayla Travis, Jacob Travis, Sam Kmetz, and Alexa Bien. I do remember special days with each of these great young adults. Hugs to them all!

We've already begun looking at the 2012–2013 school year. Noah's Ark has unexpected openings for 4 and 5 year olds on M/W/F from 9:00–11:30 A.M. There is also one M/W/F opening for 12:45–3:15 P.M. Call me ASAP to get your child or grandchild enrolled. It's a GREAT place to be! Tell your friends about our beautiful Noah's Ark classroom, wonderful faith based curriculum, amazing art experiences, science talk, and fun!

See you at summer Day Camps. I'll be at Cooking and Booking, Veggie Tales, and VBS! There is lots of fun ahead!

Giving God Thanks and Praise,
Ms "C"

P.S. Check out the great PEACE sign on the Noah's Ark playground this summer. The 2011–2012 children each painted a rock and placed it in the pattern of the peace symbol in our special flower garden to be enjoyed by all. It's beautiful!!



Summer Reading Program for Young Children Camp Read-A-Lot

Join us at 10:25 A.M. in Trinity's Library on Sunday mornings beginning June 12 (for five sessions)!

- Story Time—Library Committee members will read to children.
- Time for checking out books.
- Prizes—kids pick from a treasure box.

Day Camps for Summer fun!

We still have Day Camp openings. To register for Day Camps or for Vacation Bible School, contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601.

- **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.
- **Sports Camp** • **Dates:** June 18–20 • **Time:** 9:00 A.M.–12 noon • **Location:** Northstar Middle School • **Cost:** \$40 • **For:** Children who were 3 by 9.1.11 through those who have completed grade four.
- **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.
- **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.

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 Vacation Bible School

Teachers for Preschool One (4 teachers needed); Kindergarten (2 teachers needed); Grade 2 (3 teachers needed); Grade 3 (3 teachers needed); Grade 4 (1 teacher needed). Also needed are students who completed 7th and 8th grades for classroom and nursery helpers. Contact Mary Schoenknecht (715.832.6601) to volunteer or for more information OR **sign up on the special poster located in the lobby.**

Fall Programming

These are the midweek program opportunities designed for young children during the 2012–2013 school year. Registration information will be available in July.

- *Camp Come & Play* Semester One for children with birthdays between 9.1.09 and 5.31.10. Begins in September on Wednesdays with two sessions, 9:15–11:15 A.M. and 12:15–2:15 P.M.
- *Friday Friends* for children who are three by 12.31.12. Begins in January 2013.
- *Great Pretenders* for children who are four by 12.31.12. Begins in September on Tuesdays at 1:00 P.M.
- *Thrilling Thursdays* for children who are four by 12.31.12. Begins in September with morning and afternoon sessions.
- *Music and Movement Mondays* for children ages 1–3. Begins in September on Monday mornings.



Help Kids Develop Healthy Savings Habits

Saving is a learned behavior. It's something kids need to practice over and over from an early age. Here are 6 steps to help your children develop healthy savings habits.

1. **Start Early** • Learning to defer gratification, from an early age, will have huge implications later in life. The earlier your child understands this concept, the more time they will have to practice and experience just how great it is to reach their goals.
2. **Link Saving to a Goal** • It can be difficult for a child to understand the value of saving for an unknown. Which is why it is so important to help them set specific savings goals. Be it for an item they want now or for their college fund which may be several years away, help them learn how to patiently save for things by setting attainable short-, mid-, and long-term goals.
3. **Create a Plan** • It's important for kids to have success by achieving their saving goal. So help them create a plan for saving. Talk about where their money comes from and how much of it they'll need to set aside toward their goal.
4. **Develop the Habit** • Becoming a good saver is a learned behavior. It may start with a little bank at home, but as soon as you are able, it's important to make the transition to a financial institution. When you open an account for your child, make sure they come along for the ride. Over time, as they deposit money into their account, they will gain confidence by interacting with people who work at a bank.
5. **Brainstorm Income Opportunities** • Discuss with your child how they might generate additional income and how that will help them reach their goal even faster.
6. **Celebrate Their Success** • Saving money takes patience and discipline. Learning to defer gratification to reach a short- or long-term goal will play a big part in their success. So celebrate with your child when they reach their goal.

-From sharesavespend.com

Youth Ministries

Caring Adults Appreciated!

We have ended another year of shaping young lives with faith, the awareness of God's presence and grace, and the call to serve in Christ's love and share the Good News. The Youth Leadership Team would like to extend our gratitude to those who have volunteered to be Group Guides and Mentors. Your role is essential in this journey of



faith. Thank you for all you do! You have made a contribution to God's reign on earth through your loving service this year!

- **Sunday Teen Study Leaders** • Linda Berg, Michelle Glaser, Barb Baker, Mike Voelker, Jill Brandenburg, Nathaniel Murken, Suzie Twite, Kirstin Wogahn, Anne Josephson.
- **Group Guides** • Doug Auleta, Slavko Ivankovic, Randy Risen, Deb Pientok, Kay Hayden, John Richie, Sarah Pedersen, Andrea Jadeke, Andra Palmer, Todd Wright, Mike Voelker, Steve Craker, Mary Karker, Bridgette Friberg, Sarah Roseth, Tammy Potapenko, Chris Goodwin.
- **Mentors** • Suzanne Ashley, Jeff Bernhardt, Krissy Bien, Brenda Buss, Kayla Clark, Pam Craker, Curt Fawcett, Jamie Fawcett, Robin Gynnild, Scott Hayden, Lanette Hesse, Ruth Hujik, Terri Kaufman, Donna Kmetz, Kris Lauer, Ginny Lien, Jay McNulty, Jennifer Meyer, Giles Nielsen, Jennifer Nielsen, Jack Olson, Jennifer Pelton, Jill Phippen, Jaci Quigley, Mary Rambo, Dan Rouse, Brandon Thorsness, Dale Tidemann, Tim Voigts, David Webster.

High School Graduates

On Sunday, June 3, we recognized students who will graduate from High School this year. We wish you grace and peace in your new adventure. Go knowing God goes with you into the future! 2012 Graduates:

Serena Baker, Samantha Becker, Alexa Bien, Stephanie Blaisdell, Aaron Brown, Palmer Buss, Gina Cruciani, Kaitlenn Fruechte, Amanda Fuller, Gregory Geurts, Ryan Goetz, Michael Gyorfi, Emmali Hanson, Katherine Hilgedick, Zachary Hollenbeck, Alyssa Johnson, Mitchell Johnson, Sarah Kenyon, Sam Kmetz, Matthew Knapp, Emily Lester, Branden Pabich, Lauren Passi, Lucas Pastrana, Christian Phelps, Maggie Quigley, Kelsey Ries, Isaac Ruder, Joe Rush, Andrew Russell, Katharyn Saxe, Nicole Shelley, Lydia Stanley, Anissa Thompson, Alyssa Tidemann, Jacob Travis, Kayla Travis, Zachary Valk, Kevin Watson.



Club 9 Confirmation Students

Mentor selection is due NOW for 8th grade students. Email the name of your mentor to Cassie at cassie@trinity-ec.org.



Health Ministries

Dear Family and Friends,

This month I'd like to visit with you about prayer as a way to manage stress. Scripture reminds us that God is indeed near us when we pray (Duet. 4:7), and that even Jesus made the time to go off by himself to pray (Matt. 14:23).

How can Prayer Help Me?

God has designed prayer as a specific and do-able way to deal with all that our life can offer. It is interesting to me that new research is demonstrating that people who meditate or pray actually change their brain chemistry in a way that promotes more health and well-being, lowers blood pressure, and helps to enhance the quality and length of life. This new area of science is called: Neuro-Theology. When we are encouraged to pray without ceasing, we are developing a healthy and spiritually enriching life pattern (I Thess. 5:17). Other benefits of an active prayer life include relaxation/peace, better focus/concentration, better vision/gaining God's perspective, and improved ability to set our burdens at the cross and leave them there.



Your Parish Nurse's Prayer Prescription

I recommend that we all consider the following Stress Management Plan:

- Be a student of your own stress. Know where it hurts, what causes the pain in your life, and the real choices you have. Would you want your children to live your lifestyle? If not, what counsel would you give them?
- Make a pledge to yourself to spend some quiet time in prayer every day, not as a burden, but as a mini-vacation.
- Consider praying the Psalms or using a *Lectio Divina* book such as *Face to Face: Praying the Scriptures for Intimate Worship* and integrate the sacred into all of your life.
- Set aside a special place in your home where you go to be with God.

- Include various aspects in your prayer; for example, A (Adoration), C (Confession), T (Thanksgiving), and S (Supplication). ACTS
- Don't forget to share all that is on your heart as well as quieting your heart to hear God's soft voice. Some people find it easier to journal with God rather than speak in voice; others benefit from working with a spiritual director.
- Let others know you are lifting them up in prayer and enjoy the presence of Christ alongside you in a more tangible way.

Peace, Marti Hofer
Parish Nurse

Herby Cucumber Salad

Creamy and tangy, this simple side comes together in a flash. Don't make the salad ahead—the cucumbers will release too much water.

- Yield: Serves 6 (serving size: 1 cup)
- Total: 12 Minutes
- 65 cal. Per serving, 0.5 g of fat per serving
- Recipe from "Cooking Light"

Ingredients

- 1–1/4 cup plain low-fat yogurt
- 2 tablespoons coarsely chopped fresh dill
- 1 tablespoon coarsely chopped fresh parsley
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
- 1–1/2 teaspoons coarsely chopped mint
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1/4 teaspoon sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 garlic clove
- 5–1/2 cups thinly sliced cucumber (about 2 large)
- 2–1/2 cups thinly sliced red onion

Preparation: Combine the first 11 ingredients in a food processor or a blender, and process until well blended. Combine the cucumber and onion in a large bowl. Drizzle with yogurt mixture, and toss to coat.

David Bonom
Cooking Light/JUNE 2012



Social Concerns

Free Clinic Campaign Surpasses Goal!

The month of April was devoted to gathering financial gifts of \$4,500 to support the Free Clinic for one week of May. Trinity gathered a total of \$6,994! In addition, Trinity's Sunday School kids tied fleece blankets for clinic patients. The fleece was donated by Thrivent Financial. Thank you to everyone who contributed by sharing their gifts for this shared effort of ministry.

A few facts:

- There are 1,200 free clinics through the United States with 4,310 annual visits per clinic.
- Most patients use a free clinic for primary care (86%) and pharmacy services (80%).
- If a free clinic did not exist, 24% of patients state they would not seek care, and 23% said they would seek care at an emergency department.
- 97% of patients surveyed indicated they were satisfied with care at a free clinic; 77% reported greater satisfaction with care at a free clinic than with prior care.



Source: Allen, T.J. (2011). Addressing Resource Gaps In The U.S. Health Care Safety Net: An Assessment of the Free Clinic Network. Stamford: AmeriCares.

Diaper Drive Was A Success!

The average monthly cost for families to purchase diapers is \$72/month. For struggling parents, this can be an overwhelming amount of money. This month Trinity was the recipient of lots and lots of diapers collected by the Regis Builders Club. These diapers, along with the diapers collected during Trinity's diaper drive in April, will be distributed through our Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who made this possible!

Volunteer at the Community Table

Join us on Friday, June 22, as Trinity serves the hungry in our area at the Community Table. Two shifts are available. The first shift (3:00–5:00 P.M.) helps prepare the meal, while the second shift (4:45–7:00 P.M.) serves the meal. We will also need baked treats. This is an excellent opportunity for couples, families, youth, or anyone who wants to serve! Sign up at Clipboard Central.

Supporting Our Children

Hunger is often associated with physical weakness and anxiety. Children experiencing chronic hunger may not be able to focus or concentrate in an academic setting due to a lack of energy and motivation. This year 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. We are, therefore, very excited to announce that as part of our partnership with Flynn, Trinity will partner with Feed My People to provide weekend meals to these children. Look for more information on this exciting project and how you can become involved.

Six Months of Serving the Homeless

The Sojourner House in downtown Eau Claire has just marked their first six months of serving the homeless. Over 5,000 beds were provided to 194 different individuals in our community who otherwise would have had to sleep outside. Ages ranged from 18 to 77 with the median age being 41. The shelter also served 22 veterans. You helped make this possible! Last fall Trinity supported the Sojourner House through donations of almost \$8,000. Additional donations may be made out to Trinity with a memo of Sojourner House. For more information, pick up a copy of the Sojourner House report at the Information Center in the lobby, or visit their website at www.cclse.org/sojournerhouse.php.

In the Mail

To the members of Trinity,

On behalf of the staff, students, and parents, I want to thank you for your overwhelming generosity to the students here at Flynn. Your gift of reading on the day before our Spring Break made for an exciting day. I was fortunate to see and hear their excitement as they chose their free book in the library. The quality of books you donated was outstanding. Your partnership with Flynn is exciting, and we appreciate everything you have done for us.

Sincerely,

Gwenn Nyhagen

Library Media Specialist

Heifer International Thank You!

Heifer International gratefully recognizes Trinity Lutheran Church for your contribution of healthy animals and



training in their care to help struggling families overcome a life of hunger and poverty. "The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein." Psalm 24

Each year during the Christmas season, Trinity offers the chance to participate in Heifer International. For more information, visit www.heifer.org or call Trinity's office at 715.832.6601.

Foster Grandparents Thank You!

Thank you so much for, once again, providing us with the means to be able to distribute food to the CESA 10 Foster Grandparents. I wish you could hear the wonderful, positive comments and thanks that I hear each month as the grandparents fill their bags with food. They and I truly appreciate your generosity. It makes such a difference!

Mary Jo Hanson

Director, CESA 10 Foster Grandparent Program

New Members Received in April 2012

Joyce Hope Alcott • Joyce is happy to be included as a new member at Trinity. She currently resides at the Syverson Home in Eau Claire.

Dan Alexander • Dan is currently in transition, soon to be employed. He enjoys reading. He came to Trinity because of the congregation's faithful witness to Christ in our community and a pastoral witness in a newspaper article.

Jim & Becky Bunkelman, Paige (6), Katie (3), Chloe (6 months) • Becky is an Online Teacher, and Jim is a Project Manager at Market and Johnson. They like to swim, bike, walk, fish, and be outside.

Jeremy Bartlett & Jamie Lazzeroni • Jeremy is a Lineman for MJ Electric. Jamie is an Economic Support Specialist for Barron County Department of Health and Human Services. They enjoy kayaking, camping, aviation, and visiting with family and friends. The friendly people and environment brought them to Trinity. They will be married here in the fall!

Brandon & Kristine Casto, Evan (1) • Brandon is an Assistant Vice President at Dairy State Bank in Menomonie. Kristine is a stay-at-home mother. They enjoy family walks and outings to parks and natural areas. The dynamic children's ministry is what first drew them to Trinity. Since last fall, Evan has participated in programs for young toddlers. They met several wonderful people and decided to begin attending worship services.

Jon & Emily Fibeger, Maija (2) • Jon is a Physical Therapist and a stay-at-home dad. Emily is a Physician at Mayo Clinic Health Systems. They enjoy travel, fly fishing, sports activities, photography, ceramics, and spending time with family including their Yellow Lab, Maple.



Kris & Nicole Jaenke • Kris is a 4th Grade Teacher at Fall Creek Elementary, and Nicole is a Special Education Teacher at Putnam Heights Elementary. They enjoy spending time with friends, family, and their dog Winston. They have heard wonderful things about Trinity's church community including the opportunities for children.

Nathaniel Murken • Nathaniel is graduating from UWEC this spring with a major in Psychology and minor in History. He enjoys skiing, music, reading, and time outdoors. He came to Trinity due to the large size and proximity to the UWEC campus. Nathaniel is travelling this summer with Trinity's youth to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Vicki Nelson • Vicki is retired and enjoys golf, senior center exercise, swimming, and biking. Trinity's location brought her to our congregation.

Received in April Memorials & Gifts

Trinity Choir Fund

- In memory of Murial Laabs: Barb Vorhes, Ron & Yvonne Nixdorf

Archives Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Orville & Shirley Anderson

Organ Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Ann Ayres

Community Table Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Bernt Martinson

Mission Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Ted & Ardis Nystuen



Women’s Study Fund

- In memory of Twylah Wolenec: Jeff & Jane Cote

Children’s Ministry Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Julia Hale

Handbell Choir Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Joel & Mary Strayer

Noah’s Ark Preschool Fund

- In memory of Twylah Wolenec: Jim & Sherry Jones
- In memory of Chuck Colburn: Dee Maug

Quilter Fund

- In memory of Twylah Wolenec: Jim & Joyce Davis
- In memory of Ragna Dale: Dorcas Circle

Children’s Bible Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In memory of Twylah Wolenec: Carole Olson, Joanne Stange, Judy Menosen
- In memory of Judy Kramer: Ted & Phyllis Laursen
- In honor of Keone Thompson: John & Donna Thompson

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Ron Retzlaff, Lawrence & Deyon Ziehme, Shirley Freeberg, Barb Vorhes, Jon & Maureen Homstad
- In memory of Twylah Wolenec: Chuck & Sue Nyberg, Barb Tischer, Ralph & Norma Marking
- In memory of Ronald Green: Evelyn Berndt
- In memory of Chuck Colburn: Barb Tischer
- In memory of Elsie Lyddane: Barb Tischer

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Ragna Dale: Avis Grambo, Ruth Wolfram, Marion Hoesly, Dolores Brandvold, Susan Schaefer, David & Kathleen Ambers, William & Joanne Baxter, David & Linda Berg, Dawn Bergstrom, Morris & Audrey Brumberg, Rick Bush, Alan Dale, Jeff & Kathy Doering, Char Finseth, Ellen Fredell-Shawbold, Robert & Mary Fredell, William & Kathryn Fredell, Dorothy Granning, Allan & Patricia Hanson, Albert & Joanne Johnson, Sharon Jurjens, Margaret Mueller, Hazel Nelson, John & Sally Synder, Marvin & Leatrice Solberg, Arnold Talford, Barb Tischer, Jim & Anne Walker, Darcy & Vicki Fields, James Solberg & Elizabeth Steele, Rose Sippel, VEE Corporation
- In memory of Dennis Napton: Rose Sippel
- In memory of Ronald Green: Donald & Harriet Gilbertson
- In memory of Chuck Colburn: Jack & Pat Garber, Roger & Phyllis Burrows,

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Steve Litchfield: Steve & Vicki Borsheim
- In memory of Twylah Wolenec: Jim & Connie Beck, Jim & Marilyn Bollinger, Char Finseth, Alyce Bertelson, Elaine Pomerening, Mary Pomerening, John Oleson,

Douglas & Ann Oleson, Marlys Wolenec, Larry & Joann Wolenec, Dale & Barbara Stuber, Deb Martin, Lenore Krecklow, Doris Kitta

- In memory of Dennis Napton: Jim & Marilyn Bollinger
- In memory of Chuck Colburn: Steve & Vicki Borsheim, Pam Burrows, Jim & Marilyn Bollinger
- In memory of Ragna Dale: Norman & Viola Berg, Alyce Bertelson
- In memory of Ronald Green: Tom & Sheila Zahorik

Library Fund

- In memory of Geneva Pederson: Allen & Barb Strey
- In memory of Chuck Colburn: Amber & Paul Moltzau
- In memory of Ragna Dale: Carl & Lorraine Higgins, Jerry & Joanne Dow

Mortgage Fund

- In memory of Chuck Colburn: Chuck’s Grandchildren, Mark & Marti Hofer, Jon & Patricia Hehli, Edythe Olson, Thomas & Teresa Koziol, Daniel & Rita Netwal, Robert & Dorothy Colburn, Bill & Lynn Gautsche, Roy & Barbara Tanner, Linda Colburn, Robert & Judy Ciske, Kenneth & Karen Lee, Gerald & Sandra Jacobson, Richard & Janet Clark, James & Donella Magadance, David & Marjorie Kearin, Dale & Mary Pederson, Naomi Dickrell, Brian & Janet Solie, Rick & Rebekah Krumrie, Roger & Marilyn Engen, Larry & Judith Rydberg, Arlene Martinson, Edward & Margaret Ragatz, Douglas & Barbara Hillestad, Gene & Connie Auman, Michael & Gloria Gardner, Dauneen Amundson, Wanda Bockus, Marvin & Leatrice Solberg, Joan Brenengen, Duane & Barbara Vinge, Carolyn Ginder, Loren & Lavonne Nelson, Rick Bush, Royal Credit Union

"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

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

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

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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 July Newsletter is June 19.