



Giving to God The Bible's Good News about Living a Generous Life

*All things come from God, and of your own have we given you. 1
Chronicles 29:14*

We all know that everything we have is a gift from God. But sometimes it's hard to know just how to give *back* to God. How much is enough? What does the Bible say? What should giving look like in our everyday lives?

This month in worship we will explore the Bible's Good News about giving to God and living a generous life. The goal is to inspire and shape us to live generously to honor God and advance the mission of Christ through all of us who claim Trinity as our church.

Next month, all who love God and appreciate what our church does to honor God and share the Good News with others will be asked to make a commitment for giving for 2013. Learn more about how you can respond at trinity-ec.org



Calling a New Pastor

The Trinity Council has appointed a Call Committee to interview candidates for our pastoral vacancy. The Trinity Call Committee consists of: Shirley Anderson, Sandy Moszer, John Rush, Deb Tackmann, Curt Travis, Kyle Wogahn, and Pastor Kurt Jacobson. They have already met with Bishop Pederson of the NW Synod of WI. He will now begin working to provide candidates for consideration. All candidates will be screened by the bishop.

Please pray for this committee and our congregation during this process which may take several months. Watch trinity-ec.org for periodic updates on the process. Read about the call process and meet the committee by visiting trinity-ec.org

Join Us

Discover Trinity is a friendly, informative, and welcoming event for people interested in becoming a part of our church. It's slated for Thursday, November 8, from 6:00–7:30 P.M. If you'd like to be part of this event or if you have a friend who's interested in membership, please use the online registration at trinity-ec.org. For more information, contact Pastor Jim Page jim@trinity-ec.org or Suzanne Becker suzanne@trinity-ec.org.

Guest Preacher on October 7

On Sunday, October 7, we welcome Rev. Tim Coltvet from Luther Seminary as our guest preacher. Rev. Coltvet is the Coordinator of Contextual Learning and Coaching for the Center for First Third Ministry at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is a pastor who loves his call to walk alongside seminary students as they are learning in context (alongside their classroom learning). He has served as an Associate Pastor at two vibrant ELCA parishes in the Twin Cities of Minnesota, and he now enjoys coaching pastors as they shape their ministries for the first third of life!

Tim and his wife, Maren, have been married for 18 years. They have two children: Linnea (13 years old) and Anders (10 years old).



Dear Friends,

Our stewardship theme for 2013 is "Giving to God." God gives us everything we need for life. God gives us our very lives! Being a good steward involves managing our lives well and giving back to God some of what God gives us.

This month as we look at Giving to God, I'd like you to start thinking about the attention you have for God. If we have no attention for God, it's likely there will be little giving to God. Years ago Edward Bosworth (former Dean of Oberlin Seminary)

wrote, *"What gets your attention gets you!"* Is that true for you? In the sheer busyness of our days and the many efforts being made by others to get our attention, they also get more, don't they?

As children of God, one challenge we have is to keep our attention on God who grants us life and provides for us with abundance. But do we pay attention?

Jesus is a great model to that phrase "What gets your attention gets you." Consider two practices that had the attention of Jesus:

1. Practice 1 "In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed." Mark 1:35
2. Practice 2 "Now Judas, who betrayed him, also knew the place, because Jesus often met there with his disciples." John 18:2

Jesus made time with God and time with his faith friends in face-to-face conversation two priorities in his life. How about you? At this time of year it is easy to be consumed with many responsibilities, plans, and activities. But where is attention to God in the mix? Do you find yourself having less face time with God and with God's people?

This month, in Sunday and Wednesday worship, we're going to talk about "Giving to God." The first thing God desires of us isn't our money. It's our attention! So I want to invite you to start making God first on the list of all the things that vie for your attention each day. Make a time of daily prayer and Bible reading central to your personal life. Join with God's people in worship every week you are physically able to attend.

- There are **four times to worship every week at Trinity**. Three on Sunday; one on Wednesday!
- **Pick up the free devotional book in the lobby at Trinity:** *"Christ in Our Home," "Word in Season,"* and *"Spark"* devotions for families with young children.
- If you are not in a face-to-face Bible study or fellowship group with a few other believers, make such a gathering equally central to your life. **Come every Thursday at 7:30 A.M. to Trinity!**

Again: what gets your attention gets you. May that be God and God's people!

Striving to Grow with you,
Pastor Kurt Jacobson



During The Pastoral Transition

Transition is the period of time during which something changes from one stage to another. In our life as a congregation, we have just entered a pastoral transition. We have bid farewell to Pastor Heather Wigdahl. Now we await the revealing of who God will provide to join our pastoral team, hopefully by early 2013.

Between this stage and the next, the pastoral work of the congregation will shift for the time being. In some congregations, an interim pastor is hired. But the complex nature of the pastoral roles in our congregation become challenging to an interim pastor who would face a steep learning curve only to be with us a short while.

Thus, during this transition, the current pastors will cover the majority of additional work. They will be assisted in visiting members in the hospitals by our Parish Nurse Marti Hofer. Some confirmation teaching will be covered by others. Adult education is being led by members. But the bulk of the pastoral ministry will be borne by our current pastors. The goal is to maintain the quality of ministry in the most efficient manner.

Please remember our pastors in your prayers during this transition. Pray for our Call Committee and the bishop in the important work they do on our behalf. Thank you.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, I thank you!

I have been overwhelmed by your love, appreciation, and encouragement as I embark on a new adventure of ministry. You have been my family of faith these past years, and I will miss you individually and collectively. I have been blessed many ways through our partnership in ministry, and now you have blessed me again through your gracious, thoughtful, and generous sending. I extend my deepest thanks for every card, gift, conversation, and hug. You are dear to me and will remain in my thoughts and prayers. May our paths into the future cross often!
Your sister in Christ,
Pastor Heather Wigdahl



Spaghetti Supper

Noah's Ark Preschool will host their Annual Spaghetti Supper Fall Harvest Bash on Tuesday, October 23, from 4:00–7:00 P.M. Come feast on a great spaghetti supper, meet new and old friends, enjoy children's activities, and participate in our annual Silent Auction. Themes for the Silent Auction baskets this year are: Family Book Nook, Family Movie Night, Treat Yourself, and Keep it Local. The Silent Auction begins at 4:00 P.M. and ends promptly at 7:00 P.M. with basket winners. In advance, individual tickets are \$3.00—ages 2–12 years; \$6.00—age 13 and older. Advance tickets are available in the office during the week. At the door, adult ticket prices will increase to \$7.00. Sponsors of the event to date are; Texas Roadhouse; Indianhead Foods, Boxx Sanitation, The Coffee Grounds, and Noah's Ark Preschool.



After-Hours Pastoral Care

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

Men of Integrity: The Lord's Prayer

Men are invited to connect with other men of Trinity while nurturing their faith on Saturday mornings from 8:00 A.M.–9:00 A.M. here at Trinity. This small group ministry will use Walt Wangerin's DVD series "The Lord's Prayer" as their focus in October. Dr. Wangerin is a Lutheran pastor, author, and professor of literature and theology at Valparaiso University. He was honored in 2009 by being selected as one of Valpo's 150 Most Influential Persons. For more information, contact Pastor Jim at jim@trinity-ec.org

Recycle

Your old digital camera might sit in a closet now that it's been upstaged by a new one, but it could still have a vital future. Trinity would like to put your no-longer-needed cameras into the hands of our ministry directors, teachers, and volunteers! Cameras, with their cords and memory cards, can be dropped off in the church office. Please call Cindy Beck at 715.832.6601 for more information about making your donation!

When You Desire Baptism

The vitality and hope for new generations emerging for Trinity is seen about 50 times a year when a child is baptized in worship. We celebrate the sacrament of Holy Baptism in Sunday worship normally on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Dates available are October are 14; November 11, 25; December 9, 23.

When a child is born, schedule a baptism by calling any pastor to begin arrangements. The pastor presiding at the baptism will meet with you in advance to discuss the meaning of baptism and answer your questions. If you are not baptized, it's never too late. Baptism of youth and adults is more common today. Don't be bashful. Call or email a pastor. Find contact information at trinity-ec.org Staff page under the ABOUT menu.

Rethinking Giving Gifts

A wise person once said, "Bad habits are developed when times are good and good habits are developed when times are bad." Given all that is happening in the economy these days, it's a great time for all of us to rethink our gift-giving habits. —Nathan Dungan at sharesavespend.com

Later this fall, alternative gift giving options will be available in the Trinity Lobby. Consider Christmas gifts that have charitable, life-giving potential for your holiday shopping.





Trinity Page Turners

On Tuesday, October 16, we will meet to discuss *The Terra-Cotta Dog* by Andrea Camilleri. *The Terra-Cotta Dog* is a 1996 novel by Italian author, Andrea Camilleri, translated into English in 2002 by Stephen Sartarelli. Andrea Camilleri's Inspector Montalbano has garnered millions of fans worldwide with his sardonic take on Sicilian life. A furtive meeting with a mafioso leads Inspector Salvo Montalbano to the discovery of a cave with two corpses, dead lovers from fifty years ago, watched over by a terra-cotta dog. Meanwhile, someone has stolen a truckload of goods from a supermarket and then abandoned them. The latter event initiates an escalating arc of violence, but Montalbano remains obsessed with understanding what happened all those years ago, while Sicily was awaiting the Allied invasion.

Book Reviews from Trinity Members

"Still Alice" By Lisa Genova

"Still Alice," a fiction book by Lisa Genova, tells the story of Alice Howland, a fifty year old Harvard professor who is diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimers. Alice tells her own story about gradually losing her memory. Alice tells her husband John, "I'm losing my yesterdays" and "I miss myself." This book gives a realistic, powerful view of this disease as it affects not only Alice, but also her husband, children, and colleagues. (FIC GEN) • Reviewed by Barb Vorhes

"The Alto Wore Tweed" By Mark Schweizer

You don't have to be a choir member to get "a bang" out of this cleverly written liturgical mystery series by Mark Schweizer. From the first book entitled "The Alto Wore Tweed" to the end of his series, you will find a wonderful collection of characters (nana peelers = handbell ringers) and suspense as small town North Carolina choir director/detective takes on both of his jobs with amazing "doctrinal" creativity and cunning insights into liturgical detective work. This is witty, irresistible, and out of the ordinary fun reading. (FIC SCH) • Reviewed by Mary Strayer

Free Foot and Nail Care Clinic

University of Wisconsin Eau Claire Continuing Education will offer a "Foot and Nail Care Clinic" open to the community on Friday, October 19, from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at First Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. Diabetic clients and individuals with difficult foot and nail care issues are encouraged to attend. Registered nurses will perform foot and nail care services as part of a two day certification program. The clinic will be supervised by a nurse practitioner certified in foot and nail care. The services are free. Appointments are required and will be accepted beginning October 8 at 8:00 A.M. To schedule an appointment or request accommodations for a disability, call UWEC Continuing Education at 715.836.3636 or 866.893.2423, or use the WI Relay System (711).



Small Steps to Wellness

Make a to-do list. I have a to-do list, compiled every morning as I drink my coffee and do my devotions. It's all the big and little things that will make up my day. Then I actually do them, one at a time, until they're done.

This Fall, Take "ONE SMALL STEP" to Wellness!

Are you faced with challenges to your exercise routines? Join us in October for a four week independent challenge, "Tackle A Habit; the Exercise Edition!" Sign up at Clipboard Central with your email to receive weekly encouragements. Then go on our Trinity website to "One Small Step" and follow the directions. Choose an exercise related habit, read the Mayo Clinic links provided and use your calendar to document your Small Steps to wellness. Our challenge runs October 15–November 11. Great timing as we enter the holiday season. Join us, and take "One Small Step" to wellness!

Senior Citizens Meet Friendship Group

Wednesday, October 10
10:00 A.M. in the Trinity Room
Program by Pastor Jack Olson
Lunch at Applebees
No reservations needed



Children's Ministries

Tie Dye Saturday

Join us on Saturday, October 6, at 10:00 A.M. at Trinity in room 201. No reservations are needed; just come and join the fun! This is for anyone who likes to tie dye or wants to learn how to do it! Bring your own items to dye, i.e. white t-shirts, socks, onesies, shirts, etc. (if it is a new item, please wash at home before you come). The dye, rubber bands, and soaking agent will be furnished. Ginny Lien will be on hand to help and teach. There is no cost; however, you can bring extra kids' t-shirts to dye for mission projects.



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

Registration remains open for Wednesday Camp T.G.I.F. classes (Grades 3–6) and for the choirs (Pre-Kindergarten–Grade Six) and Sunday classes for children two years old—Grade Six. For more information, contact Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601; marys@trinity-ec.org; or the website www.trinity-ec.org. Children should bring their Spark Bibles to each Sunday class and Wednesday T.G.I.F. class.

"My Church" for 2 year olds

This class is designed for two year olds (two by 9.1.12). Guardians/Parents and child will create together a personalized book of pictures. By using a digital camera, the child is photographed in various settings throughout the church. These pictures will then be placed in a binder that the child keeps and uses at home and brings to worship. Class will begin on October 9, 2012. Registration forms are available by calling Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or on Trinity's website trinity-ec.org

First Communion Instruction

Children in second grade and above who have not participated in Communion instruction and their parents/guardians have an opportunity to meet for instruction on Saturday, November 3, from 9:00–11:00 A.M., in Rooms 204/206 at Trinity. (Note: children in first grade will receive their instruction in March 2013.) Their Communion celebration will be at the 6:30 P.M. Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on Wednesday, November 21. To register, call Mary Schoenknecht at 715.832.6601 or e-mail marys@trinity-ec.org

Day Camp Openings

Music & Movement Mondays

We will explore music with song, dance, and instruments—a wonderful bonding experience for you and your child. New theme each week, and Bible stories conclude each class. Parent or care-giver must attend class with child.

For: Children ages 1–3

Time: Session 2—10:30–11:15 A.M. on Mondays through December 10

Cost: The fee will be adjusted to start date.

The Great Pretenders

Come and join the fun on Tuesdays! Dynamic drama and awesome art will be combined to enhance children's literature and Bible stories. After creating props and costumes, children will use them to act out the stories. Theater games, creative movement, story structures, and creative artistry will be explored in this high energy class.

For: Children who are four by 12.31.12.

Time: 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Tuesdays through December 11

Cost: The fee will be adjusted to start date.

Camp Come and Play

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

For: Children with birthdays between 8.1.2009 and 5.31.2010.

Time: One opening in Session Two is from 12:15–2:15 P.M. on Wednesdays through December 12.

Cost: The fee will be adjusted to start date.



Thrilling Thursdays

Spend Thursdays engaged in a wide variety of preschool activities. Children will cook, read, paint, experiment, sing, and dance. The class will allow children to explore and discover in the areas of language, science, music, math, and art.

For: Children who are four by 12.31.12.

Time: 9:00–11:00 A.M. OR 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Thursdays through December 13.

Cost: The fee will be adjusted to start date.

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

Noah's Ark News

Noah's Ark has enjoyed a fantastic first month of school. We are especially thankful to our Preschool Committee for their help in organizing/cleaning the classroom. We also thank Don and Melissa for making it "so clean" for us. We can see our reflections in the shiny floor.

We're already saying hello to the month of October! Can that be? The days and weeks go fast "on the ark!" We tie-dyed t-shirts at the end of September in Noah's Ark, and Mrs. Lien is hosting a tie-dye party on October 6 from 10:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. look for signs for room location.

This month we will travel to Beaver Creek for our first field trip. We LOVE that place and all of God's wonders of nature. We will also go to the Schultz Family Farm in Eleva to enjoy a day in "the maze," a pumpkin pick, fun animals, and a picnic. Also on our October calendar is our annual "Spaghetti Supper Fall Harvest Bash" on October 23 from 4:00–7:00 P.M. It is a fun night of food, activities, and family & friends! Put it on your calendar. Tickets will be on sale between worship services on Sundays, October 14 and 21, and on Wednesday, October 17. During those weeks, tickets will also be on sale in the church office or from a Noah's Ark family. We hope to see you there!!

We give thanks for the many donations that Noah's Ark receives from our special friends at Trinity each year. Just this past week, a special Noah's Ark alumni family dropped off monies to be used as we see fit, and we chose the Children's Bible Fund as many Noah's Ark children received their first Bible in early September. It's so exciting. We also were the benefactor of Thrivent Funds, designated by a policy holder in September, which will be used to assist families attending Noah's Ark this year financially. If you are a Thrivent policy holder, check out the opportunity you have to designate a church, church school, college, camp, etc. to receive these special funds. Contact Amber for more information at amber@trinity-ec.org



YOUTH MINISTRIES

Wednesday, October 3

- 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, October 7

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- High School Book Study in Room 306 from 10:30–11:45 A.M.

Wednesday, October 10

- 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., Eighth Grade and parents in the Chapel from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.
- High School Book Study in Room 306 from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 14

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

Wednesday, October 17

- 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, October 21

- Teen Study: Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- High School Book Study in Room 306 from 10:30–11:45 A.M.
- Confirmation Dinner in the Trinity Room from 6:00–7:30 P.M.

Wednesday, October 24

- 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 Book Study in Room 306 from 7:15–8:30 P.M.

Sunday, October 28

- Affirmation of Baptism at the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. Services

Wednesday, October 31

- No confirmation classes this evening



Teen Study for Club 78

Teen Study will begin on October 7 from 10:35–11:05 A.M. Teen Study offers students an opportunity to explore the Faith Book in an interactive Bible study. Teen study is led by a team of volunteers. Club 78 Teen Study will meet in the Trinity Room.



Luther Park Recharge—Club 78 Retreat

Luther Park Recharge is coming up on the weekend of November 2 and 3. Campers and adult chaperones are encouraged to come away to Luther Park to engage in Holy Play and RECHARGE their lives of faith. The weekend has three transforming themes: The Light, Light Seekers, and Light Givers. These themes will be supported through large group sessions with music, skits and speakers, as well as, small group Bible studies, devotions, and active games. Registration materials and more information are available online at lutherpark.org and at the Tool Bench.

High School Book Study

High School students will have opportunity to nurture their faith through two book studies. This fall, we will read *“I Beat the Odds”* by Michael Oher. Learn Michael Oher's story of the blind side as he reflects on how far he has come from his youth to achieve his dream. Then in January, we will read *“Walk out of Worry: Choosing God's Path to Peace.”* Learn how to identify worry, where it comes from, how to be free from anxiety, and how to put your trust in God. Dates, times, and sign up sheets are available 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 at the Community Table on Friday, October 5 from 4:30–7:00 P.M. Thank you to those who have signed up to serve our community.

Lutheran World Relief-Load A Truck

Trucks will be ready to be loaded on Saturday, October 13. We have volunteers ready to help load and unload here at Trinity, as well as at CVTC West Campus, throughout the morning. Parents, we need all the trucks or vans we can get to load up here at Trinity! Please sign yourself and your youth up for a shift at the Tool Bench.



100 Wells Tour High School Retreat

The fall high school retreat is scheduled for October 26–27. On Friday, we will attend the 100 Wells Tour concert in Winona, MN. The 100 Wells Tour will help raise funds for wells and clean drinking water for needy families in the U.S. and abroad. The concert will feature artists from the ELCA Youth Gathering; AGAPE, Rachel Kurtz, and Lost and Found. On Saturday, we will travel to Luther College in Decorah, IA. High school students are invited to join Luther students for an afternoon of workshops, high ropes, worship, and recreation, all on Luther's campus. Pick up your registration packet at the Tool Bench.

Crop Walk

Our annual fall Crop Walk is here! Envelopes were given out during Club 78 and Club 9 service fairs. Each participant is responsible for collecting donations and bringing them to Carson Park on the day of the walk. The group will meet at Carson Park on Sunday, October 14, at 1:30 P.M. Please contact Pat Hassemmer at 715.797.5870 with any questions.

Friends of Flynn Weekend Meals

Wednesday, October 17, from 4:00–6:00 P.M. is the first opportunity for youth to pack weekend meals for students at Flynn Elementary School. We will meet at Feed My People Food Bank, 2610 Alpine Road, on Eau Claire's west side. Check the Tool Bench for additional dates.

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



Giving to God

Mission and Ministries Supported by Your Offerings

Your regular offerings do great things here and across the world. More than money, your offerings give hope, build faith, and extend the reign of God. Thank you for every offering you share. The last months of the year are very important for meeting goals. Regular offerings, mortgage payment, and extra gifts are greatly appreciated. **Thank you** for sharing in ways that impact lives and the good of our world in the name of Christ! Please remember, you can always give online at trinity-ec.org. There you may set up automatic transfers so that your charitable intentions are always fulfilled!

Regular Ministries

January–August	2012	2011
Offering Income	\$643,772	\$607,663
Expenses	\$649,651	\$632,726
<i>Variation</i>	-\$5,879	-\$25,063

Getting Out of Debt

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

January–August	2012	2011
Mortgage Income	\$142,852	\$114,589
Payments Made	\$153,811	\$124,090

Thank You

Dear Trinity and Endowment Trust Fund Board: Thank you so much for the gift for seminary school in Colorado. I am confident this is where the Lord is leading, and your financial support is playing a huge role in making it happen! I am so thankful!

In Him, Amber Tepsa

The Trinity Endowment Trust Fund provides grants each May and November using proceeds generated from the fund. These grants help low-income families enroll children in our preschool, provide tuition support for members attending seminary, and underwrite mission projects. Your memorials, current or estate gifts for the Fund do great things. Thank you for supporting the Endowment Trust Fund.

Giving to God in 2013 Your Response

On Sunday, November 11 all members of Trinity will be asked to make financial commitments for 2013, expressions of faith and trust in God. The 2013 commitment will again be two-parts:

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

Watch your mail for the commitment card arriving by November 10. Then prayerfully consider your generosity and respond on Sunday, November 11 or Wednesday, November 14 in worship. You may also make your commitment for 2013 online at trinity-ec.org

Making Faithful Plans for The End of Life

As good stewards of the things God gives us, we make plans for many aspects of life. We plan for careers, having children, getting an education, buying a house, and retirement. But one aspect of life many people avoid planning for is death. Besides planning to make a will or trust, God wants us to be good stewards even in our death. That includes giving something to the work of God that continues beyond our lives. A simple bequest to the Church can express to your survivors your faithfulness. Another great thing to give them is a plan for your funeral and to disposition of your body.

To assist you in both, the bequest and the funeral plan, our website offers guidance on giving to the Trinity Endowment Trust Fund. It also offers a new Funeral Planning Guide and Worksheet. Do yourself, your family, and God a favor; check them both today!



Thoughts on Giving

“There comes a day when we understand that all is grace, that the whole world is a gift of God, a completely generous gift. We see each flower, each drop of water, each minute of our life as a gift of God. God gives them to all, both to those who know him and to those who are ignorant of him.” Paul Tournier in “The Meaning of Gifts”

When Passing Assets to Loved Ones Doesn't Pay

More than likely, a substantial portion of your savings is in your retirement plan. As you plan your estate, you may be considering how to use those savings to benefit loved ones. But did you know that your most valuable assets may also constitute the biggest tax bill for your heirs?

A national research study shows that more than half of Americans aged 30 and older are largely unfamiliar with the way in which taxes can eat up the value of their retirement accounts when they name a loved one as beneficiary. Income and estate taxes can consume nearly 60 percent of retirement plan funds when inherited by a loved one.

A Win-Win Alternative comes when you structure the inheritance so family members pay the least taxes. Experts sometimes advise putting a charitable component into the plan because qualified charitable organizations, like Trinity, receive donations tax-free. Unlike family members, your church receives the full value of your retirement plan assets—none is lost to taxes. Plus, you can rest easy knowing you can change your mind at any time up until your death.

The Trinity Endowment Trust Fund Board would be happy to provide you information about how your IRA gift could make your charitable desires benefit Trinity or the Endowment Trust Fund. Contact Pastor Kurt Jacobson at 715.832.6601 or kurt@trinity-ec.org

Global Missions

Jamaican School Blesses Others

Trinity's global partnership with Jabneh Christian Academy in Jamaica has provided a 20'x60' classroom building thanks to your contributions and the work of two men's mission trips. Another trip is planned for January 2013.

Right now, the new classroom building is providing much needed space to expand the school's reach into the community. A new Community Remedial Reading Project has begun. The goal is to provide children from the impoverished neighborhoods nearby opportunities to catch up on reading skills. The greater impact is to provide community transformation through education and Christian values.

Read more about this partnership at trinity-ec.org Serve page.

Greetings from Africa

Trinity's companion church in Blantyre, Malawi is served by Pastor Raymond Tumbe of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi. He recently sent a letter to us in reply to one Pastor Kurt sent with a delegation from our area who

traveled to Africa this summer. Here are some excerpts.

Dear Pastor Kurt Jacobson and Trinity Lutheran Church:

Receive greetings from Blantyre Parish in the precious name of Jesus Christ the only begotten Son of God. I hope you are all fine, here we are all doing well.

I would like to thank you very much because of your letter of third July, 2012. We were very happy to receive your letter and the message you shared to us about the current development taking place in your country. We were also very happy to hear about the diakonian task you have done of assisting some needy people. This is very good because God taught us to assist some who are facing challenges in their life. Christians have an obligation of doing good things.

Today am very happy to inform you that Blantyre people are all fine and the church is going on very well regardless of various challenges we are experiencing because of erratic rainfalls and devaluation consequences. Shortages of food because of rain will affect attendance of our church. This is because people will be moving up and down fetching for food.

Another problem we are experiencing is the devaluation of our currency to 56% which have made many things to raise up. Life is becoming very difficult to source our daily needs.

In the month of May, Women of Prayer organized their annual gathering. It went very well and at the end, they agreed to start a project of raising goats. Today am glad to inform the women have bought one goat.

May you pass my warm and tender greeting to all the people of Trinity Lutheran Church. We need their prayers.

Regards, Rev. Raymond Tumbe



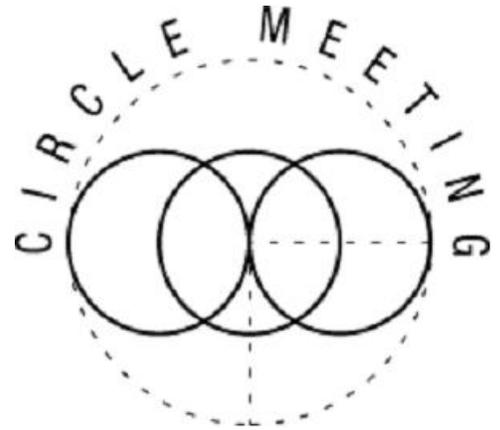
Health Ministries

Help Someone in an Unhealthy Relationship

It can be hard to know what to do when someone you care about is in a controlling or violent relationship. These tips can help.

1. Watch for signs of abuse:
 - Controlling behavior, like if your loved one's partner demands all of his time.
 - Physical abuse, like bruises or cuts.
 - Emotional abuse, like put-downs or name-calling.
2. Find out about local resources: Before you start a conversation with your friend or family member, call 1.800.799.SAFE (800.799.7233) to get the address and phone number of the nearest domestic violence agency. This way, you'll be ready to share the information if the person is ready for it. You may even want to offer to call or visit the agency together. Our local agency, Bolton Refuge House, is located at 807 Farwell Street, phone 715.834.9578.
3. Set up a time to talk: Be SPECIFIC about why you are worried. Does your friend or loved one:
 - Spend less time with friends or doing things he used to enjoy?
 - Make excuses for his partner's behavior?
 - Have unexplained cuts or bruises?
4. Does your friend or loved one's partner:
 - Yell at or make fun of her?
 - Try to control her by making all of the decisions?
 - Check up on her when she's at work or school?
 - Force her to do sexual things she doesn't want to do?
 - Threaten to hurt himself if his partner ever breaks up with him?
5. Plan for Safety: People whose partners are controlling or violent may be in danger when they leave the relationship. If your friend or loved one is ready to leave an abusive partner, help him make a plan for getting out of the relationship as safely as possible. A domestic violence counselor can help with making a safety plan.
6. Be patient and keep the door open: You can do your best to share your concerns. But your friend or loved one will decide what's right for her, even if it doesn't make sense to you. Be available to her when she's ready to talk.
7. Get help for yourself: Watching someone you care about stay in an unhealthy relationship is hard. You can get help, too. Call the above numbers.

For more information about helping someone in an unhealthy relationship, visit: www.womenshealth.gov/violence-against-women/get-help-for-violence/how-to-help-a-friend-who-is-being-abused.cfm



Deborah

Thursday, October 18, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Nancee Burbank
Leader: Vicki Field

Dorcas

Wednesday, October 17, 1:00 P.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Pat Hanson
Leader: Ardy Nystuen

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, October 16, 7:00 P.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Vila Nygaard
Leader: Kathy Gjesfeld

Miriam

Wednesday, October 17, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Shirley Anderson
Leader: Group

Ruth

Tuesday, October 16, 1:30 P.M.
Hostess: Marge Oleson, 875 Windsor Forest Dr., Altoona
Leader: Pat Cliff

Sarah

Wednesday, October 17, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity
Hostess: Marilyn Bollinger
Leader: Barb Vorhes





Social Concerns Ministries

We're Delivering Meals!

Last week we made our first delivery of weekend meals to students at Flynn Elementary School. Students received bags with four kid-friendly meals for the weekend. The meals are designed to be easy to prepare in case parents aren't home and always include fresh fruit. What a joy to work with Feed My People and Flynn Elementary on this important project! We are still looking for drivers and packers. If you can help, please contact Suzanne at 715.832.6601 or suzanne@trinity-ec.org



Thank You to Kwik Trip!

Our Food Pantry has been selected as the designated pantry in our area to receive food nearing expiration from area Kwik Trip stores. The Trinity Food Pantry Board believes this to be a wonderful opportunity as we work to ensure the long-term sustainability of this ministry. Drivers will pick up three bins of food at an area store on either Monday or Thursday mornings and deliver the food to Trinity. If you can help, please contact Suzanne at 715.832.6601 or suzanne@trinity-ec.org

Dear Friends at Trinity,

Thank you for your collection of \$4,500 for Feed My People Food Bank to support the Weekend Kids' Meal program at Flynn Elementary. Your gift will help provide meals and hope for hungry children in west central Wisconsin.

Thirty years ago, six Eau Claire area churches came together to assist the hungry in their community, creating Feed My People Food Bank. Little did they know that their project would grow and flourish to address the growing need in 14 counties in west central Wisconsin over the next three decades.

During this journey, Feed My People has grown to serve more than 100 different hunger-relief agencies in west central Wisconsin and launched numerous programs to feed more people. With your support, Feed My People will continue to provide not only meals, but hope for the less fortunate. On behalf of those who will not suffer hunger because of you, thank you for your generosity and your confidence in our work.

We're looking forward to partnering with you this year. Thank you for your support.

Michelle Dingwall

Assistant Director, Feed My People

Received August 2012 Memorials & Gifts

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

- In honor of Sue Nyberg and Trinity's Women's Studies: Jane Cote

MEMORIAL FUND

- In memory of Lois Wendt: James & Dana Schroeder

LIBRARY FUND

- In memory of Millie Kurtz: Michael & Mary Black
- In memory of Lois Wendt: Robert & Roxanne Berg

QUILTERS

- In memory of Millie Kurtz: Miriam Circle

CHILDREN'S BIBLE FUND

- In memory of Millie Kurtz: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

FOOD PANTRY FUND

- In memory of Harvey Serley: Tom & Sheila Zahorik
- In memory of Linda Archibald: Dave & Jeanette Suchla
- In memory of Millie Kurtz: Patricia Cliff

ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND

- In memory of Millie Kurtz: George & Alice Swanson, Ruth Wolfram, Steve & Vicki Borsheim, Northern State Bank–Ashland, Family & Friends, Elayne Peterson Lorraine Schaefer, Robert & Janet Roemer, Jim & Lynn Gullicksrud, Mary Kinney, Ronald & Renae Hayden, James & Brenda Bauer, Elizabeth Stabenow, Wesley & Deloris Paulson, Rose Sippel, Randy & Colleen Weiss, Susan Schaefer, Barbara Zeug, Joan Higgins, Henry & Sharon Schank, Viola Broberg, Jim & Joyce Davis, Dawn Bergstrom, Allan & Patricia Hanson, Stanley & Doris Broberg, Ted & Ardis Nystuen, Michael & Susan Hayden, Carl & Lorraine Higgins, Albert & Joanne Johnson, Harold & Avis Drung, Norma Rabedeaux, Leatrice & Marvin Solberg, Ann Ayres, Gary & Judith Hayden, Arnold Talford, Barbara Tischer, Laurel Duax Erdman, Sue Hesketh, Morry & Audrey Brumberg, Norris Nelson, Marsh Kruger, Margaret Odegard, Barbara Vorhes

"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

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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
Kris Pressler—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 November Newsletter is October 23.