



# Trinity

## Lutheran Church

### 2014 Vacation Bible School

## “Live in God’s World”

"For in God we live and move and have our being." Join us this summer as we explore how we can live by God's word through five Bible stories: The Ten Commandments, Salt and Light, The Sower, The Widow's Offering, and the Good Samaritan. We meet July 21–25, from 8:45 A.M.–12:00 P.M. We suggest a \$20 donation per child. Vacation Bible School is for children who were 3 by 9.1.13 through those who have completed grade six. **Our Kick Off event is Sunday, July 20, at the 9:45 A.M. service.**



### You Can Help With VBS Supplies

Please purchase, collect, and save the following items for this year's VBS. Mark them for VBS, and bring them to the Children's Ministries Office. Needs are: jewels and gems for stepping stones, small mason or glass food jars with lids (8–12 oz.), ceramic tile pieces that can be broken up, and birthday wrapping paper. Thank you!

### Staff Needs for VBS

*It is time to complete our list: please help!*

We are down to just a few teaching positions left. If you feel any nerves about teaching, don't worry. We provide the material, and there is only a short portion of the day in the classroom. The rest is spent leading your class to the different stations. To volunteer, please sign up on the poster in the lobby on Sunday mornings or at the Children's Ministries office during the week. Contact Julie Lutteke at 715.832.6601 or [julie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:julie@trinity-ec.org) for more information. Teachers are needed for Nursery 1(1), Preschool 1(1), Pre-Kindergarten (1 thursday/Friday only), Kindergarten (1), Grade 2 (1) Grade 4 (1) Grade 5 (1). **We are also in need of many more classroom helpers.** Thank you!

### VBS Staff Orientation

We ask that all of our volunteer staff attend one of two orientations prior to the VBS Kick Off. We will be handing out all materials and going over guidelines and procedures to help make this week a success. The two sessions are: Thursday, July 10, 6:30 A.M.–8:00 P.M. in the worship center or Sunday, July 13, 10:45 A.M.–12:15 P.M. in the Trinity Room.

## Missionaries at Trinity

We are thrilled to announce that Trinity will be hosting our missionary partners, Jackie & Patrick Bencke, and their family on Sunday, August 10. In partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Trinity supports the Bencke's as they minister and teach in Kumamoto-she, Japan. Patrick teaches English at Kyushu Lutheran College. Jackie is involved in teaching music at the college and leading music ministries at their church. They have two daughters: Emilie–12 years old, and Hannah–5 years old. Patrick will be preaching, and Jackie will be assisting in music leadership during both worship gatherings on Sunday, August 10, with a reception to follow. Mark your calendars as we join together in welcoming the Bencke's and marvel again in how God's word continues across distance and cultures!



## Members of Trinity,

Boiled down to its simplest form, the entire Bible—Old and New Testaments—is a record of God's pursuit of intimate relationship with creation. God made everything around us so that it reflects God's glory and creativity. God made us in God's own image to do the same. And God gave us the freedom to love God ... or not.

Luke 15 provides inspiring examples of the power of God-inspired relationships. In the first example, a man who had a hundred sheep lost one of them. So he left the ninety-nine and went looking for the one until he finally found it. The man was so happy he called his friends and family together to celebrate.

The second story involves a woman with ten coins, and she loses one of them. She turns her house upside down looking until she finds the lost coin. Like the man with the sheep, she also celebrates recovering the coin with friends and family.

Then, there is the most famous story. A rebellious young man asks his father for his inheritance (even though his father is still alive) and then sets off on his own because he's tired of living by his father's rules. The young man squanders his money, learning the hard way that people who are your friends because of what they can get from you tend to disappear when you run out of things to give. When the young man realizes how much he's messed things up, he swallows his pride and goes back to his father's house, fully expecting to be punished.

Instead, his dad throws a party and invites all of their family and friends—he's just happy that his son has come home.

Jesus' stories tell us that God doesn't look down on the mass of humanity from a far off place. God knows us and loves us individually. When we're lost, God finds us and brings us home. When we run away, God doesn't write us off. God waits patiently for us to return, ready to forgive and accept us.

Relationships are grounded in effort, respect, and most importantly, trust. When two people set aside their own agendas on behalf of each other, it creates an unbreakable bond of trust between them.

What can you set aside this month to be with God? To be with those closest to you?

It doesn't have to be anything grand or spectacular. Perhaps time for prayer as part of your routine, a walk outdoors with a loved one, or a phone call to a friend. Any time connections are made, there are reasons to rejoice!

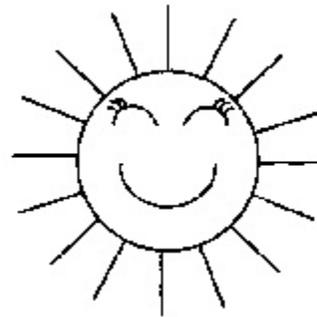
Blessings as you make those inspiring connections,

*Pastor Jim*

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## Relationships are grounded in effort

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## Take Prayer on Vacation

The joy of living in Wisconsin is that it is full of beauty in summer and it's a prime time to take a vacation. Time away from daily work and responsibilities is part of the design God has built into us. To have time to rest, play, and restore body, mind, and soul is a gift from God.

This summer, take a gift from Trinity along with you on your vacation by picking up "Prayers for Vacation" at the Information Center in the Lobby or by finding an online version at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org)

Add blessing to your days away, and use these prayers as your day starter. Enjoy quiet time with God which might be a bit easier to do because you're away from your daily routine. Then, be sure to jump into each day of your vacation to play, recreate, and prosper in the grace of God in Christ who loves you with an everlasting love!

## Summer

Summer is a great time to bring new neighbors, co-workers, or friends without a church home to worship with you. You'll bring God's grace to your guests and advance, through your invitation and hospitality, the mission of "Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News."

During the summer, people new to the community often worship at Trinity. When you see someone who looks new, extend your hand and greet them. A friendly "hello" goes a long way in extending hospitality that we believe is an expression of God! This summer, be an ambassador. Bring someone to worship and say "hello" to someone you don't yet know.



## Travel to the Holy Land

Trinity's travel ministry will head to the Holy Land of Israel, Palestine, and Jordan in the fall of 2015! In cooperation with Higgins Travel Leaders and Isram Tours, this trip of a lifetime will bring alive so many of the stories of Jesus in the New Testament and some amazing Old Testament stories, too!

We'll stay in Bethlehem, see the birthplace of Jesus, and worship with Palestinian Christians at Christmas Lutheran Church. We'll ride on the Sea of Galilee and walk in the Jordan River. We'll visit Nazareth, Masada, the Dead Sea, Lazarus' tomb, and the Garden of Gethsemane. We'll stay in Old Jerusalem and visit the Western Wall, Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and so much more!

Besides finding history come alive, we'll learn first-hand how our partnership with the ELCA and Lutheran World Federation makes a difference in the lives of Palestinian children and adults in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

If you'd like advance notice of when registration and detailed information about this trip becomes available later this year, please contact Pastor Kurt Jacobson, at [kurt@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kurt@trinity-ec.org)



## What Do Americans Say About Christians?

The Barna Group surveyed 16–29 year old non-Christians about their views of Christians and the Christian church. Many consider themselves spiritual but not religious. Their perspectives on Christians include:

- 91% say Christians are anti-homosexual.
- 87% say Christians are judgmental.
- 85% say Christians are hypocritical.
- 70% says Christians are insensitive to others.

These Americans don't want to identify too much with a religion, and that see it as inhibiting the pursuit of their spiritual and a direct relationship with God. (from *UnChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks about Christianity...and Why It Matters* by David Kinnaman and Gabe Lyons).

## Vacation with a Purpose 2015

We're hoping to have two mission trips to Jamaica next winter and, before you make warm weather winter plans, please consider joining a mission team. A men's trip will take place in January and an inter-generational trip (including kids from grade 6 and up) will be in March during the ECASD break.

If you're thinking of joining one of this mission trips or simply want to learn more, please email Pastor Kurt Jacobson at [kurt@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kurt@trinity-ec.org) Watch for upcoming plans to be revealed, and plan to take a vacation with a purpose next winter.

## Friendship Group

The Friendship Group will hold their annual picnic on July 9 at Braun's Bay. The pavilion will be available at 10:30 A.M., and we will plan to eat at 11:30 A.M. Please bring a dish to pass and your own plates and utensils. Coffee will be provided. Since school is over for the summer, we will have many children using our food pantry. Please bring a jar of peanut butter to stock our shelves.

## When You Are Hospitalized

The pastoral care team makes frequent visits to local hospitals and usually, the hospitals are able to tell us if Trinity members are present. But the system doesn't always work flawlessly. We have recently experienced Trinity members who were hospitalized, but Trinity was not notified or wasnotified days after the initial hospital admission. You can be assured a visit from our team if you or a family member contacts the church office (phone or email) in advance or if you ask a chaplain to call Trinity upon a hospitalization. Thank you for contacting the church office as we seek to provide proper care and support in such times.



## Before You Move

Whenever you're moving or going temporarily away and changing delivery status with the postal service, please let Trinity know. When your mail is returned to Trinity, a cost per item is incurred.

Email new address information to Heather at [heatherd@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heatherd@trinity-ec.org) or send Trinity a post office change of address card or call the Trinity office at 715.832.6601. Thank you.



## Summer Story Time for Young Children

Join the fun at 10:25 A.M. on Sunday mornings, July 6 & 13, in the Trinity Library for a summer story time. The Library Committee members will read to the children. There will be time to check out books, and there are prizes for the kids to pick from a treasure box.

## Trinity Page Turners Book Club

Our book list for 2014–2015 is here!

- Tuesday, September 16, *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt
- Tuesday, October 21, *Shotgun Lovesongs* by Nickolas Butler
- Tuesday, November 18, *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd
- Tuesday, December 16, *Because of Mr Terupt* by Rob Buyea
- Tuesday, January 20, *The Interestings* by Meg Wolitzer
- Tuesday, February 17, *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand
- Tuesday, March 17, *Visiting Tom* by Michael Perry
- Tuesday, April 21, *Honolulu* by Alan Brennert
- Tuesday, May 19, *The Silver Star* by Jeanette Walls



If you would like a print brochure, you can access it online at [www.trinity-ec.org](http://www.trinity-ec.org) or you can pick up a brochure in the office. We meet once a month on Tuesday's in the library, and all books on the list are available in the library. We have no special expectations to participate in this group. You should feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not. So, are you ready to start reading in September? We're happy to have you join us! For more information, email Cindy Beck at [cindy@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cindy@trinity-ec.org)

## New Books in Our Library

- *Speaking Christian* by Marcus J. Borg. This is a non-fiction book written about the Christian words which the author says have lost their meaning and power. How can they be restored when Christians forget what the words mean. They also forget what their faith means. "This book's purpose is to help us to read, hear, and inwardly digest Christian Language without preconceived understandings getting in the way. It is about learning to read and hear the language of our faith again." John 3:16 is the best known verse in the Bible. What do the words mean to you? Read the book to understand these words (plus many others). It is about the path into life with God today.
- *Stronger* by Jeff Bauman is a biography. He writes about a life changing experience when he lost both legs at the Boston Marathon. He was watching his girlfriend run the Marathon when a bomb went off right beside him. Jeff describes the chaos and terror of the bombing itself and the ongoing FBI investigation in which he was the key witness. Read the book and find out how he faced his new circumstances with grace, humor, and a sense of purpose. He was determined to walk again. Terrorists accomplished nothing!

## Circle Listings

### Deborah

Wednesday, July 16, 9:30 A.M.  
 Hostess: Mary Schoenknecht, 1808 Pine Park Drive  
 Leader: Mary Schoenknecht

### Dorcas

No Meeting

### Martha/Mary

Tuesday, July 15, 7:00 P.M. Trinity  
 Hostess: Vila Nygaard  
 Leader: Group

### Miriam

Wednesday, July 16, 9:30 A.M.  
 Hostess: Mary Schoenknecht, 1808 Pine Park Drive  
 Leader: Mary Schoenknecht

### Ruth

Wednesday, July 16, 1:30 P.M.  
 Hostess: Jeanette Suchla, 3809 Harvard Lane  
 Leader:

### Sarah

No Meeting



## Chippewa Valley

Now is the time to register to attend the ELCA Women's Chippewa Valley Retreat, August 13–14, at beautiful Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek. The cost is \$35 for one day. The cost is \$45 for two days if you register before July 18 or \$50 after July 18. The retreat begins at 1:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 13, and will conclude by 3:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 14. Gary Olson will be the speaker. His topic is "What do we believe and what difference does it make?" Come, learn, and relax with friends from around the Chippewa Valley Conference of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.



# Thank You Notes

## *Dear Trinity Lutheran Endowment Trust Fund Board,*

I am writing in regards to your recent grant to Faith Partners for Literacy, specifically of the family your contribution will “sponsor” in this 2014–2015 school year. The family will remain anonymous but you will receive monthly parent and child progress updates. Thank you very much for your generosity and care you have shown to this family and so many others impacted by Faith Partners.

The Family that Trinity's grant is sponsoring:

The father is in the intermediate English class. His son is 2 ½ and attends the toddler classroom when his father is upstairs in class. Early this spring, the family had a baby and she now comes with her father and brother. She is almost one year and stays in the infant room. All three made significant progress this year; dad advancing a level in his English, son increasing his verbal skills on a noticeable level, and the baby girl rolled over for the first time in the literacy classroom only a few days after coming for the first time!

Family Literacy classes have just let out for the summer, but the family is anxious and excited to return in the fall as they have formed strong bonds with the Family Literacy teachers—both kids and adults! I will provide an update when classes resume in September.

Once again, a very special thank you for your generosity!  
Taylor Schaa, Director Faith Partners for Literacy

Family Literacy Fast Facts:

- 98% of families served live in poverty.
- In 78% of families served, at least one family member works.
- 30% of families have both parents attend class.
- 82 students were served in the 2013 school year.
- For every \$1 invested into Family Literacy, \$33 is returned to the community's economy and saved in future costs

## *Dear Trust Fund Board,*

Thank you so much for your continued support of Lay School of Ministry tuition. I look forward to sharing pictures, stories and service with Trinity for many years.

Jackie Krumenauer

## *Dear Trust Fund Board,*

Thank you for the \$500 grant to assist us to feed the homeless at the Sojourner House. The grant will help us take advantage of the various sales on meat and, therefore, stretch our budget further. Our clients are hungry men and women, so the offering of a meal is an integral part of being the hands of Christ. Thank you for your partnership with us.  
Sincerely yours, Phyllis Grohn



*Dear Ms. Schoenknecht and Trinity Lutheran Church,*

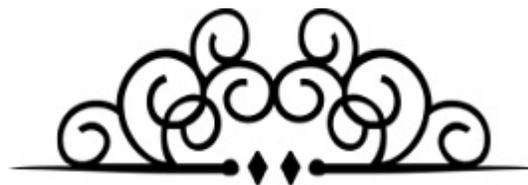
On behalf of the staff and members of the Wisconsin Veterans Home of Chippewa Falls, I wish to thank you for your generous donation of quilts. Our members will enjoy selecting these prizes from the Bingo Store.

We appreciate your support of the Wisconsin veterans and their families. It is through contributions such as yours that we are able to provide an enriched quality of life for the members. Again, thank you for your donation to help to serve the veterans.

Sincerely,

Katie Plenli

Director of Volunteer Services and Activities



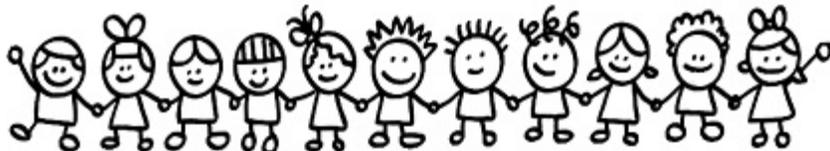
## Planning for Your Future

We plan for so many things in life: getting a degree, starting a career, buying a house, getting married, retirement. But many people are afraid to plan for the reality of life's end. However, one of the most helpful gifts you can give your family is your plan for what you want to have happen as you die and after death.

Trinity provides you two tools for both realities. The "Five Wishes" booklet (available at the Health Ministries board across from the office) and the "Funeral Planning Guide" (available at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org)) are easy to use and practical instruments for walking you through making your plans. Check them out today. The Trinity pastors are happy to assist you or receive your plans when complete.



# Children's Ministry



## Summer Day Camp Openings

We still have some openings for our final summer Day Camp. Contact Julie Lutteke in the Children's Ministries Office at 715.832.6601 or [julie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:julie@trinity-ec.org) for more information

- Camp Veggie Tales: July 7–11 (5 days), 9:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. The cost is \$70. This camp is for children who were three by 9.1.13 through those who have completed grade 5.

## Announcing our Fall Day Camps for 2014



These Day Camps are midweekly programs designed for young children during the fall of 2014. Phone-in registration opens Wednesday, July 16, at 8:00 A.M. and will continue until classes are full. Please call the church at 715.832.6601. For more information contact Julie Lutteke in Children's Ministries at [julie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:julie@trinity-ec.org) or check out the children's link under the Grow tab at [www.trinity-ec.org](http://www.trinity-ec.org)

### Music and Movement Monday

Children move and groove as they explore music with song, dance, and instruments. There is free play and guided music instruction. New themes are explored each week, and Bible stories conclude each class. The class starts on Monday, September 8, and runs for 13 weeks.

- Session One: 9:15–10:00 A.M. is for children ages 18 months—three years. There must be a parent or caregiver present. The cost is \$80.
- Session Two: 10:15–11:15 A.M. is for children who are three by 8.13.14 and a parent does not need to attend. The cost is \$95.

### Great Pretenders

Let your child's imagination run free. This class combines dynamic drama and awesome art 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. This camp is for children who turn four by 12.31.14. It meets from 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Tuesdays beginning September 9 for 15 weeks. The cost is \$200 and can be paid in installments.

### Camp Come and Play

Children with birthdays between 9.1.2011 and 5.31.2012 have an opportunity to play with other children of their age. They will hear Bible stories, participate in art and music activities, and take time out to share a snack. The class is a great precursor to preschool. This class meets in Trinity's Nursery from 9:15–11:15 A.M. or 12:15–2:15 P.M. on Wednesdays and is limited to 12 children per session. It meets for 15 weeks beginning on September 3. The cost is \$200 and includes snacks and supplies. The cost can be paid in installments.

### 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. A hands on discovery approach will be emphasized in a Christian environment. This camp is for children who turn four by 12.31.14. It meets from 9:00–11:00 A.M. or 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Thursdays beginning September 4 for 15 weeks. The cost is \$200 and can be paid in installments.

### Friday Friends

Spend Friday mornings engaged in a wide variety of preschool activities in Trinity's Nursery and Art Room. 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. A hands on discovery approach will be emphasized in a Christian environment. This camp is for children who turn three by 12.31.14. The class will meet from 9:00–11:15 A.M. on Fridays starting January 9 for 18 weeks. The cost is \$255. \$125 is due at the time of registration; the remaining \$130 will be due in December. Register on July 16 to hold your spot as enrollment is limited.



# Children's Ministry

## Looking Ahead to the Fall Important Dates to Mark on Your Calendar

- Wednesday, September 3: Registration Event for Camp T.G.I.F., Kid's Choirs, and Sunday School beginning at 5:00 P.M. Watch for specific information in the August Children's Ministries mailing and on our website.
- Rally Sunday, September 7: Register for Sunday School and enjoy an ice cream sundae. Children who are three years old and in third grade will receive their Spark Bibles at the 9:45 A.M. service.
- Wednesday, September 17: Camp T.G.I.F. and Kid's Choir Rehearsals begin.
- Saturday, November 1: Fall Communion Instruction for children in grades 2–5 from 9:00–11:00 A.M.



## Faith Plan and Pastor Visit

Club 9 2013–2014 students, please contact your assigned Pastor via email before July 20 to schedule your visit. If you have any questions regarding your Faith Plan or Pastor visit, contact Lisa at 715.832.6601 or [lisa@trinity-ec.org](mailto:lisa@trinity-ec.org)

# Noah's Ark News



July is the month when there are lots of things going on here at Trinity. I'll be teaching one of my favorite camps "Camp Veggie Tales ... Christmas in July." We are almost full, but you can contact Julie Lutteke at 715.832.6601 or [julie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:julie@trinity-ec.org) if you are interested!

I'm also busy this month working on the July mailing to all 2014–2015 Noah's Ark enrollees. It's going to be a great year! Be looking for a letter with a Visit Week schedule; Orientation Night information for Monday, August

25, at 6:00 P.M.; class list information; and details on forms/etc. we still need. Please tell your friends that there are some openings available at Noah's Ark, and we would love to enroll their children. Contact Jeanne Cooper, Preschool Director at, [jeanne@trinity-ec.org](mailto:jeanne@trinity-ec.org) or 715.832.6601.

Many wonderful Noah's Ark children are at the camps this summer and signed up for VBS "Live in God's Word" July 21–25! Sign up today.

## Incoming Club 9 Students

Don't forget to call in or email the name of your mentor to Lisa or Cassie at 715.832.6601 or [cassie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cassie@trinity-ec.org) If you need suggestions, please let us know. The Youth Ministry staff will be happy to offer you names of people who are willing to be a mentor, but we do not select or contact mentors. We ask you to make that connection.

## August Activity Night

All 2014-2015 Club 78 students are invited to a GREAT night of fun, food, and games on Wednesday, August 20, from 5:30–7:00 P.M. at Trinity! We will meet at the picnic tables in the back parking lot. Pizza, pop, and root beer floats will be provided. Sign up at the Tool Bench and meet everyone in your confirmation classes. Contact Lisa or Cassie with any questions at 715.832.6601 or [cassie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cassie@trinity-ec.org)



## Social Concerns

### ELCA Congregations and Christmas in July!

Eau Claire ELCA congregations including Immanuel, Good Shepherd, Grace, First, and Trinity will join together in a shared ministry of outreach called "Celebrate Christmas in July." This shared ministry effort will bring people together by donating items for the less fortunate in Eau Claire (see wish lists on this page). Trinity members are invited to bring donations to Trinity beginning July 6. Donations can be placed in the marked tub in the lobby on Sunday mornings or brought to the church office during the week. Items will be collected throughout the month of July. Thank you for caring, and thank you for sharing!

**SOJOURNER HOUSE WISH LIST:** bus tokens, gas cards, razors, deodorant, towels and washcloths, seasonal clothing, shoes, socks, sweatshirts, sweat pants, hoodies, backpacks and reusable tote bags, dish soap, high efficiency laundry detergent, assorted cereal, facial tissue, trial or travel size toiletries, and feminine products.

**WISH LIST FOR BEACON HOUSE • General items** for the shelter: toilet bowl cleaner, general cleaners (pine sol, disinfectants), laundry soap, fabric sheets, deodorant, shampoo/conditioner—full sized, feminine hygiene products, garbage bags—kitchen and leaf, snow shovel, sidewalk salt, adult bus passes and tokens, bath towels, alarm clocks, toilet paper, baby wipes. **Pantry items:** pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit, cereal/oatmeal/cream of wheat, hearty soups (vegetable, chicken noodle, etc.), chili, peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna and chicken, hamburger helper, canned pasta, Rice a Roni®, Pasta Roni®, canned corn, canned peas, salt, sugar, rice. **For past families:** cleaning kits (mops, brooms, buckets, cleaning products, etc), diapers and pull-ups, socks and underwear up to size six, digital thermometers, dish soap, razors, sleepers, onesies, car seats/boosters—new only, baby wash, gift certificates for oil changes/haircuts.



### Serving Others

Many mothers and children in need spend their nights at the Beacon House where a warm meal and a safe atmosphere are present. Trinity will fulfill an array of tasks at the Beacon House from July 20-26. We have spots available for evening and breakfast hosts, preparing dinner, and overnight hosts. If you are available for a volunteer shift, you are invited to sign up at the designated sheet at Clipboard Central. Roman and Diane Fritz, Trinity members, will contact you with additional details. Thank you!

## Friends of Flynn Ministry

As a reflection of our mission statement of "Serving in Christ's love and sharing the good news," Trinity has a wonderful partnership with Flynn Elementary School to help address the needs of children.

Have you seen the great prices recently on all the school supplies that children need? If so, please consider purchasing some for us to give to children at the beginning of the school year. We are in need of folders, paper, bottles of white glue, small glue sticks, boxes of Kleenex facial tissue, child size Fiskar scissors, eight or ten count Crayola classic markers, erasers, yellow highlighters, red pens, and colored pencils. Most stores have a printed list near the supplies to help with your selection for Flynn students.

The supplies can be dropped off at Trinity (lobby after worship; office during the week) beginning on August 3. Thank you!





# Financial News

## Giving to God

Thank you for giving to God through your offerings to Trinity. Summer is such an important time to maintain your gratitude to God for all the blessings we enjoy. As you do so, every offering you share with Trinity honors God and blesses people here and across the world with the love of God in Christ.



Offerings to Regular Ministries for the first half of the year have done great things to extend God's love in Christ through many things that happen inside and far away from 1314 E. Lexington Blvd. Offerings for Mortgage Payment continue to provide for the monthly payment and extra principal reduction. Thank you!

Remember you can set up automatic offerings from your financial institution. It's easy to set up regular electronic fund transfers on our website: [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org) "Giving" page. Your regular contributions are so helpful!

With the blessings you have received, please share them with Trinity's Regular Ministries and Mortgage Payment funds. Your generosity is appreciated as Trinity invests carefully in making a difference in people's lives. Thank you!

### FINANCIAL UPDATE JANUARY TO MAY

Regular Ministries	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
2014	447,286	446,114**	+1,172
2013	419,997	384,440*	+35,557

*\*In May 2013 we had a vacant pastoral position which reduced expenses.*

*\*\*In May 2014 we had a full pastoral staff, in addition to the new Children's Ministry Leadership team along with our retiring Director of Children's Ministries. In June 2014 we anticipate expenses to level off and be comparable to previous years.*

### MORTGAGE PAYMENT OFFERINGS

2014	\$98,701
2013	\$93,833

Every mortgage payment offering dollar goes directly to the mortgage held with the ELCA Mission Investment Fund.

## Thrivent Choice® Strengthening Communities— Changing Lives

Thrivent Choice, the member-advised charitable grant program from Thrivent Financial, continues to be a welcome funding source for congregations and nonprofit organizations nationwide.

If you are an eligible Thrivent member, you likely are aware of this easy, convenient way to help make a difference for organizations you care about. The Thrivent Choice program offers a way for eligible members to recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable grant funds each year.

In 2013, 53 Trinity members designated \$5,141 Choice Dollars to Trinity with 5 additional members designating \$1,126 to our Noah's Ark Preschool. By June 2014, 40 Trinity members designated \$4,074 to Trinity with 7 additional members designating \$2,349 to Noah's Ark. We are grateful for these financial gifts that support our mission and ministries!

If you are a Thrivent member, do not let Thrivent Choice Dollars go undirected! You are encouraged to designate such funds to the ministries of Trinity or to any camp, school, or non-profit organization of your choice. If you are eligible to participate in Choice Dollars, or are uncertain about your eligibility, visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice). Or contact your local Thrivent Financial representative.



## Received May Memorials & Gifts

### Food Pantry Fund

- In honor of Marti Hofer: Jim & Connie Beck
- In memory of David Haakenson: Roman Fritz
- In honor of Mary Schoenknecht: Stan & Yvonne Hillestad, Jim & Connie Beck
- In memory of Dan Bonner: Clifton & Doris Husberg

### Noah's Ark Preschool Fund

- In memory of Jerry Bridges: Jim & Sherry Jones

### Children's Ministries Fund

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- In honor of Mary Schoenknecht: Don & Barb Lee, Elaine Lonning

### St. John's Bible Fund

- In honor of Mary Schoenknecht: Dick Cable

## Prayer Link

You are invited to become part of Prayer Link and join in praying for others who ask for our prayers. Each week many people ask for the prayers of the pastors, staff, and members who've agreed to pray for others. When you join Prayer Link, you will receive prayer requests via



email or phone message. Then you pray wherever and whenever you can! We'll provide you a monthly update of prayers and some inspiration for your praying.

If you appreciate the benefits of prayer and are willing to pray for those who share requests, email Heather Day at [heatherd@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heatherd@trinity-ec.org) or note your willingness via the Prayer Link on the homepage of [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org)



# LifeLines: Summer and Sabbath

by Scott Morris

*"Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer"* goes the old Nat King Cole song.

Does that sound like your summer? The description of summer as "lazy" makes us think of picnics and swimming and ball games and a lot of other recreational activities we don't get around to often enough. We want to do those things, but it's easy for the "crazy" part of summer to take us captive. After all, kids may get a break from school, but the rest of us still have jobs and obligations.

Yet there is something about summer that calls us to slow down and enjoy, and in that sense summer reminds me of the concept of Sabbath. Let me suggest four points about Sabbath to ponder this summer.

1. Rest. God created the world in six days, then rested on the seventh (Genesis 2:2-3). When we rest from our labors, we recall the drama of creation and God's gift of the world for us to enjoy. Perhaps this is one reason people like to enjoy outdoor recreation in the summer and get close to nature. Rest that connects us to nature also connects us to God.
2. Rediscover. God said to the Old Testament people, "You shall keep my sabbaths, for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, given in order that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you" (Exodus 31:13). God did not give us the Sabbath as a rule to keep, but as a sign of the relationship God offers us and the opportunity to be God's people. Sabbath is a time to rediscover that we belong to God, not to the demands of our daily lives.
3. Restore. Perhaps the most familiar Old Testament phrase about the Sabbath comes in the Ten Commandments, "Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy" (Exodus 20:8). We forget to rest. We deny our own need for restoration of body and spirit, so God reminds us to remember to set aside time for Sabbath and allow it to restore us.
4. Reclaim. The plain fact is that Jesus healed on the Sabbath (John 5:9), even though the legalistic Jewish leaders of the day regarded the "work" involved in his compassion as breaking God's law. By healing on the Sabbath, Jesus reclaimed the day for God's purpose of using it for our health and well-being. Maybe it is time for us to reclaim the Sabbath as well.

Rest, rediscover, restore and reclaim, four goals for the summer season that also enrich our experience of Sabbath and improve our health by taking us closer to God.

Rev. G. Scott Morris, MD, is founder and executive director of the Church Health Center in Memphis, Tennessee. This is the largest faith-based, not for profit primary health clinic in the United States, providing health services to over 30,000 patients who are working but uninsured. Dr. Morris is a physician and a United Methodist pastor. [www.chreader.org](http://www.chreader.org)



## Fresh from the Farmer's Market Recipe

### Fresh Pomodoro Pasta, White Beans & Olives

#### Ingredients

- 8 ounces whole-wheat pasta shells, tubetti, ziti or rigatoni
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 15-ounce can cannellini beans, rinsed
- 1 large clove garlic, minced
- 1 pound ripe tomatoes, diced (about 3 cups)
- 1/4 cup oil-cured black olives, pitted (see Tip) and chopped
- 1/2 cup sliced fresh basil
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- Freshly ground pepper, to taste
- 1/4 cup grated Pecorino Romano cheese

#### Preparation

1. Put a large pot of water on to boil. Cook pasta, stirring occasionally, until just tender, 8 to 10 minutes or according to package directions. Drain.
2. Meanwhile, heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add beans and garlic; cook, stirring frequently, until the beans are just heated through, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove from the heat. Add tomatoes, olives, basil, salt and pepper. Stir gently to combine. To serve, divide the pasta among 4 plates and top with sauce and cheese.

#### Tips & Notes

- Tip: Press down on olives with the side of a heavy knife to split them open and make removing the pits easier.

**Nutrition:** Per serving: 508 calories; 16 g fat (3 g sat, 6 g mono); 4 mg cholesterol; 63 g carbohydrates; 16 g protein; 13 g fiber; 865 mg sodium; 628 mg potassium. Nutrition Bonus: Vitamin C (60% daily value), Iron (35% dv), Folate (32% dv), Potassium (27% dv). Carbohydrate Servings: 4 1/2. Exchanges: 3 1/2 starch, 3 vegetable, 1 very lean meat, 2 fat.

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

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Trinity Lutheran Church—Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 1314 East Lexington Blvd, Eau Claire WI 54701

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

## Ministers

People of Trinity

## Congregational President

Herschel Day

## Pastors

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

Jim Page      jim@trinity-ec.org  
715.834.7092

Sarah Semmler Smith      sarah@trinity-ec.org  
715.827.1230

Brahm Semmler Smith      brahm@trinity-ec.org  
715.827.1220

## Noah's Ark Pre-School

Jeanne Cooper, Director      noahsark@trinity-ec.org  
Ginny Lien      ginny@trinity-ec.org  
Jill Kasmarek      jkasmarek@att.net  
Marlee Knickerbocker      jknick6054@aol.com

## Children's Ministry Leadership Team

Kristy Casto      kristy@trinity-ec.org  
Children's Ministry Director

Julie Lutteke      julie@trinity-ec.org  
Day Camp Coordinator

Alicia Strozinsky      alicia@trinity-ec.org  
Children's Ministry Assistant

## Youth Ministry Leadership Team

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

Cassie Brenden      cassie@trinity-ec.org  
Youth Ministry Coordinator

## Health Ministry

Pat Garber      pat@trinity-ec.org  
Visitation Ministry Director

## Worship & Music Ministry

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

Gary Rambo—Trinity Choir  
Ryan Poquette—Trinity Tollers  
Kris & Brian Pressler—Worship Music Leaders  
Drew Brandenburg—CrossWord Youth Band  
Jeanne Cooper—God's Little Singers  
Corrine Gransee Paral—Children's Choir

## Building & Grounds Team

Don Peterson  
Matt Skoug

## Ministry Support

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

Amber Moltzau      amber@trinity-ec.org  
Office Administrator

Heather Day      heatherd@trinity-ec.org  
Web Coordinator/Ministry Assistant

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

Sharry Hebert      sharry@trinity-ec.org  
Food Pantry Coordinator

## World Missions

Maranatha Church in Kingston, Jamaica  
Blantyre Lutheran Parish in Malawi, Africa  
Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

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  - 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 August Newsletter is July 22.