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TRINITY TODAY



Our WAPO One-Day Campers



LEAD PASTOR CHRIS BELLEFEUILLE

"When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth."

- Genesis 9: 16

Siblings in Christ,

When our middlest was little, Eliot would wait every Sunday for this line in the liturgy: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin."

The word covenant gave Eliot a little shiver. Eliot liked the sharp edges of the word itself, the way it stands out in the flow of the liturgy. It is a sharp-edged word, charged with power. And it should stand out for us. Living in covenant with someone is no small thing. Covenants are a promise, binding us to one another. Marriages are a covenant, parenting is a covenant, employment is a covenant, we even have home owners' association covenants.

A covenant with God should make us shiver.

When God began the adventure with Moses, the covenant was two-sided: commitments by God and commitments by human beings. (Circumcision and obedience to the law.) But as time wore on it became clear that adherence to the law was more than human beings could manage in the long term. Neglecting the neighbor, complacency, and coveting the glittering golden gods of the neighboring peoples all got in the way of human capacity to uphold the covenant.

In Christ, God entered into a one-sided covenant with us. God bound Godself to us for all time, reconciling us to God through Jesus Christ. In this one-sided covenant God offers grace freely, God loves us unconditionally, God's eye remains firmly on the sparrow (us). And nothing is required of us to "earn" this commitment.

Which sounds too good to be true. Maybe it is, in a way.

Once we understand the import of this one-sided covenant, once we grasp the abundant outpouring of God's love, we feel *compelled* to act. We feel we must prove ourselves *worthy* of this covenantal gift. But our worth is not at issue. Our worth was established when God became incarnate in Jesus, blessing humanity in a very particular and peculiar way. We are God's holy, beloved people.

So, yes. We feel compelled to act. But instead of acting to assert our worth, we act in gratitude and joy. Living as those free from the compulsion to prove anything, we lived unfettered lives of service, joy and celebration. Which changes how we think about "belonging to a church."

Being part of a community of faith is not shopping for the organization that best serves our unique needs and gives us the biggest bang for our buck. Being part of a faith community is joining our lives with others as a body, a family, a covenantal community committed to finding the fullest expression of our love and gratitude. We give generously. We share our time and talents. We worship. We dwell in the life-giving Word of God, hungry for the promises we find there.

So as the school and program year gear up to begin again, it is a great time to recommit to your covenantal community and to invite others into the promise. Here you are loved and here you can find expression for the wonder of being God's holy beloved.

Blessings on the start of a "new year!"

In Christ,

Pastor Chris



God's work. Our hands.



Trinity Welcoming Ministry Team News

The Trinity Welcoming Ministry Team is gearing up for fall! We hope that you will join us in our educational events as we continue to explore becoming a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) church!

Mark your calendars!

After our RIC educational series last spring, one comment that we heard was that it was hard for members who attend the later service to get to adult education to hear the speakers. Well, guess what? We listened and we will be providing alternate times for you to attend this fall! Now you will have a chance to join in with the events and attend your regular service on Sundays!

Wednesday, September 5 at 7:00 p.m. Meagan McLaughlin returns to talk about Reconciling in Christ and expand upon her presentation that she shared last time. Come with your questions and learn why Trinity would choose to become a Reconciling in Christ Church along with over 800 ELCA congregations.

Sunday, September 9. On our first Sunday back after the completion of our summer schedule, we welcome a guest preacher, Dr. Matt Skinner, Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary. Please join us in worship at either service, as well as a question and answer time between the two services.

Wednesday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Chris will return to speak about the ELCA Statement on Sexuality.

This fall we will be sharing the Welcoming Statement with the council and congregation that our committee has worked on and put together. The congregation will have a chance to read and comment through a survey on Survey Monkey. We hope that you will let us know what you think as we consider this next step in our journey!

Jenny Rediske 715-557-0074

Laura Fredericks 651-261-3208

God's Work. Our Hands. Saturday, September 8 Gather at Trinity 9 a.m.-noon

Together with our ELCA church siblings across the country we will lean into the baptismal promise to care for God's people and the world God made. We will gather at Trinity in the morning for a blessing then fan out across the valley in service to neighbor and earth.

Bring the whole family, bring friends and neighbors—there will be projects for all ages and abilities. Some projects at Trinity.

Some of the projects that will be offered:

- Giving Garden
- Buckthorn Cleanup
- River Cleanup
- Community Thread Home Service
- Hope House
- Nursing Home Visit
- Global Health Ministries Hospice Kit Assembly (see Page 16)
- And more!

Financial Highlights

Financially, we are still in a slight deficit YTD. The deficit decreased this month with the use of some of our budgeted restricted income and endowment funds for 2018. For the fiscal YTD 2018, thru July, we show a deficit of \$8,189. That compares to a deficit of \$144K as of July, one year ago! Contribution Income for July 2018 was \$38K less than July 2017 and \$12K less than last month. YTD our Contribution Income is \$70K higher and Operating Expense is \$74K less than a year ago at this time. If Contribution Income for August matches last year's and we continue to hold expenses under budget, we will close FY'18 with a surplus.

Trinity Financial Update

	<u>Ju</u>			
	This Year	Last Year	'18 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	1,161,987	1,127,819	1,300,000	89%
Other Income	558,435	409,653	466,000	120%
Total Income	\$ 1,720,422	\$ 1,537,472	\$ 1,766,000	
less: Expenses	1,728,611	1,681,097	1,776,145	97%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (8,189)	\$ (143,625)	\$ (10,145)	

Long-Term Debt Summary:					
Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.		3,619,892		3,050,204	
Increase (Decrease)		(14,749)		(117,402)	
Long-Term Debt - End of July	\$ 3,605,143		\$	\$ 2,932,803	
Line of Credit Balance - July 31	\$	25,000	\$	838,394	

Consolidation/Refinance of Existing Debt in May, 2018

From the Stewardship Team

by Claudia Swendseid, Stewardship Team

When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the Earth.

- Genesis 9:16

I last saw a rainbow in April when Clark and I were traveling in New Zealand. We saw a lot of rainbows on that trip. Not surprising, since rainbows are seen in the wake of rainstorms followed by sunlight breaking through clouds – a regular feature of New Zealand's changeable weather. I delighted in the beauty of those bows and inevitably thought of Noah and "the ark."

You remember the story. Noah, a "righteous" person, lives at a time when the world is a violent and corrupt place and human beings have turned to evil. God decides to destroy the world with a flood, literally drowning out all the evil and injustice. God saves only Noah, his family and representative plants and animals from which God forms a new creation.

After the annihilation is complete and the flood waters have subsided, God blesses Noah and makes a covenant in which God promises never to destroy God's creation again. The covenant is unconditional and everlasting and "signed" with a rainbow.

I find this covenant noteworthy in several aspects:

- It's made at the end of a world annihilating flood, as if God has expressed all the vengeance God ever intends upon God's creation, despite the evil and wickedness human beings will inevitably engage in going forward. As if God regrets what God has done and promises "never again." Creation on God's part is an act of love, which the covenant reinforces.
- It describes how God will now relate to God's creation without any expectation of a response from human beings in return. God promises relationship ongoing with God's creation. And God uses the rare beauty of a rainbow to remind God's self of this promise—as if to turn God toward God's creation again and again with compassion.

• Finally, it's with all God's creatures and with all God's creation, not just the human family as is more commonly the case with covenants in the Bible. God loves and shows mercy to God's entire creation, emphasizing creation's interrelatedness. In this covenant the whole earth is restored.

In the Noah story, water is primarily a means for God's destruction, but from which God saves Noah, his family and the plants and animals preserved on the ark. This story of water, along with others in the Old and New Testaments is recalled at our baptisms, which "by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God..." Here water is primarily a means for God's grace.

Baptism also involves a covenantal relationship, Reborn as God's children, we commit ourselves to living in right relationship with God and God's creation. First through our parents and sponsors (if we are baptized as infants), followed by our confirmation affirmations. We seek to live these commitments throughout our lives:

- to live among God's faithful people,
- to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
- to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
- to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and
- to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Living out these covenantal commitments is my understanding of faithful Christian stewardship.

Notice the fifth and last commitment—to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. In all the earth. An unambiguous reminder that caring for God's creation is an essential component of faithful stewardship. The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) refers to this as "faithful earthkeeping" and describes it as an important spiritual practice to deepen our relationship both with God and with one another.

Summertime is a great time to reflect on "faithful earthkeeping" as we spend more time during this season enjoying the outdoors and restoring our own spirits through that enjoyment. We can't escape the interconnectedness of all of God's creation. God gives us and all creatures life through water, air, food, and all the other gifts that come to us from the earth. Everything we do both depends on these gifts, and has some kind of effect on them. If these gifts are abused, people, animals, and plants suffer together. If they are graciously received and cherished, people will flourish with the rest of creation. We cannot love God or our human neighbor without caring for creation.

Consider the opening verse of Psalm 24: "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it." All faithful stewardship begins in that affirmation. All that we have, all that we are, all that is — all belongs to God. Whatever comes into our hands does so as a trust from God. We live in a Godgiven world and a God-loved world, in which stewardship is our love taking form for that same world.

So what does this mean in practical terms? The ELCA offers a number of resources on its website for both individuals and congregations to be "faithful earthkeepers." Clark and I continually examine our lifestyle and daily practices for ways to improve our "earthkeeping." I will admit that it's not always easy. Too often I choose what's fast and convenient in the short-term for me, which leads to more consumption and waste than is necessary. Still I work at it. Trying to use all of my abundant resources more prudently. Borrowing library books instead of buying new. Substituting bike rides for car rides. Giving up all together on the chemical lawn and garden. Buying in bulk. Consuming less; reusing more; recycling what's left. Voting for environmentally thoughtful policy makers. Donating to effective environmental organizations. And, finally putting in that compost pile!

We do need to live more simply, so that others may simply live. As God has promised never again to destroy God's creation, there is healing work that each of us can do. That God calls us to do.

Step out today to observe God's creation; imagine God's rainbow and make your own stewardship response to help protect it.

GOD WRITES THE GOSPEL, NOT IN THE BIBLE ALONE, BUT ALSO ON TREES, AND IN THE FLOWERS AND CLOUDS AND STARS. – Martin Luther

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



This month we offer the eighth of twelve heartfelt prayers from Trinity's, "Visitation Prayers," booklet. All the prayers were written by members of our faith community. They address universal human concerns and challenges to our relationship with God: Seeking Hope, Feeling Lonely, Feeling Overwhelmed, Seeking Inner Peace, Feeling Angry with God, Seeking Patience, Experiencing Deep Pain, Seeking Assurance, Facing Serious Illness, Seeking Comfort, Approaching Death and Anticipating Heaven. September's prayer addresses those times when we are seeking assurance. For more information about, "Visitation Prayers: A Companion for Trinity's Volunteer Visitation Team," refer to the January 2018 issue of Trinity Today, available on our website at www.trinitylc.org.

SEEKING ASSURANCE

John 10: 27-28

My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

[The Lord] said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

PRAYER

Faithful and Loving Shepherd,

Your word assures me of your promise for eternal life.

You have promised me that your grace is sufficient to navigate my own particular life, despite my own peculiar weaknesses. Your power and your presence are ever available to me. You are always with me, waiting for me to let your power and grace emerge in my daily experiences, whether they are joyful or challenging!

Help me to comprehend how a willing attitude can open me to your guidance, and thus allow me to be stronger in you.

You are waiting for me to claim you, but you have already claimed me! Your grace enables and energizes me to see ways I can make your power and your message manifested in my everyday actions and interactions.

Your promise for eternal life gives me great comfort, because all that needs to be done, you have already accomplished for me

In the name of Christ the Good Shepherd we pray.

Amen.

- Jeneal Olsen

Quilting Ministry Tuesdays, 4-6 p.m., Living Room Beginning September 11!

Make quilts to distribute to those in need, both locally and globally. No quilting experience necessary. Everyone is invited — come every week or once a month. Donations of fabric and supplies also welcome. For more information, contact Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org.

At right: Some of our quilters enjoying Sandy Wendt's garden

Left to right: Carolyn, Sandy, Lynne, Betty Kim and Marie



You're invited to: Celebrating Seniors September Worship & Lunch Wednesday September 5 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Join us for worship followed by lunch with entertainment by Amy & Adams, whose must be Amy & Adams, whose must be a my september 5



by lunch with entertainment by Amy & Adams, whose music has received praise such as "their seamless harmonies and perfect vocal blend is the sign of a great collaboration of hearts and talents."



Come and experience God's presence through the practice of yoga.

YogaDevotion Chair/Flow Combo Class Thursdays 9-10 a.m. | September 6-October 25 | \$64/8 weeks

For women and men of all skill levels and abilities. Beginners welcome, no experience needed! All classes in the Narthex (except when otherwise noted). Register and pay online at www.trinitylc.org, then select REGISTER, then select YogaDevotion.

Led by a trained yoga instructor, YogaDevotion is a practice of breath, prayer, and movement designed to encourage healthy living and a peaceful presence.

NEWCOMER LUNCHEON: Sunday, October 28 at Noon, Garden Room Open to all who are interested in joining Trinity! Come eat a light lunch, hear from Pastor Chris, meet some staffers, and learn about Lutheranism and Trinity! Breakout session for Baptism preparation and orientation as well. RSVP to Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org by Sunday, October 21.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY: November 11, new members will be welcomed at both 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. worship services.

60 Plus Solo: Over 60. Single and Active?

Come meet other singles and join us for this thriving new social group. We have several events planned each week! Please send an e-mail to 60plussolo@ **gmail.com** to get a list of upcoming events.

Sunday, September 16, 5-7 p.m. **Living Room at Trinity**

Please use the 3rd St. (East) doors

Join us on September 16 when Dr. John Sutherland will be our key speaker. A member of Trinity Lutheran Church, Dr. Sutherland currently teaches part-time at the University of Minnesota. Here is a brief summary of his program:

Aging Grudgingly or Gracefully.

Are you aging grudgingly or gracefully? This presentation examines the physical, social, and emotional changes we may experience as we age and explores ways to adapt to them gracefully. These may include trying new physical and mental activities, attitude adjustments, healthy lifestyles, social experiences, educational activities, and spiritual activities. A few specific medical conditions and appropriate health screening will be covered, as well as senior living options. - John Sutherland, M.D.



The Retired Men's Group welcomes:

Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon

Thursday, September 13 9:30 a.m., Garden Room

Please join us for a presentation by Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon. Secretary Simon's stated primary goals include expanding access and removing barriers to voting, securing voter information, streamlining business services, and strengthening protections for victims of domestic violence.

Prior to being elected as Secretary of State in 2016, Simon served in the Minnesota House of Representatives for 10 years.

This event is open to everyone. Please try to arrive by 9:20 a.m., as the presentation will start promptly at 9:30 a.m.

Questions? Contact John Hodler at 651-343-4638 or johnhodler@gmail.com.

ATTENTION NEEDLEWORKERS!



The Lutefisk Dinner is only two months away. Embroidered towels are sold at that time as a fundraiser for the Sunshine Fund for seniors.

You can help by embroidering a set of towels. Stop in the church office to pick up towels. Transfers and thread are available. Your handiwork is much appreciated!

Questions? Contact Carolyn Minor at 651-439-7139.



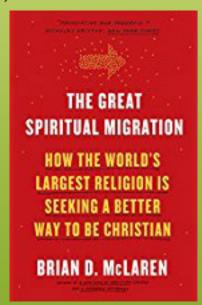
God Loving Outdoor Women

GLOW BOOK STUDY

Starts Tuesday, October 9 7-8 p.m., Living Room at Trinity Will run approximately 6-7 weeks

Book: Brian McLaren's latest and highly acclaimed The Great Spiritual Migration

Please let Sandy Wendt know of your interest at siwendt46@gmail.com, so you can be added to the e-mail list.



Update from the Green Team

The Green Team is moving forward on the recycling grant; we are hoping to begin in late fall. It will include "new and improved" recycling/trash containers; a supply of recyclable cups and liners and training.

The goal, of course, is to use resources wisely to care for creation. This project will also decrease trash and costs!

This project involves changes in behavior and in consciousness by all of us; much as we want to do the right thing, it is difficult to change patterns of behavior—such as tossing our coffee cup without a thought. Please consider bringing your own coffee cup/travel mug to church on Sundays. Fill your cup at Trinity—then bring it home and use again!

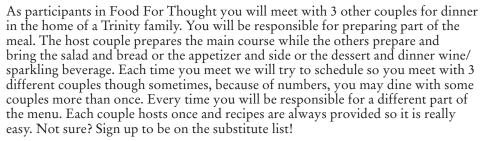
Interested in working with the Green Team? Please contact Sheila at doher4@comcast.net.



Time to Register for Food For Thought!

by Glenda Bjorum, Coordinator

If you like to eat good food, meet new people, and engage in thoughtful conversations, it's time to register for Food For Thought! Food For Thought is part of Trinity's small group ministry that meets in homes 4 times during the year. This year's dates are Saturdays November 10, January 26, March 9, and April 6. The dates are merely guidelines and can be adjusted to meet the needs of your group. Adult couples of ALL ages are encouraged to participate, share, and grow in faith and friendship. By the way, you don't have to be a couple to join. Invite a friend and create a couple or contact Glenda Bjorum for help in finding someone in our Trinity family to pair with.



Taking time to connect with friends old and new is important in building a strong and growing church community. We can continue to encourage community and strengthen relationships by sharing hospitality through Food For Thought. Please consider joining Food For Thought so you, too, can take an active role in making Trinity a place of faith and friendship.

If you are interested, have questions or wish to register for Food For Thought please contact Glenda Bjorum at 651-439-8521 or bjorumsing@aol.com. Registration deadline is September 22. Let's meet and break bread together!



Saturdays

November 10

January 26

March 9

April 6

Sign up by September 22

Contact:

Glenda Bjorum **bjorumsing@aol.com** or **651-439-8521**



PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION PETER WESTON MILLER

"When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." – Genesis 9:16

New Beginnings and New Opportunities

I love rainbows (I mean who doesn't!?!). It's such a beautiful promise from God to keep bringing new beginnings and new life.

Rainbows are a sign of hope when the storm has ended but when the world and our faces might still be sopping wet.

I'm thankful for the ways that God's love continues to be spread across the sky in the cycle of our days—through sunrises, changing seasons, new jobs, new commitments, the start of a new school year or a new degree program, a fresh look at our gifts, and the possibility of countless new beginnings that come our way.

What's New this Fall – Come and See!

When I came to Trinity, I could feel this amazing energy and hope about what's to come and where the Spirit is leading us here. I could see the rainbow effect through you—the storm has passed but God's promise of hope continues!

Through lots of intentional listening and working alongside different ministry teams, I'm really excited to share some of God's movement and new opportunities for shared ministry in 2018-2019. We have tried to respond to feedback from folks and meet people where they're at, but we know that the sky could always get stormy. We also know that God's promise of hope will keep opening us to new life in Christ. Please don't hesitate to ask questions, help lead, or join in the way that God is calling you. I am really looking forward to growing in faith with you this year!

New Lifelong Faith Formation Ministry Team

One of the goals highlighted by the interim pastoral process at Trinity was to develop opportunities for more shared ministry leadership across the church. In response, each ministry area would have a Ministry Team to help shape, lead, and vision for education, enrichment, retreats, and a variety spiritual growth opportunities for all ages at Trinity. The

Lifelong Faith Formation Ministry Team will also help us assess goals and metrics, listen for new gifts that might help us learn together, and partner with other teams for the sake of God's mission in the world. Karen Gieseke is facilitating this team and it has been a rich conversation so far. More updates to come!

High School Ministry Specialist Interim

We are really sad to see Kelsey go and yet also excited for her future. Given changes in leadership, High School Mission ministry, the River, and the ongoing Renewal process, it seems critical that we listen for the ways that God is calling us in the next phase of ministry for integration from youth to young adulthood. A High School Ministry Task Force will be formed out of the Lifelong Faith Formation Ministry Team to help discern the needs and goals for this ministry moving forward. In the meantime, we will have an interim to help lead High School Ministry that will work alongside with our CYF staff. More info to come soon.

New High School Mission Trip 3-year Vision

Service, relationship building, leadership development, and accompaniment have been key values for the next chapter in High School Mission (9th-12th grade) experiences. Through collaboration with the Trinity Outreach Missions Team and two open public meetings, we have outlined the beginning structure for a plan going forward. Each of these trips will also include a shared ministry team to help plan, recruit, execute, and lead alongside staff. Because of the commitment to partner with organizations that are rooted in the values of Accompaniment Mission, the best time frame we have assessed for connecting is the summer. If you would like to be part of the planning for the 2019 experience, we will having an open meeting on Tuesday, September 11 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Office Conference Room. Please come!

- 2019: Mission in the Mountains
 Flathead Lake and Lutheran
 Bible Camp
- 2020: International Mission Experience (TBD)
- 2021: ELCA Youth Gathering (in Minneapolis)

New Adult Learning on Wednesdays from 6:30–7:30 p.m. in the Living Room

While we will continue to have learning opportunities for adults on Sunday mornings, we have heard from folks that it would be great to have additional times for parallel learning. We will be experimenting with Wednesday evening as a chance to learn and grow as a community. This is for ALL adults, not just parents, who are interested growing deeper in their Christian faith and building relationships at Trinity. Topics will vary, but look to the Ministry Brochure and Trinity communications for what's coming up. Mark your calendars today!

New Sunday Faith Formation Option (4 years old – 2nd grade) during 10:30 a.m. Service

Last May, we sent out a survey to families to gauge interest in adding a Sunday Faith Formation option during our second service. The response we received was considerable, both for adding a second timeslot and for integrating families more into worship. For this second option, families will start in the worship center together at 10:30 a.m. and then be sent out together for a chance to dig deeper in God's story. There will also be a little lingering time following worship to connect with other parents or to finish a project together with the little ones. Lots of other faith communities are experimenting with this option and loving the overlap. Register online today (see box at right)!

Pastor Peter

TIME TO REGISTER!

Sunday School

Age 4-Grade 2 9-10 a.m. OR 10:30-11:45 a.m. on Sunday Mornings TIME OPTION!

Wednesday Learning

Grades 3-5 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday Evenings NOTE 6 P.M. \$50

Confirmation

START TIME! Grades 6, 7, 8, 9 6-7:30 p.m. on Wednesday Evenings \$100

Children's Choirs

Grades K-5 5-5:45 p.m. on Wednesday Evenings Free

(HOIR BEGINS SEPT. 12

WEDNESDAY LEARNING AND (ONFIRMATION BEGINS SEPT. 26 FAMILY PIZZA AT 5:30 P.M.

> SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPT. 30

Online Registration at:

www.trinitylc.org > then select REGISTER> then select 2018-19 Children and Youth Ministry

2018-19 Parent/Guardian **Faith Formation Orientation**

Dear Parents/Guardians, Is an active faith something you desire for your child? Is the responsibility of their faith formation overwhelming for you?

YOU ARE NOT ALONE!

God desires to partner with you. Trinity desires to partner with you. We are created for faith-filled community, so let's gather at The Loft in partnership!

2018-19 Parent/Guardian **Faith Formation Orientation** Sunday, September 23 The Loft (214 Main St. S in Stillwater) 4:30-6:30 p.m. Cash Bar/Snacks Provided

Contact Pastor Peter Weston Miller if you have questions about this event: pwestonmiller@trinitylc.org

We will:

Talk Mission, Vision and Goals

Distribute Calendars for 2018-19

Answer questions

Have time to share/socialize with other parents

Feel more connected and vibrant in Christ





















Enjoy these photos of our WAPO Youth Campers.











LILFELONG FAITH FORMATION







In mid-July, Trinity youth joined forces with youth from Gethsemene Lutheran Church in Hopkins for a week in the Boundary Waters! They spent one night at Wilderness Canoe Base and then five nights on trail, canoeing, portaging, and camping. This year, there are three former Trinity youth on staff at Wilderness Canoe Base: Grace Stoebner, Beatrice Lawrence, and Megan Weaver. They had an awesome summer adventuring, growing in faith, and teaching kids about the great outdoors!









Hospitality

Outrageous hospitality! Let's be known for it.

Of course we want to extend a warm welcome to people who visit for the very first time. But after a few years, some still feel new. Do you?

Of course the greeters and ushers say welcome and good morning to everyone. Do you?

Hospitality is an act of stewardship, of generosity. It's a commitment of an extra ½ hour to usher or greet on Sunday morning. It's a commitment to engage someone you have never met in 5 minutes of conversation. I have 30 minutes or 5 minutes to give. Do you?

Our pastors are relatively new to Trinity. They are fussed over—people introduce themselves, invite them to dinner, and greet them warmly whenever their paths cross. We want to know our new pastors and we want them to know us. Let's fuss over all who come to Trinity, whether they are new to Trinity or just new to us. That will be outrageous hospitality!

Please contact me with your availability to usher, greet, or do the coffee on Sunday mornings. Maybe once/month, maybe an entire month or two, maybe occasionally—whatever works for you would be great. We expect that conflicts will arise and that is never a problem.

The 9 a.m. worship service already has a team of ushers in place for November and for January. I have a vision that *everyone* will sign up in advance and both services, as well as the coffee, will be covered for the whole year. That will be outrageous hospitality! Thanks!

Ann Wolff, Hospitality Coordinator wolff701@msn.com or (651) 439-1972

Worship Texts

Below are the scripture texts that will be used on the date listed to prepare the message for worship.

September 16 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

September 23 1 Corinthians 12: 8-10

September 30 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21

October 7 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

Fall Worship

Our regular worship schedule resumes on Sunday, September 9. We welcome guest preacher, Dr. Matt Skinner, Professor of New Testament from Luther Seminary. Please also join us for a question and answer time with Dr. Skinner between the two services

Worship is the center of our lives together at Trinity, where Holy Communion is celebrated weekly at both Sunday morning services, and everyone, without exception, is invited to receive the bread and wine. Christ's table is open to all—please join us at Trinity this fall and find your place at the table!

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9 a.m.—worship led by choirs, organ, and instrumentalists, incorporating historical elements of Lutheran worship with a message relevant to our lives today.

10:30 a.m.—worship led by an ensemble of electric bass, drums, keyboards, and other instruments, the congregation engages in a time of praise and worship following the pattern of Lutheran worship.

Note there is one outdoor worship service only on Sunday, September 16 at 10 a.m. as part of TrinityFEST. Special guests will be the Barbary Coast Dixieland Showband. Join us for worship, music, food and fun!



Page Turners in the Trinity Library

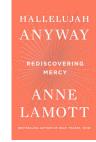
"What a miracle it is that out of these small, flat, rigid squares of paper unfolds world after world after world, worlds that sing to you, comfort and quiet or excite you. Books help us understand who we are and how we are to behave. They show us what community and friendship mean; they show us how to live and die."

— Ann Lamott

By Norma Wilson, Library Volunteer

Non-Fiction

Hallelujah Anyway: Rediscovering Mercy (241 LAMO) Ann Lamott's book shares thoughts to help each of us recognize the presence and importance of mercy everywhere—"within



us and outside us, all around us." (Riverhead Press)

Prayer Seeds: A Gathering of Blessings, Reflections, and Poems for Spiritual Growth (248.3 RUPP) Named one of the 50 best spiritual books of 2017 by Spirituality & Practice.

Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel: Meaning, Mystery, Community (226.5 KOES) Koester's study uses the symbolic language to explore literary aspects of the Gospel of John, social and historical context, and theological importance.



Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone (158.2 BROW) Brene Brown maintains that we're experiencing a spiritual crisis of disconnection.

Four practices of true belonging that encounter what we believe about others and ourselves. (Random House)

Grounded: Finding God in the World – A Spiritual Revolution (231 BASS) Diana Butler Bass, leading commentator on religion, politics, and culture argues that what appears to be a decline in religion actually signals a transformation in how people understand and experience God. This shift, from a vertical understanding of God to a God found on the horizons of nature and human community, is at the heart of a spiritual revolution that surrounds us—and that is challenging not only religious institutions but political and social ones as well.

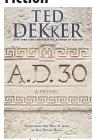
Biography/Autobiography

Educated: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis (270 WEST)
Educated is an account of the struggle for self-invention, family loyalty, and of the grief that comes from severing one's closest ties. The story gets to the heart of

what education offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes, and the will to change it. (Random House)

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis (305.5 VANC) Vance, a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, shares a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a probing look at the struggles of America's white working class. (HarperCollins)

Fiction



A.D. 30 (FIC DEKK) Dekker's novel is set in the deserts of Arabia and ancient Palestine in the year A.D. 30. An outcast daughter of a Bedouin sheikh is led to Yeshua, who speaks of a greater power than

any kingdom. Following Yeshua may help Maviah save her people, and herself. "...this is biblical fiction of the highest caliber." (Library Journal)

The Women in the Castle (FIC SHATT) Set at the end of World War II, three widows lives and fates become intertwined in a Bavarian castle that formerly hosted German high society. "The Women in the Castle stands tall among the literature that reveals new truths about one of history's most tragic eras." (USA TODAY)

Pachinko (FIC LEE)
A saga of people in exile from a homeland they never knew and caught in the indifferent arc of history. Sunja's family members endure harsh discrimination,

catastrophes, and poverty, yet joy as they rise to meet the challenges. They are bound together by deep roots as they face enduring questions of faith, family, and identity. National

Book Award Finalist

Children

Noah's Mittens (E L) This version of the Noah's Ark story seeks to explain how Noah discovered the process

of making wool felt from his sheep.



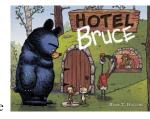
Author Lise Lunge offers notes about the history of felt making.

The Thank You Book (E M) Piggie decides to thank everyone who has touched her life. ("Everyone?" says elephant Gerald, incredulous. "You will forget someone.") A twist in the story offers a sweet ending. (Horn Book starred review)

Good People Everywhere (E G) Examples and illustrations to inspire children to grow into grateful, caring, and giving people. Also included are activity pages to help children practice skills for creating gratitude, compassion, and beauty in daily life. (Three Pebble Press)

Hotel Bruce (E H) Bruce discovers

three mice have converted his den into a hotel and humorous chaos begins. Although he eventually sends the hotel guests packing, the ending shows he



still has room in his heart, as well as his home. (Disney-Hyperion)

Dolphin Tale 2 (JUV R) Dolphin Tale 2 is another true story inspired by the life of Winter, a dolphin who was badly injured and needed a prosthetic tail to survive. In Dolphin Tale 2 Winter gets a co-star named Hope. Hope is a baby dolphin that was rescued by the Clearwater Marine Aquarium in 2010, five years and one day after Winter was rescued. (Scholastic summary)

Juma the Giraffe (E B) Tanzania! The Wild Nature Institute presents a field guide to the African animals that share Juma's home in the savanna. Parent and teacher resources to help guide discussions about the story and educate children and adults about giraffes.

Please visit the Trinity Library whenever the church offices are open! You will experience the miracle of books "that show us who we are!" (Lamott) Thank you for your book and financial donations. We are grateful for the important resources you provide Trinity readers and look forward to helping you! – The Trinity Library Team

Hospice Kit Assembly

New or gently used items:

- 1 regular-size bath towel (not longer than 48")
- 1 wash cloth

New items:

1 bath-size bar of soap

Wrapped, unscented, such as Dove Unscented for Sensitive Skin

1 toothbrush

In original, individual packaging

- 1 "pick" style comb
- 1 nail clipper
- · 6 Band-Aids

Rubber-banded together

1 jar or tube of petroleum jelly

Approx. 4 ounces or larger, lid taped

1 pair heavy duty household gloves

Kitchen type, size medium

Assembly:

- Lay items on the towel and fold towel to enclose everything inside.
- 2. Place the wrapped items in a large (2 gallon or larger) "Ziploc" plastic bag.
- 3. Include note: "Hospice Kit." The note should be visible through the bag. Squeeze the air out of the bag before sealing.

God's Work. Our Hands. Saturday, September 8 9 a.m.-noon

Global Health Ministries Project – Hospice Kit Assembly at Trinity

There are many teams providing opportunities to participate on God's Work, Our Hands Day (see Page 2).

The Hospice Kit Assembly project for Global Health Ministries requires the purchase and gathering of supplies so we wanted to alert you in advance to what is needed. The hands-on assembly itself is suitable for people across a broad age spectrum and we welcome all helpers on Saturday!

The list of what is included in each kit is very specific and is included below. You are encouraged and welcome to purchase supplies for kits as you are able. We have applied for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Grant toward purchase of some supplies, about which we do not have final word.

Hospice Kits provide comfort and needed supplies for someone who is suffering from HIV/AIDS, cancer, or other devastating illness. Kits are distributed by palliative care providers through Lutheran hospice programs that reach into villages in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Liberia and Cameroon. Members of Trinity have seen kits used when on visits with hospice teams.

Global Health Ministries is proud to have been a founding supporter of home hospice programs in Tanzania, started by Dr. Mark Jacobson, responding to the growing HIV/AIDS crisis early by supporting programs to train pastors and congregation members to serve on visitation teams. Those early programs were bold expressions of God's grace in the face of deep discrimination against people with HIV/AIDS and their families. Palliative care remains an important ministry of the Lutheran Church overseas.

For questions, contact Michele Hermansen: 612-868-2255 or michele2255@gmail.com.

OUTREACH MISSIONS

OUTREACH MISSIONS UPDATES By Michele Hermansen, Co-Chair Outreach Missions Board

Golf Tournament Revenue and Termination

The net revenue of the June 4, 2018 tournament for missions is \$16,407. We extend our sincere thanks to the Golf Tournament Committee for making the 10th and final 2018 golf tournament in support of our Outreach Mission programs another truly fun and successful day. The committee includes: Vic Thalacker, John Hodler, Marlene Harty, Wendy Klemz, and Sandy Wendt. At its meeting on July 24, the Outreach Mission Team voted to suspend the golf tournament fundraiser and extend its deep gratitude to the members of the tournament committee, especially Marlene Harty for her long leadership, for 10 years of great financial contributions to Trinity's mission programs. This recommendation was initiated from the tournament committee. Our challenge will be, how do we replace what had become the largest source for missions funding and keep things fresh?

Tanzania Trip Underway September 29–October 15

Our final preparations are under way and we hear that the anticipation of our arrival in Tanzania (especially Mwatasi) is mounting along with our excitement for the departure. It's down to the details now: gifts to bring, what to wear, packing enough but not too much, remembering the important things...

We ask for your prayers in this last month of preparation. Please pray for our team of nine travelers:

KEEP THIS TEAM HEALTHY AND STRONG AS IT PREPARES FOR THIS JOURNEY AND PROTECT EACH PERSON FROM WORRY, BOTH ABOUT PREPARATIONS AND ABOUT THOSE WHO MAY BE LEFT BEHIND. THANK YOU, LORD FOR YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROVISION THAT BROUGHT EACH OF THESE PEOPLE ONTO THIS TEAM. WE HUMBLY ASK, LORD, THAT YOU WOULD USE EACH TEAM MEMBER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ACCORDING TO THE GIFTS YOU HAVE GIVEN THEM. OPEN THEIR EYES AND HEARTS TO THE OPPORTUNITIES YOU PLACE IN FRONT OF THEM AND MAKE THEM HUMBLY AWARE OF THE DIFFERENCE THEIR PRESENCE MAKES. AND AS THEY GIVE, ALLOW THEM TO RECEIVE. THIS IS A TRIP OF ACCOMPANIMENT — WALKING ALONGSIDE. Prepare this team to learn and receive with grace. Then Lord, please, may the joy and blessings of this TRIP RADIATE OUT FROM THIS TEAM UPON THEIR RETURN FOR A LONG TIME TO COME. AMEN.

The members of our Tanzania travel team include: Michele Hermansen-team leader, Pastor Chris Bellefeuille, Ted Olson, Fred Anderson, Marie Rogger, Vic Thalacker, Rick Kloetzke, and Paul and Brenda Kaese.

A woman named Martha came and shared with our Wednesday Faith Formation 5th graders last spring. Trinity provided her with a Children's Bible for her daughter. At right is a photo and below is a note from Martha:

I am sending this email to say thank you very much for the Bible and the card. Please pass my thank you greetings to all the kids. I love you all, you are still in my heart. My daughter loves the Bible. I got to go home to Tanzania on the 18th of June and will return in the fall.

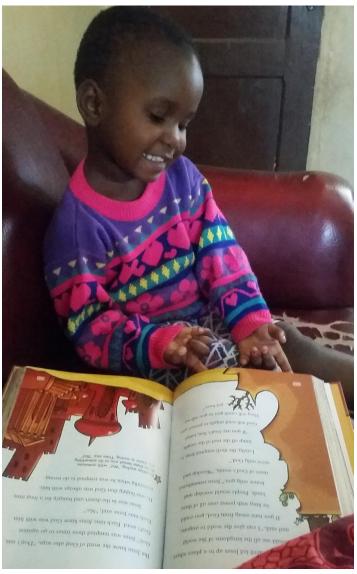
Blessings, Martha



FOOD | CLOTHING | EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Valley Outreach Volunteers Needed

What's been on your grill this summer? Did you know Valley Outreach gives out frozen meat (and lots of veggies) to each family who visits for food support? Please consider coming to help distribute food on Monday, Sept. 17, Wednesday, Sept. 19 or Friday, Sept. 21 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. or Tuesday, Sept. 18 or Thursday, Sept. 20 from 4:30 – 7:30 p.m. Please call Kathy Hagen at 651-426-7176 or email sprucehaagen@comcast.net if you are able to help!



C H R I S T I A N S Y M P A T H Y

- To family and friends of Hilmer Huber
- To family and friends of Harriett Behrman

WORSHIP

 July 22
 August 12

 9 a.m.
 192
 9 a.m.
 170

 10 a.m.
 201
 10 a.m.
 146

 July 29
 August 19

 9 a.m.
 148
 9 a.m.
 126

 10 a.m.
 207
 10 a.m.
 214

August 5 9 a.m.213 10 a.m.160

PLEASE NOTE!

The church office and building are closed on Monday, September 3 for the Labor Day holiday.

Free Parking in 3rd Street Ramp

A reminder as we return to our regular fall worship schedule, there is free parking on Sundays in the 3rd Street ramp when you enter after 6 a.m. and exit before 1 p.m.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP September 2

9 a.m. at Church and 10 a.m. at the Drive-in

Beginning September 9 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. at Church

Except Sunday, September 16 One service only at 10 a.m.

Watch Worship on Valley Access Channel 18

Sunday 11 a.m. (LIVE) Wednesday 1, 7, 11 p.m. Thursday 7, 11 a.m. Friday 4, 10 p.m. Saturday 2, 10 a.m.

TODAY

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CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 1-30, 2018

Saturday, September 1

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Sunday, September 2

9 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center 10 a.m. Hilltop Drive-In Worship: Houlton, WI 5 p.m. 60+ Singles Group: Living Room

Monday, September 3—Labor Day, Church Office/Building Closed

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

Tuesday, September 4

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9 a.m. Women's Book Club: Library

1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office 6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, September 5

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

11 a.m. Celebrating Seniors Fall Worship & Lunch: Worship Center & Garden Room

7 p.m. Welcoming Ministry Forum: Garden Room

7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room & Worship Center

Thursday, September 6

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9 a.m. YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex

6:30 p.m. Worship Ministry Team Meeting: Office Conference Room

7 p.m. Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center

Friday, September 7

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, September 8

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

9 a.m. God's Work. Our Hands. Day of Service: Meet at Trinity

Sunday, September 9—Fall Worship Schedule Resumes

9 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

10 a.m. Welcoming Ministry Forum: Garden Room

10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

5 p.m. 60+ Singles Group: Living Room

Monday, September 10

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym

7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, September 11

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9 a.m. Women's Book Club: Library

9:15 a.m. Leah Circle: Narthex

1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office

4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room

6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library

6:30 p.m. Green Team Meeting: Office Conference Room

6:30 p.m. High School Mission Trip Info Meeting: Living Room

6:30 p.m. Outreach Missions Meeting:

6:45 p.m. Anna Circle: Members' Homes

Wednesday, September 12

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9:30 a.m. Boutwell's Sr. Communion: Boutwell's Landing

1 p.m. Marion Circle: Members' Homes

5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Room

7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room & Worship Center

7 p.m. Welcoming Ministry Forum: Garden Room

Thursday, September 13

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9 a.m. YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex 9 a.m. Retired Men's Group: Garden Room

1 p.m. Dorcas Circle: Room 108B

1 p.m. Martha Circle: Living Room

7 p.m. Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center

Friday, September 14—GLOW Fall Getaway to Itasca State Park

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, September 15—GLOW Fall Getaway to Itasca State Park

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

4 p.m. Trinity Members' Art Show Opening: Narthex

6:30 p.m. Hymns & Hops: Green Space

Sunday, September 16—GLOW Fall Getaway to Itasca

State Park, TrinityFEST

10 a.m. Worship, Communion with Barbary Coast Dixieland Showband: Green Space

5 p.m. 60+ Singles Group: Living Room

Monday, September 17

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

1 p.m. Rebekah Circle: Arbor Glen Senior Living, Lake Elmo

6:30 p.m. Congregational Council Meeting: Office Conference Room

6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym

7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, September 18

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room

9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library

1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office

4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room

6 p.m. Tanzania Travel Team Meeting: Living Room

6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, September 19

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Room

7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room & Worship Center

Thursday, September 20

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9 a.m. YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex

7 p.m. Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center

7:30 p.m. Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Concert: Worship Center

Friday, September 21

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, September 22

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Sunday, September 23

9 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

10 a.m. Ministry Fair

10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

4:30 p.m. Parent/Guardian Faith Formation Orientation: The Loft, Stillwater

5 p.m. 60+ Singles Group: Living Room

Monday, September 24

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym

7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, September 25

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room

9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library

1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office

4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room

6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, September 26

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Room

5:30 p.m. Family Pizza: Garden Room

6 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-5): Upper & Lower

6 p.m. Confirmation (Gr. 6-9): Upper & Lower Levels

6:30 p.m. Adult Learning: Living Room

7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room & Worship Center

Thursday, September 27

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

9 a.m. YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex

11 a.m. Knitting Ministry: Commons

7 p.m. Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center

Friday, September 28

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, September 29

rday, September 29

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library 8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Sunday, September 30

9 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

3 p.m. Lake Wobegon Brass Band Concert:

Worship Center
5 p.m. 60+ Singles Group: Living Room



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Saturday, September 15 Art Show Opening at 4 p.m. Hymns & Hops at 6:30 p.m. **Sunday, September 16 Outdoor Worship at 10 a.m.**Barbary Coast Dixieland Showband
Food • Kid's Activities

