



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

115 4th St. N
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-439-7400
www.trinitylc.org

February 2020
volume 42, issue 2

trinity TODAY

Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world.



**TRINITY TIRED
MEN'S TROUPE**

For busy men who
want to connect with
God and each other

Trinity Tired Men's Troupe working at a local Habitat for Humanity house. More information about the group at www.trinitylc.org > CONNECTIONS > GROUPS.



LEAD PASTOR **THE REV. DR. CHRIS BELLEFEUILLE**

Nothing?

Siblings in Christ,

I have heard it a hundred times but this time it came from the mouth of someone so wise, so open, so expansive in their thinking, it was like hearing it for the first time. "My kids are now nothing. My grandchild will be raised as nothing."

Nothing.

We work hard as a faith community to support (grand)parents in raising their (grand)children to never know a day that they aren't aware of God's love, care and call into the world. Many of have responded to the demands of Christian parenthood faithfully. And still many of us hear that our young (and not so young) adult children are not interested in attending church. We hope they will come back when they get married. Some do. We hope they will come back when they have the first baby. Some do. Certainly, when it's time to start Sunday School?

There are articles abundant about the "nones" and the formers who no longer attend church and don't really see it happening anytime soon – no matter how carefully their parents tended to their faith formation. Parents and grandparents ask again and again: "Will my (grand)children have faith? Who will be their community throughout all that life brings? Who will bring them meals when babies are born and walk with them in tragedy? Will they know God?"

We cry out in worry: "If you don't raise your children as *something*, they will choose *nothing*." To which someone I love once said: "You make it sound like there is something wrong with people who choose nothing."

We even call people that. She's Lutheran. He's Jewish. They're Hindu. Him? He's nothing.

Nothing. I know it's not intended as hurtful. But it turns out, it is hurtful.

No one is nothing. So who are the people that are choosing not to come back?

As we said, they are our kids and grand-kids. They are baptized and confirmed teens, young and older adults. There is a growing number of us who do not align with a faith tradition. There is a growing number of us who reject organized religion in any form. Some don't believe in God. Some do believe in God but haven't found a church/synagogue/mosque that offers as much meaning or community as what they find in Sunday morning yoga and brunch with friends.

That's not nothing. It's real and it speaks volumes.

No matter what people say about God, people seek communities of belonging and meaning in their lives and work.

We get caught in language like: "They need to be in worship. They need to help with Sunday School. They need to pledge." And, yes, those of us whose faith blossoms by engagement in a faith community understand the power of worshipping, serving and giving. And we must admit, we can have an understandably narrow vision of what a life of faith looks like.

The thing is, people are tougher to define in old, familiar categories and often less likely to participate in old, familiar institutions. Young adults don't want to hear about how hard it is for us to adapt to new things, to learn new languages, new pronouns, new technology. While they can have a great interest in history, they don't find "we have always done it that way" a compelling reason to keep doing anything.

They do ask that we respect them as full human partners, we pay attention to what matters to them and we try and learn. To be willing to stretch until our muscles ache with the effort. And to not judge when their spiritual lives are painted a different color than our own.

As the body of Christ, our challenge is to trust Christ. To trust that God's work is not limited to membership rosters and church buildings. Those of us who find joy, community and the presence of God in a worshipping community can celebrate and give thanks. And trust that the holy work of forming faith is never in vain. God continues to work in and through people in every walk of life. What might it mean for us to be alert to God's work in those we might have once worried were going to be a "nothing"?

We who have committed our lives to the Gospel of Christ, understand the call to tell the story and to enfold all people in the crazy, capacious grace of God. Trinity works hard to connect the good news of Jesus Christ with the lives of human beings in all walks of life. We work hard to create a community of belonging and to support people in finding meaning in their lives and work. We seek to know God. And we will continue to do so.

Even as we live in hope of being surprised by God,

Pastor Chris

What about the Lord's Prayer?

As mentioned in past issues of *Trinity Today*, we stretched ourselves during Advent to experience more expansive language for God as we prayed The Prayer Jesus Taught Us. Then we invited the Rev. Dr. Barbara Lundblad to preach and host a conversation on Jan. 12. While some did not get the message about the Jan. 12 conversation, we did have a fair number of folks in attendance.

Now what? Well, if you like to work out, you know the benefit of testing the limits of a muscle group, then letting it rest. And then coming back to that muscle group regularly and gently over time.

For now, we will keep the familiar term of address in the Lord's Prayer most of the time. We may expand the address as a liturgical season, thematic worship service or Scripture reading calls for it. And we will host another conversation about language for God (at a date to be determined) under the Respectful Conversations model. There we can explore our traditions, biblical grounding and personal experiences with expansive God language through honest conversation and deep listening.

In the meantime, we will continue, as we have for the past many years, to use the host of beautiful images for God offered by our Scripture, to call God by the many names offered in Scripture and to remember that God is beyond our imagining.

As your pastors, we encourage you, in your personal prayer and devotion time, to keep gently stretching those new language muscle groups. Experiment with ways of addressing God: Creator, Holy One, Mothering God, Spirit of Life, Source of Light, Sheltering Spirit, etc. Seek the image of God in all created things. Explore artists, musicians and poets as they express God in holy ways. (Jan Richardson <http://paintedprayerbook.com/> is a beautiful starting point.)

And if you want a coffee conversation, please just let us know!

O, God, beyond our imagining, open our hearts, minds, eyes, ears and bodies to find you in unexpected places. Amen.

PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION
THE REV. PETER WESTON MILLER



Try Not To Flinch

One of the things that I love (and also loath) about my children is that they pick up on everything.

The mood. The mannerisms. My movements. Everything.

Our kids, are little imitators. They are sponges. They pick up on everything.

It might have been something on the news or a response to a story, but somewhere along the line our children picked up on the strong reaction/question:

“What THE!?!...”

The first time I heard it repeated, I flinched. My heart sort of sunk. I tried to ignore it.

And of course, my daughter even picked up on the flinch. The reaction. So she knew that it hit a chord.

Thankfully, she hasn’t started exploring the words that often follow in that phrase.

But needless to say, we are watching our language. And that hasn’t been the only expression.

Flinching and Faith Formation

I’ve been thinking about that “flinch” a lot when it comes to Faith Formation and encouraging our families to stay the course.

It’s hard. Our families are often pulled by many different demands on time, commitments, values, and activities.

I’ve talked through lots of options for parents whose kids, for one reason or another, aren’t feeling church right now.

And often what I think our young people are looking for is the “flinch.” They are looking for our reaction.

They want to know the boundary. Whether they will strike a chord. To see how much faith matters.

And my encouragement, despite the fact that we will ALL flinch, is to keep pastoring their families. To stick with it. To try to respond in ways to point their child/ren to what matters about church and the values that you hold.

It’s really hard not to flinch.

But what we often see with families who stay the course is that those faithful values bear fruit in the long term.

The Good News too is that God knows what we are going through and what our families are going through.

The worries. The fears. The challenges. The complaints. And everything in between.

And God doesn’t flinch.

God stays the course with us. No matter what. Reminding us that we are beloved and that it gets better.

So try to not flinch, and even when you do, remember that God is with you.

Always,

Pastor Peter

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

– Luke 2: 29-32

Behind the Screen A Social Media Presentation Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 6 pm Worship Center at Trinity

Trinity is partnering with Youth Service Bureau to provide this FREE event. What is the impact of technology on our lives? Are we addicted? What about our mental health? In this session you will learn how teen brain development is literally being rewired to be hooked to smartphones. Attendees will gain an understanding for digital well-being and practical tools to stay connected without screens. For parents, caring adults, youth, service groups and professionals. Please register at ysb.net/event.



Trinity Financial Update

December Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2020

	This Year	Last Year	'20 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	443,790	446,606	1,350,000	33%
Other Income	124,889	217,925	342,550	36%
Total Income	<u>\$ 568,679</u>	<u>\$ 664,531</u>	<u>\$ 1,692,550</u>	
less: Expenses	531,703	622,681	1,691,330	31%
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>\$ 36,976</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 41,850</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,220</u></u>	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,410,152	3,598,306 *
Increase (Decrease)	<u>(27,983)</u>	<u>(27,590)</u>
Long-Term Debt - End of December	<u><u>\$ 3,382,169</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,570,716</u></u>
Line of Credit Balance - December 31	\$ -	\$ -

* Consolidation/Refinance of Existing Debt in May, 2018

Financial Note

Financially, total results for YTD December 2019 find us very close to last year at this time, showing a total surplus of \$37K, v. a \$42K surplus in 2018. Contribution Income of \$177K for the month of December 2019 is \$7K less than December 2018. YTD our Contribution Income is \$3K less than a year ago. Total Income is up \$9K over YTD December 2018. Operating Expenses are up \$11K YTD v. last year at this time, a reflection of increased activity in Learning and Care ministries. Personnel Expense is \$5K less YTD than last year. Our Line of Credit Balance stands at \$0 as of 12/31/19!

DID YOU KNOW?

You can make a donation to Trinity anytime with your smartphone.



GIVE BY TEXT:
Text 651-383-1911 with the amount you would like to contribute, include the dollar sign.



GIVE APP: Download the Give Plus Church (Give+) app to your smartphone. Under Find Church, enter: Trinity Lutheran Church.



QUICK LINK: Scan the QR code above using your smartphone camera to go to our online giving page.



A Prayer for the New Year from the United Nations Environmental Programme, 1990 We join with the earth and with each other

To bring new life to the land
To restore the waters
To refresh the air
We join with the earth and with
each other
To renew the forests
To care for the plants
To protect the creatures
We join with the earth and with
each other
To celebrate the seas
To rejoice in the sunlight
To sing the songs of the stars
We join with the earth and with
each other
To recreate the human community
To promote justice and peace
To remember our children
We join with the earth and with
each other
We join together as many and
diverse expressions
of one loving mystery: for the
healing of the
earth and the renewal of all life.

From *Earth Prayer*,
edited by Elizabeth Roberts & Elias Amidon
Available in the Trinity Library, 291.2 ROBE

February 2020 • trinity.today.

Welcome to the front desk, Linda!

A few of you may know me from my position as Food Service Manager at Trinity Lutheran for the last six years. Just recently, following my time helping to keep the ship afloat during Jeannie's convalescence, I accepted a new position as Ministry Support and Registration Coordinator. I am looking forward to having a more hands-on role at Trinity and I appreciate your patience as I get up and running. I will still be assisting with any food and hospitality needs as well. If anyone has an idea for a less cumbersome job title, I'm all ears! I'm thankful for the opportunity to support Trinity.

– Linda Flood
Food Service Manager, Ministry Support
& Registration Coordinator



PHOTOS: Linda and her family, Linda's preferred self-portrait.

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

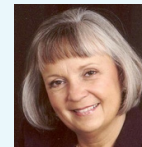
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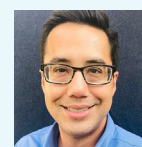
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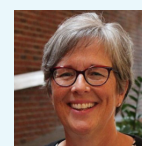
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To reach all members of the council,
send email to council@trinitylc.org.
More information including minutes
and reports at www.trinitylc.org >
WELCOME > WHO WE ARE >
COUNCIL.



WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship Texts

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

Feb. 2 **Luke 2: 22-40**

Feb. 16 **Matthew 5: 21-37**

Feb. 9 **Matthew 5: 13-20**

Feb. 23 **Matthew 17: 1-9**



Ash Wednesday Feb. 26

Noon Worship in the Chapel with light lunch to follow

6 pm Dinner in the Garden Room

7 pm Worship for all ages in the Worship Center

Wednesdays during Lent March 4, 11, 18, 25 & April 1

10 am Worship in the Chapel with coffee, bars & fellowship to follow

6 pm Wednesday Learning Series in the Garden Room

My Neighbor 2020: How to live as a faithful Christian in an election year

7 pm Worship for all ages in the Worship Center

Palm Sunday April 5

8:30 am Youth Fundraiser Breakfast in the Garden Room

10 am Worship (ONE SERVICE ONLY)

Maundy Thursday April 9

7 pm Worship in the Worship Center

Good Friday April 10

6:30 am Men's Breakfast in the Garden Room

11 am Interactive Good Friday Worship for all ages in the Worship Center

7 pm Worship in the Worship Center

Saturday April 11

11 am Easter Fair & Egg Hunt (in collaboration with Lake Area Discovery Center)

5 pm Easter Vigil in the Worship Center

Easter Sunday April 12

7, 8:30, 9:45 and 11 am Worship in the Worship Center

Worship Hospitality

By Trudi Lohne, Hospitality Coordinator

trudishelpinghands@gmail.com

612-839-9006

Hello Worship Hospitality Teammates! The final worship service of 2019 has ended. Offering plates put away, nametag baskets restocked. Creamer and sugar packet baskets refilled, counter cleaned, kitchenette light off, door closed. While walking up the stairs to get my coat, I paused and said, "Thank you, God, for leading me to Trinity, and for giving me the opportunity this past year to volunteer to coordinate other worship volunteers. With you all things are possible. Amen."

In 2019, there were 1,031 worship hospitality roles available. This included Greeters, Ushers, 10:30 a.m. Communion Assistants, Coffee Crew, and Treat Providers for Sundays, Holy Week, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day worship services.

I'm truly grateful for each person who helped fill a role. It's especially nice to see families helping on our team; working together side-by-side serving God.

While this is my first endeavor coordinating worship hospitality volunteers, being a life-long church volunteer, growing up on a farm in a multigenerational family, and being taught by my dad to help others has prepared me for the task at hand. I realized this year that hospitality has been woven into the patchwork fabric of my life. Light bulb moment, for sure.

In 2020, I'll strive to make our team communication more efficient and get our online signup site link to anyone who wants to volunteer on our team. Currently hospitality roles through May 17 are listed on our SignUp Genius site. And, signup is available 24/7/365. Worship Hospitality Team 2020 goal is to add 20 new volunteers.

Thank you, one and all, for helping on Trinity's Worship Hospitality Team. I look forward to working with all y'all to show members, visitors, and our community Trinity's Radical Hospitality. Let Your Light Shine!

STILLWATER EMERGENCY WINTER SHELTER

Feb. 2 through March 7 at Trinity

Trinity is partnering in a community initiative that includes the Stillwater area faith community, service organizations, Washington County HOST team, and individuals called to provide potential life-saving shelter to those experiencing homelessness during the winter.

Daytime Warming Space and Overnight Winter Shelter location will be at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater from **Feb. 2 through March 7, 2020.**

- **Daytime Warming Space** open **daily** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and
- **Overnight Winter Shelter** open when the forecast is for 10 below zero Fahrenheit for more than three hours from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m.

Questions? Contact John Hodler at johnhodler@gmail.com, Jeff Anderson at jeffa409@gmail.com or Roger Funk at roger@rlfunk.com.

PHOTOS: Thank you to everyone who came to our information and volunteer training sessions. The response has been amazing!

OUTREACH
MISSIONS

CASH DONATIONS are welcome and needed. Please make check payable to Trinity Lutheran Church, indicate "Emergency Winter Shelter" in the memo line.

Mail to:
Trinity Lutheran Church
PO Box 339
115 4th St. N
Stillwater, MN 55082

Or drop off in the church office.





SOLO 55+ PLUS

Singles Group
for Ages 55 & Up

**Solo 55 Plus: Over 55,
Single and Active?**

**First Monday Lunch Gathering
Feb. 3 from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Living Room at Trinity

Please use the 4th Street doors
(main entrance on West side)

Come meet other singles and join us for
this thriving faith-based social group.

Regular gathering each month now on
the first Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Please use the 4th Street entrance and
proceed to the Living Room in the

lower level near the Library. For a list
of other weekly member activities or

more information, please send e-mail to:
SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com.



Our Sacred Selves: Women's Weekend Retreat February 7-9 at Assisi Heights in Rochester, MN Cost: \$175

Come for time away to be refreshed, spiritually uplifted, make new friends and strengthen connections with each other and with God. Focusing on Our Sacred Selves, we will learn scripture-based Spiritual practices, enjoy creativity, contemplate and together unfold the truth of who we are as beloved children of God.

A few words from our participants in the November retreat (see photos at right):

I was somewhat reluctant to come on the retreat but I'm encouraging all to save the dates, save your money now, and come. You'll feel beloved and cared for and well fed—with food for your body and for your mind and for your spirit! Pastor Chris and Zanny Johnson—and the team—are highly capable leaders who will stimulate your senses and inspire you to live your life as truly beloved by God! ~Kristie Anderson

Take the time to get away and enjoy the company of wonderful and supportive women in our congregation!!! ~Jenny Rediske

Make time for YOU! With a busy life and often many pressures and responsibilities, taking time for YOU will refresh and renew your spirit! ~Joan Fogelberg

Led by Pastor Chris, Zanny Johnson and our fabulous small group of volunteers, Sandy Wendt, Lucinda White and Rita Friesen.

Included in the cost is two nights accommodations in your own room, all food and materials. Please register at www.trinitylc.org > CONNECTIONS > RETREATS.



UPCOMING GLOW/AWE EVENTS:

LAKE ELMO PARK RESERVE

Saturday, Feb. 1, 2-4:30 pm

Gather at the warming center at 2 p.m. We'll be hiking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing or walking. Kids are welcome. Bring your own equipment. Hot chocolate and conversation will follow at the fire pit. Questions? Contact Jill Longnecker at ijnlongy@msn.com.

"Not for Sale" at the History Theater in St. Paul

Saturday, April 4 at 2 pm, Cost: \$30

Meet at Trinity at 1 p.m. to carpool. Not For Sale: A rising star in real estate business put his career on the line when he began to represent families of color as they attempt to buy homes in the all-white neighborhoods of St. Paul and Minneapolis. Sign-up at church in the Commons Area. Due date for sign-up and payment: Sunday, Feb. 23. Checks to be made out to Trinity Lutheran Church. Questions? Contact Mary Soderholm at mes1135@live.com or 651-439-0754.

WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL FORUM

Bill McKibben: Building a Movement to Stop Climate Change

Tuesday, March 17 at Noon

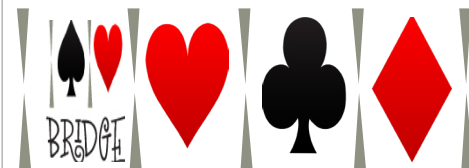
Meet in the Trinity parking lot at 10:15 a.m. to carpool. Please consider being a driver. Free event open to all! Mark your calendars for this exciting event. Signup will begin Feb. 9 in the Commons at church or contact Joan Fogelberg at joan@123m.com.

Bill McKibben is an environmentalist, Educator, and Author. He is the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The author of fifteen books, his book from 1989, *The End of Nature*, is regarded as the first book for a general audience on climate change. He also writes for The New York Review of Books, National Geographic, and Rolling Stone. He has received numerous awards for his writing and has received honorary degrees from 18 colleges and universities.

Group Spiritual Direction



Growth and blessings come when we share our spiritual journeys with one another. Groups are now forming for the winter session, which happens every other week for six weeks. Times and dates will be determined by the interested parties. Contact Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org.



BRIDGE FOR TRINITY

Monday, Feb. 3 at 8:45 am
Boutwell's Brownstone A Bldg.

Bridge players of all levels are welcome the first Monday of every month at Boutwell's Brownstone A Building, 5450 Nolan Parkway. We start playing at 8:45 a.m. and we're done at 11:45 a.m. Leave early, come late, bring friends, come alone. Coffee is provided. We also like to laugh, learn, and have fun. \$5/ time contributes to Trinity's mission and ministry. For more information, call the church office to get in touch with Nancy Hokanson, Carol Huber, Phyllis Paulson, or Ann Wolff.



RETIREMENT MEN'S GROUP EVENTS

More information about this group at www.trinitylc.org > CONNECTIONS > GROUPS > RETIREMENT MEN'S GROUP

Snowshoe Event

Wednesday, Feb. 19 at 10 am
William O'Brien State Park, \$25

Everyone is welcome to participate in the February Retired Men's snowshoeing event!

Meet at the William O'Brien Visitor Center for a one-hour snowshoe trek on groomed trails. Relax and enjoy lunch served afterwards in the visitor center. The cost of \$25 includes snowshoes, lessons, poles, and lunch. Kerri Kolstad of WAHOO! ADVENTURES will lead the trek.

RSVP required.
Contact Jerry Herbst at gwherbst@comcast.net or 715-808-0571.



Get outside and play!

Twin Cities Auto Show at the Minneapolis Convention Center

Wednesday, March 11

Meet at Trinity at 10 am to carpool
\$6 at the door

Compare more than 600 vehicles from 35 plus brands—foreign and domestic. See new models in every category, from compacts and family sedans to SUVs, electric vehicles, and luxury cars. Learn about advancements in technology.

Parking information will be available for drivers. Questions? Contact Gene Ecker at 651-323-0777 or gene.ecker@gmail.com.



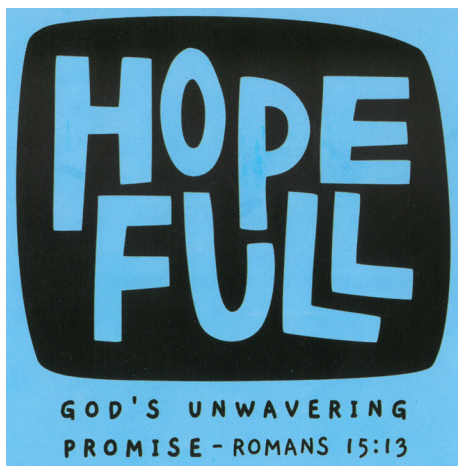
PHOTOS from confirmation service project where our youth shopped for hygiene items for the homeless shelter.



3rd-5th Grade Roller Skating Fun | Sunday, Feb. 23 at 1 pm, \$11
3-5th graders! Come have fun with your friends! We are going roller skating 1-3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23. Meet at Wooddale Fun Zone in Woodbury (www.wooddalefunzone.com). Please bring \$7 for skating and \$4 for skate rental. Extra for snacks or arcade. If your child needs a ride please let us know. Parents welcome to come along and join us for some fun! Questions? Contact Erica Kanewischer at eikanewischer@gmail.com or 651-470-5772, or Julie Jolivet at jjolivet@trinitylc.org or 612-210-5327.



Run, Play, Skip & Jump! | Wednesday, Feb. 19, 6-7 pm in the Gym
Winter got you feeling crazy? Join us in the gym to run, play, skip and jump your winter blues away. Geared toward families with children ages pre-K to grade 5, we will be meeting once a month on Wednesday evenings to make new friends and get to know other families at Trinity! We will meet most nights in the Gym. Fun events and service projects are planned for each month. Come at 5:30 p.m. for family pizza night and after we gather, head upstairs for The Current Worship at 7:07 p.m. To read more visit www.trinitylc.org > LEARNING > FAMILY. Questions? Contact Angie Hong at algoodri@hotmail.com or Karen Wasmundt at kem5678@hotmail.com.



Summer Camp at WAPO Registration now open!

www.trinitylc.org > Learning >
Summer > Camps
Spots fill quickly, so don't delay!



WAPO One-day Camp

Completed Grades K-2

Wednesday, July 22
8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost: \$40

Counselors will lead kids through a fun schedule that includes crafts, devotions, music, water activities, treats from the canteen and a ton of games. Parents must transport kids to and from camp.

WAPO Seeds Camp

Completed Grades 1-3

July 17-19 Cost: \$185

Knowing that this may be some kid's first camp experience, our counselors will spend every moment with these campers. They will provide a safe and caring environment filled with music, Bible study, campfires, crafts, water activities and games.

WAPO Youth Camp

Completed Grades 4-8

July 19-24 Cost: \$470

The week is packed with a variety of activities that are meant to impact kids for life. Each day includes Bible study, chapel, cabin activities, free time, field games, campfire.

Family Camp

June 5-7 OR Aug. 14-16

Join us for a weekend of faith formation and fun for the whole family! Create memories with one another through classic camp activities but also be challenged through age-specific programming. We are excited for a weekend growing in relationship with one another and Jesus Christ. More info: www.campwapo.org/camp/wapo#family-camp



Summer 2020 High School Mission Trip to Puerto Rico Watch for upcoming sponsorship opportunities!

A group of 46 high school kids and 10 adults will be representing Trinity from June 27 – July 3 as they travel to Puerto Rico. Mission trips like this require considerable planning and support so look for these missionaries seeking sponsorships and holding various fundraisers both at church and in the Stillwater community in the coming weeks (like the Parent's Night Out below!). Read more at www.trinitylc.org > LEARNING > YOUTH > HIGH SCHOOL.

Parent's Night Out!

Friday, Feb. 14 from 6-9 pm

Our high school youth are providing babysitting services at church on Valentine's night to raise money for their mission work in Puerto Rico this summer. Watch for more details and sign-ups at church. For ages 18 months and up. Questions? Contact Jenny Hanlon at Jennyhanlon3@gmail.com.

ADULT FAITH FORUM

Sundays at 10:30 am
Garden Room

Feb. 2 Doctrine of Discovery and Native American faith with Barbara Fairbanks, presenter

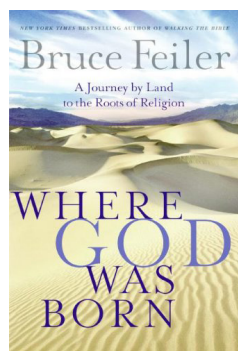
Feb. 9 Speaker TBD, watch for details at church

Feb. 16 & 23 Series: Entering The Passion of Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

National "I Love to Read" Month By Norma Wilson, Library Volunteer

I Love to Read about Faith



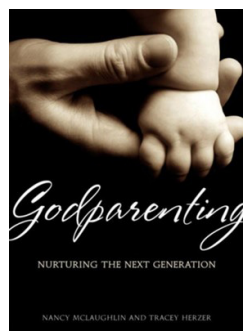
Where God Was Born: A Journey By Land to the Roots of Religion (200 FEIL) Bruce Feiler, also authored *Walking the Bible and Abraham*. In this book "he travels through the heart of the Middle

East—Israel, Iraq, and Iran—and examines the question: Is religion tearing us apart ... or can it bring us together? ...Feiler uncovers little-known details about the common roots of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and affirms the importance of the Bible in today's world." William Morrow Publishing

Fearless Faith: 100 Devotions for Girls (JUV S) Shankles devotional book, for girls age 8 and up, provides questions and activities. Each day "includes a Scripture verse, an encouraging message, and a corresponding activity or set of questions to frame the day and a takeaway for the real world. Readers will grow more confident in their faith, find ways to positively

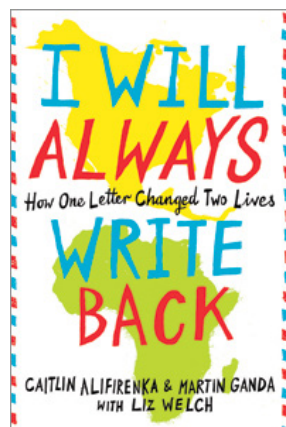


impact the world around them, and seek the beauty in everyday life." Zondervan Publishers



Godparenting: Nurturing the Next Generation (234 MCLA)

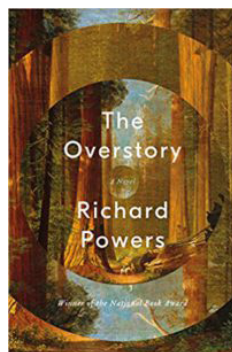
I Love to Read About Culture and Environment



I Will Always Write Back (YA 305.2 CAIT) Ages 12 and up "The power of writing brings together two teen pen pals in an unlikely, friendship." This nonfiction book begins with

12-year-preteen, Caitlin, whose seventh-grade class is corresponding with kids across the world. Caitlin chooses Zimbabwe. This exchange demonstrates the impact one person's life can have on another. Adapted – Publisher's Weekly Annex, starred review Sarah J. Robbins

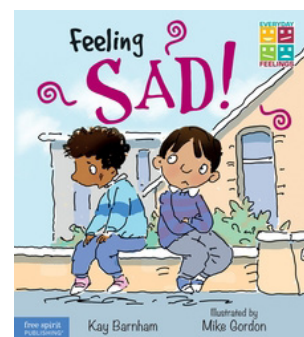
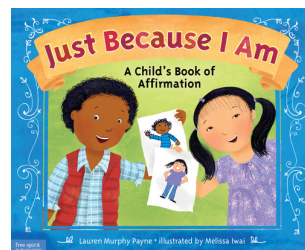
The Overstory: A Novel (FIC POWE) The characters in this Pulitzer Prize winning book are linked by survival of both trees and human beings. "For Powers, however, political or environmental activism becomes a filter through which to consider the connectedness of all things..." "The world starts here," Powers insists. "This is the merest beginning. Life can do anything." Kirkus Reviews Starred



I Love to Read New Children's Books
Parents of young children: is your child

learning to read? The Trinity Library has a wonderful faith-based section of leveled "I Can Read" books. As you read with your child, how special it would be to read stories about Jesus. They are published as a part of all quality "I Can Read Books." Check them out!

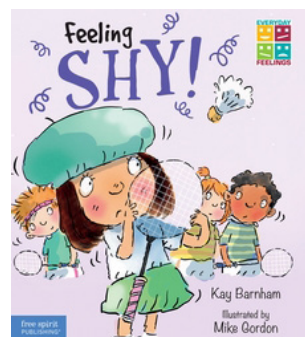
Just Because I Am (Y P) "Just Because I Am" invites little ones to love, accept, and feel good about themselves exactly as they are. A special section for parents, teachers, and caregivers includes activities and discussion questions to use with children." Adapted – Free Spirit Publishers



Feeling Sad! Everyday Feeling (E B) Rio helps his friends when they feel sad. He eases the sadness for a friend who has to go to a new school; he gets help

from an adult when another friend seems sad. When Rio himself is feeling sad, it's time to reach out and talk with others to make himself feel better." Adapted – Free Spirit Publishing

Feeling Shy! Everyday Feeling (E B) Lily notices when others feel shy and helps them overcome their shyness. She helps a new student

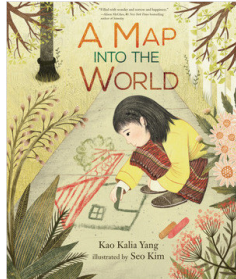


break out of her shell, urges a friend to join in at a party, and coaxes her sister when feeling bashful. Lily goes to a new club and feels timid. Can she

- continued on next page -

follow her own example and move past her shy feelings? Adapted – Free Spirit Publishing

A Map Into the World (E Y) Yang tells the “story of a young girl seeking beauty and connection in a busy world. As the seasons change, so too does a Hmong girl’s world. She moves into a new home with her family and encounters both birth and death. As this curious girl explores life inside her house and beyond, she collects bits of the natural world.” Carolrhoda Books



Find what you love to read in the Trinity Library! It is located by the Third Street ramp on the lower level of the church.



Dear People of Trinity,

I just celebrated my 65th birthday and for most of the past year have been riding an emotional roller coaster filled with prayer, listening, discerning, wrestling, researching retirement details, telling my husband Tom “yes let’s do it” one day and “no not yet” the next day. Much to Tom’s relief, my roller coaster ride has ended. Peace now replaces confusion. I will retire at the end of this school year. We will sell our house this summer and move to our cabin in NW Wisconsin. The process to get here has been faith forming! Did you catch that kids? Faith Milestones continue into old age! Praise be to God!

Thank you, people of Trinity, for the honor and privilege to walk beside you in a variety of staff roles the past 15 years. So many changes and such a steadfast, faithful God on the journey with us! My heart overflows with gratitude and thanksgiving for every day and every relationship!

The leadership of Trinity places high priority on faith formation of our children and families. I encourage you all to welcome, love, support and lead with my successor as you continue to uphold the mission of Trinity – Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world – loving God and loving neighbor!

But I’m not out the door yet! Between now and the first week of June, volunteer leaders and I will lead 19 Sunday morning Children’s Faith Formation sessions, eight Faith Milestone sessions with families, an Easter Fair and Egg Hunt with LADC, and continue to development a sustaining plan around Grace Spaces and Worship Activity Bags. With God and your partnership, we will finish this school year strong. With God and your leadership, the transition caused by my retirement will be seamless.

I close my letter with this quote from Pastor Chris’ January 2020 *Trinity Today* article: The words of Isaiah continue to hold forth promise for the people of God today. God promises to be at work in our lives, individually and collectively. Not as a puppet master – that was ruled out when God invited us to be co-creators with God. Instead, God promises to roost in our lives through the power of the Holy Spirit breathed into us by the living Christ. The Spirit brings new life, capacity, giftedness, perspective and hope. The Spirit empowers us to move into an uncertain future. Equipping us for what tomorrow may bring. And above all, creating a community in which to thrive.

With Gratitude and Love,

Julie Jolivet

Children & Family Ministry Coordinator (birth – 5th grade)

why trinity?

Because God
first loved us,
we live as Jesus in the world,
loving God and
loving neighbor.

core values

Exceptional Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Faith Formation
Compassionate Action

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To family and friends of
Max Evensen
- To family and friends of
George Speers

welcome

To read our full welcome statement please visit our web site at www.trinitylc.org > WELCOME > WHO WE ARE > RECONCILING IN CHRIST.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

2019	Dec. 29
Dec. 20	10 a.m.217
7 p.m.33	
Dec. 22	2020
9 a.m.243	Jan. 5
10:30 a.m.151	9 a.m.223
	10:30 a.m.170
Dec. 24	Jan. 12
11 a.m.242	9 a.m.216
2 p.m.246	10:30 a.m.212
3 p.m.401	
4 p.m.572	Jan. 19
9 p.m.347	9 a.m.209
	10:30 a.m.151
Dec. 25	
10 a.m. NA	

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

The Current Worship at 7:07 pm
whenever Faith Formation meets

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.

trinity TODAY

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Articles for the next *Trinity Today* (March issue) are due Monday, Feb. 10, to begin arriving in mailboxes Friday, Feb. 21.

Office: 651-439-7400; **Fax:** 651-430-2935

Email: info@trinitylc.org

Trinity Today is available on Trinity's web site at www.trinitylc.org (click NEWS to download a PDF).

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Most of us have had an experience with an email or phone scam that has ranged from irritating to downright criminal. And we have certainly been frustrated and sad that many of you have received fraudulent email appearing to be from staff at Trinity. If you receive an unusual or vague email that appears to be from Trinity, please delete it or check with the staff person directly.

According to the FBI's 2018 Internet Crime Report, the cost of US cybercrime nearly doubled between 2017 and 2018, to \$2.7 billion. The Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) received an average of 900 scam reports per day in 2018, and the cost of cybercrime in 2018 was up an incredible 93 percent on 2017 figures. While we're all getting smarter at being aware of potential scams, those are concerning numbers, as scammers continue to change their methods to become harder to spot. We want to share some helpful information about protecting yourself against online scams, please visit USA Gov Scams and Frauds at: <https://www.usa.gov/scams-and-frauds>.

Thank you to our partners at CCB Technology for passing along this helpful information.

Angel Tree Thanks

Now that Angel Tree 2019 is officially a "wrap," many thanks to all who made it possible once again:

- committee members who contacted family caregivers,
- congregation members who took tags off of Gloria Williamson's beautiful tree and purchased, wrapped and returned gifts to church,
- those who helped fund purchase of gift cards for family caregivers,
- those who organized and prepared gifts for delivery, and
- those who helped deliver the gifts so willingly.

You each know who you are and that you contributed to making the Christmas holiday a bit brighter for dozens of children and their caregivers while their parents are incarcerated.

– Wendy Worner, Angel Tree Coordinator



Christmas Carden

IN MEMORY OF:

Parents John & Vivian, Sister Jeanie

.....John Sutherland

GIVEN BY:

CALENDAR FEBRUARY 1-29, 2020

Saturday, February 1

- 8 am AA Meeting: Library
- 8 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 2 pm GLOW/AWE Event: Lake Elmo Park Reserve

Sunday, February 2

- 9 am Traditional Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 9 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 10:30 am Contemporary Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Adult Faith Forum: Garden Room

Monday, February 3

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 8:45 am Bridge for Trinity: Boutwells
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 11 am Solo 55 Plus Singles Group: Living Room
- 6:30 pm Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 pm Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, February 4

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9:30 am Women's Book Club: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 1 pm Prayer Group: Church Office
- 3 pm Quilting Ministry: Living Room
- 6 pm AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, February 5

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 5 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal: Heritage Chapel
- 5:30 pm Family Pizza Dinner: Garden Room
- 6 pm Faith Formation Confirmation (Gr. 6-9): Upper & Lower Levels
- 7 pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 7:07 pm The Current Worship: Worship Center
- 8 pm Wednesday Night Hoops: Gym

Thursday, February 6

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 7 pm Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center
- 7 pm AA Meeting: Library

Friday, February 7—Women's Retreat, Rochester, MN

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center

Saturday, February 8—Women's Retreat, Rochester, MN

- 8 am AA Meeting: Library
- 8 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center

Sunday, February 9—Women's Retreat, Rochester, MN

- 9 am Traditional Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 9 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 10:30 am Contemporary Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Adult Faith Forum: Garden Room
- 3 pm Encore Wind Ensemble Concert: Worship Center

Monday, February 10

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 1 pm Rebekah Circle: Library
- 6:30 pm Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 pm Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, February 11

- 7:30 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9:15 am Leah Circle: Narthex
- 9:30 am Women's Book Club: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center

- 1 pm Prayer Group: Church Office
- 3 pm Quilting Ministry: Living Room
- 6 pm AA Meeting: Library
- 6:45 pm Anna Circle Meeting: Members' Homes

Wednesday, February 12

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9:30 am Boutwell's Sr. Communion: Boutwell's Landing
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 1 pm Marion Circle Meeting: Members' Homes
- 5 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal: Heritage Chapel
- 5:30 pm Family Pizza Dinner: Garden Room
- 6 pm Faith Formation Confirmation (Gr. 6-9): Upper & Lower Levels
- 7 pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 7:07 pm The Current Worship: Worship Center
- 8 pm Wednesday Night Hoops: Gym

Thursday, February 13

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 1 pm Martha Circle Meeting: Living Room
- 1:30 pm Dorcas Circle Meeting: Members' Homes
- 6:30 pm Finance Team Meeting: Office Conference Room
- 7 pm Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center
- 7:30 pm St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Concert: Worship Center

Friday, February 14

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 6 pm Parent's Night Out: High School Fundraiser: Garden Room & Gym

Saturday, February 15

- 8 am AA Meeting: Library
- 8 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center

Sunday, February 16—High School Puerto Rico Mission Trip Overnight at Camp St. Croix

- 9 am Traditional Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 9 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 10:30 am Contemporary Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Adult Faith Forum: Garden Room
- 5 pm High School Puerto Rico Mission Trip Meeting: Garden Room

Monday, February 17—President's Day, High School Puerto Rico Mission Trip Overnight at Camp St. Croix

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 6:30 pm Tai Chi: Gym
- 6:30 pm Congregational Council Meeting: Office Conference Room
- 7 pm Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, February 18

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9:30 am Women's Book Club: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 1 pm Prayer Group: Church Office
- 1 pm Red Cross Bloodmobile: Gym
- 3 pm Quilting Ministry: Living Room
- 6 pm AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, February 19

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 10 am Retired Men's Group—Snowshoe Event: William O'Brien State Park
- 5 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal: Heritage Chapel
- 5:30 pm Family Pizza Dinner: Garden Room
- 6 pm Faith Formation Confirmation (Gr. 6-9): Upper & Lower Levels

- 6 pm Family Fellowship: Gym
- 7 pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 7:07 pm The Current Worship: Worship Center
- 8 pm Wednesday Night Hoops: Gym

Thursday, February 20

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 7 pm Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center

Friday, February 21

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center

Saturday, February 22

- 8 am AA Meeting: Library
- 8 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 2 pm Family Sledding: Stillwater Middle School

Sunday, February 23

- 9 am Traditional Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 9 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 10:30 am Contemporary Worship, Communion: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Children's Faith Formation: Worship Center
- 10:30 am Adult Faith Forum: Garden Room
- 1 pm 3rd-5th Grade Roller Skating: Wooddale Fun Zone

Monday, February 24

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 6:30 pm Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 pm Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, February 25

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9:30 am Women's Book Club: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 1 pm Prayer Group: Church Office
- 3 pm Quilting Ministry: Living Room
- 6 pm AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, February 26—Ash Wednesday

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- Noon Ash Wednesday Worship & Light Lunch: Chapel
- 5 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal: Heritage Chapel
- 5:30 pm Family Dinner: Garden Room
- 6 pm Faith Formation Confirmation (Gr. 6-9): Upper & Lower Levels
- 7 pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 7 pm Ash Wednesday Worship: Worship Center
- 8 pm Wednesday Night Hoops: Gym

Thursday, February 27

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 9 am YogaDevotion Chair/Flow: Narthex
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 10 am Knitting Ministry: Commons
- 7 pm Al-Anon & Alateen Meeting: Room 108, Youth Center
- 7 pm AA Meeting: Library

Friday, February 28

- 7 am AA Meeting: Library
- 10 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center

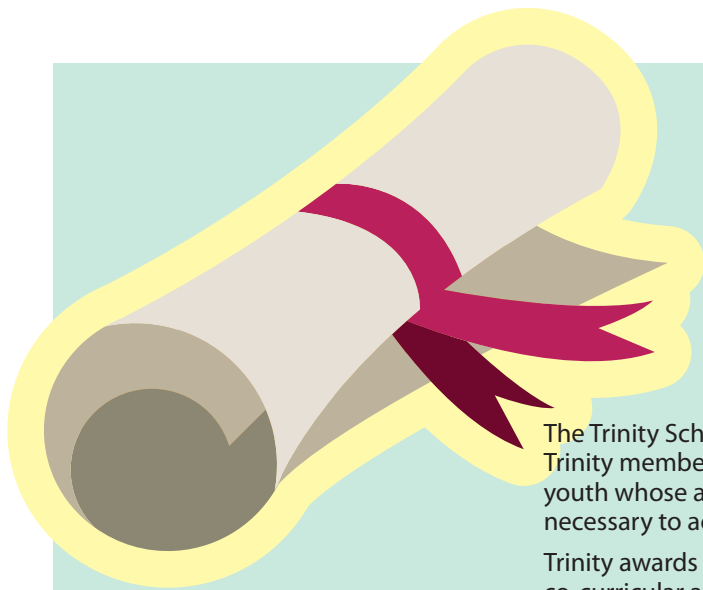
Saturday, February 29

- 8 am AA Meeting: Library
- 8 am Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 10 am Emergency Winter Shelter: Youth Center
- 5 pm Food For Thought Groups: Members' Homes



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TRINITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Trinity Scholarship Fund was established by the estate of Jeanette Johnson, a Trinity member who dreamed of being able to offer college tuition assistance to youth whose achievement and character indicated they possessed the qualities necessary to achieve excellence in higher education.

Trinity awards up to four scholarships each year on the basis of academic status, co-curricular achievement, good citizenship and active involvement at Trinity. The trust also stipulates that scholarship recipients must be baptized at and confirmed by Trinity, and active participants in Trinity youth programs.

Once selected, scholarship winners may renew their scholarships for up to three additional years, providing they maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 or a "B-" or, in the absence of a similar grading system, remain in "fine academic standing" as indicated by official record. Scholarship recipients must reapply each year for renewal.

Scholarship applications are available online at www.trinitylc.org > LEARNING > YOUTH > SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

All completed original scholarship and renewal applications must be received by Wednesday, **April 1**. Please drop off in the church office or mail to: Trinity Lutheran Church, Trinity Scholarship Fund, Attn Bob Eiselt, P.O. Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082.

**APPLICATIONS DUE
APRIL 1**