



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

May 2021
volume 43, issue 5

trinity **TODAY**

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

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

— John 15: 5

Jaxon at the drive-in on Easter Sunday.





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

Prayers + Presence + Prophecy

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. – John 15: 5

Sometimes it is helpful to be reminded that I am not the vine.

It seems obvious, but when one is part of the dominant culture and granted all the privileges therein, it is awfully easy to forget what part I play in God's dream. I have been cast in the role of a branch.

Vineyard imagery is abundant in both the Old and the New Testament of the Bible. God's people are often equated to a vineyard, whether thriving or languishing, fruitful or barren. God is the landowner, the vine tender, the source of all goodness. Jesus is the vine, the stout central trunk grounding the plant amid the storms, sending nourishment through branches large and small, lifting the fruit into the sunlight.

We are the fruit bearing branches. Empowered by life in the risen Christ, we bring delight, sustenance, creativity, imagination, invention, love and hope into the world; each branch imbued with all the love the vineyard owner can impart. We grow alongside and celebrate one another's fruitful contribution; growing more abundant when a branch wears beside us, trusting that when we are weary, our neighbor will share the load.

With the death of Daunte Wright in mid-April, I began to wonder: Does not the whole vine shudder when any branch is severed? Certainly, Jesus cries out with Daunte's mother,

son, and family, feeling the blow of an axe hew away a branch that was alive in the sun, ready to bear fruit for many seasons to come. A branch cannot die without us feeling it in the core of who we are. Daunte was our brother, his mother our sister, his son our son. Daunte was part of God's vineyard dream.

It is normal to feel grief, frustration, and helplessness in the aftermath of such a needless tragedy. It is normal to feel paralyzed by inaction because we do not know what to do. But we don't have to stay in that place of helplessness and inaction. Our faith calls us forward.

We can look to leaders from the Minnesota Council of Churches, Presiding Elder Stacey Smith (President), Rev. Dr. Curtiss Paul DeYoung (CEO), and Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs (Director of Racial Justice).

Prayers – *As people of faith we must pray for the family and friends of Daunte Wright who are mourning and weeping. They are mourning for their child Daunte and weeping for his now fatherless child. We must pray for our neighbors in Brooklyn Center where this injustice occurred. We must pray for African Americans and People of Color who are once again feeling fear, rage, grief, and hopelessness. And we must pray for justice in the ongoing trial of former police officer Derek Chauvin who killed George Floyd in Minneapolis. We must pray for racial justice and equity in our city, state, and nation.*

Prayer is our most powerful collective act of faith, professing our belief in a God who engages and invites us into relationship and is impacted by our prayer.

Presence – *Prayers must become presence. In moments like this, outrage is a natural part of grief, which is best*

processed in community. We invite you to stand with African American church leaders and members in this moment. Stand with the NAACP, Urban League, and other black-led civil rights and community organizations. Stand with courageous young activists who have relentlessly pressed the issues through the senseless police killings of Jamar Clark, Philando Castile, George Floyd, and now Daunte Wright.

Our commitment to accompaniment in mission calls us to come alongside our neighbors, listen to them and with them, and find our story and theirs within God's story.

Prophecy – *Presence must turn into prophecy. Refuse to be comforted. Refuse to rationalize this killing. Speak truth to power. Call for police accountability. Call for Minnesota legislators to act on proposed police reform bills. Call for a system-wide transformation of policing in Minnesota.*

Our call as Lutheran Christians is, as Martin Luther instructed, to call a thing what it is and to serve the best interest of the most vulnerable among us.

It is normal to feel powerless. We are not powerless. In partnership with other communities of faith and our neighbors, God can work mighty power through us, pushing us to a future that comes ever closer to God's dream.

In the journey together, branch to branch, branch to vine,

Pastor Chris

For more concrete ways to be engaged, please see page 4 in this issue or visit the Racial Justice Ministry Team page on our web site at: <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/racial-justice/>.

PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION
THE REV. PETER WESTON MILLER



This Spring, Trinity's Green Team has been collaboratively offering different opportunities to engage Caring for God's Creation. We've hosted a "Tree Lady" story time, brainstormed requests for future visits to Trinity's community solar garden leaves. Trinity even received a grant to put in a piece of pollinator lawn on the multipurpose Green Space. We've had good conversation about how we steward eco-system-wide God's gifts and how we continue to pollinate with God's love.

In one recorded session with the Adult Faith Forum, Laurie Schneider from the Pollinator Alliance, suggested to congregants to put signs around their faithful pollinator projects. To be public and visible about your faithful gardening.

"Sometimes it's really helpful and people appreciate when you explain why you do what you do," she said.

Why you might want to plant a hedgerow.

Or what helpful micro-friends might be grateful that you left that brush pile in the corner of your yard.

Or that the bees love to sun their wings on the brightest flagstones or big rocks.

Pointing out these wild graces of the world around us names how

we value them. How we appreciate their participation in our shared Care of Creation. How we seek to live in harmony with all that God has made.

To point out the wild graces of our shared communities, the truth of different gardens and the language of the rest of our God-created animate neighbors.

I resonate with the Pollinator Alliance, not just in how we name the mix of native species around us, but also the suggestion to name our faith in that public yard.

It's the way that we pollinate with God's love in our community.

It's one of the myriad ways that we water, that we restore, that we re-imagine God's living and eco-wide dream.

I'm really grateful for the Green Team's excitement and energy around this Trinity pollinating. All for the sake of the world that God loves.

I know for me that means putting in a couple more milkweed and coneflower this season for our pollinators, and some signs to explain why.

Blessings in all the ways that you pollinate with God's love in this season,

Pastor Peter



Read more at: <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/green-team/>



UPDATE: PUERTO RICO MISSION TRIP 2021

With sadness, we have made the decision to cancel the Puerto Rico mission trip once again for Summer 2021. We will be in contact about what this means, what the future holds, and how refunds will work.

It is not a decision we came to easily, but we just could not see a way to provide the kind of trip we wanted to provide as far as safety and experiences go. Thank you to all of the missionaries and sponsors for your understanding, support, and flexibility!

We will be looking for other ministry options for the summer. Updates will be posted as they become available at: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/youth/high-school/>.

ACTION ITEMS

Together, we explore the racial inequities and history of unconstitutional policies and prejudices. And we ask ourselves how we can be better neighbors today. Trinity's Racial Justice Ministry Team is continuing the practice of weekly action items that began during Lent.

READ: The Minnesota Council of Churches has issued: Statement on Killing of Daunte Wright in Brooklyn Center by Police. How do we respond as a faith community?

Read at: <https://mnchurches.org/blog/2021/04/12/statement-killing-daunte-wright-brooklyn-center-police>

LISTEN: Westminster Town Hall Forum is having a month-long series of forums in May, each Tuesday, entitled The Arc Toward Justice: Taking Stock One Year After George Floyd's Death. Available at www.westminsterforum.org and on their Facebook page, and will also be broadcast on Minnesota Public Radio at noon and 9 p.m. on these dates:

May 4 - Jelani Cobb: Policing, Protest and Power

May 11 - Rev Dr Otis Moss III: Life, Liberation and Community

May 18 - Deborah Archer: Race, Civil Rights and the Law

May 25 - Angela Harrelson, Paris Stevens and Ben Crump: Changing the World, One Year Later

DO: Here is a post from Minneapolis Civil Rights Attorney and activist Nekima Levy Armstrong:

Urgent Call to Action Re: Justice for #DaunteWright from Nekima Levy Armstrong

1. Contact Brooklyn Center Mayor, Mike Elliott, to demand that he fire Kim Potter and decline to accept her resignation.
*Phone: 763-569-3300 (Press 6)
Twitter: @mayor_elliott
FB Mayor Mike Elliott
2. Contact Washington County Attorney, Pete Orput, and demand that he file murder and manslaughter charges against Kim Potter, immediately.
*Phone: 651-430-6115
3. In the alternative, demand that Governor Walz appoint the Attorney General (or a special prosecutor) to oversee the case.
*Phone: 651-201-3400
Minnesota Relay: 800-627-3529
Written Message: <https://mn.gov/governor/contact/>

Trinity Adopts Formal Sabbatical Policy

By Melanie (Mel) Sullivan, Council President
"I am the vine, you are the branches."

Such a short sentence, but so much meaning associated with this verse. We are all interconnected, with the one true source of life being Jesus. The branches are connected and we receive all the love, nourishment and essentials by believing in Jesus and being in service to one another and our broader community.

In this vein of nourishment, the Council has been evaluating and discerning how we, as a congregation, are supporting our rostered leaders. After several months of research and with advisement from Bishop Lull and others at the Synod, we adopted a formal sabbatical policy for Trinity. The sabbatical will be offered to rostered leaders (pastors and deacons) with 5 years of full-time service to Trinity, at which time they will be offered up to 10 weeks of paid time off for respite and renewal. Trinity has offered sabbaticals in the past, but this is the first formal policy that has been developed for our congregation.

Why a sabbatical? It is critical that our rostered leaders have time to reflect and be renewed so they can be strengthened to serve the congregation. This is accomplished through spiritual renewal, rest, reflection and fostering time for fresh perspective. A vibrant, rested leader will be more purposeful in their leadership and ensuring that physical and mental demands of the role do not supersede the growth and development of their spiritual connections.

We will be sharing information about sabbaticals in the upcoming months, including the expectations for the rostered leader and the congregations. Trinity is a vibrant, healthy church. And, I am proud of the Council for their innovative and serving hearts to ensure that we continue to foster this environment.

We are all interconnected as the vines serving Jesus, our one and true branch. With gratitude and in service.

Supporting Trinity's Life-affirming Ministries During this Season of COVID-19

By Tim Gillis, Stewardship Team

Thank you for your prayerful consideration to support Trinity's life-affirming ministries during this season of COVID-19. In 2020, 337 members of Trinity's faith community were in a position to pledge financial support to these ministries in 2021. Every dollar of the \$1,058,968 pledged will be used to support these ministries and is a 3% increase over 2020 pledges.

People that pledged were between 28 and 94 years old and the average pledge was \$3,142 dollars. The amount pledged ranged from \$52 to \$27,500.

The 80 plus age group had the largest percentage of pledgers, 43.2%. They pledged \$176,301, 16.6% of the total amount pledged. The average pledge was \$3,093.

The age group between 64 and 79 led the way in the number of people that pledged, 137, the percentage of total dollars pledged, 48.5% and the average pledged, \$3,748.

The age group between 53 and 63 years old pledged \$190,792, 18% of the total pledged. The average pledge was \$3,407.

The combined contribution of the age groups between 24 and 42 pledged \$106,873, 10.1% of the total pledged. The average pledge was \$1,974.

There was an additional group of people that pledged whose age was not available. Their pledges ranged from \$180 to \$15,096. They pledged \$71,520 dollars, 6.8% of the total amount pledged. The average pledge was \$2,384.

On behalf of your Stewardship Team and Trinity's staff, we thank everyone for their prayerful consideration to financially support Trinity's life-affirming ministries. The people in a position to pledge make it possible to bring these ministries to the community Trinity serves. Thank you for your generosity during this season of COVID-19.

Trinity Financial Update

March Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2021

	This Year	Last Year	'21 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	839,637	788,109	1,326,000	63%
Other Income	131,147	208,774	422,761	31%
Total Income	<u>\$ 970,784</u>	<u>\$ 996,883</u>	<u>\$ 1,748,761</u>	
less: Expenses	901,127	949,079	1,747,358	52%
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>\$ 69,657</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 47,804</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,403</u></u>	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

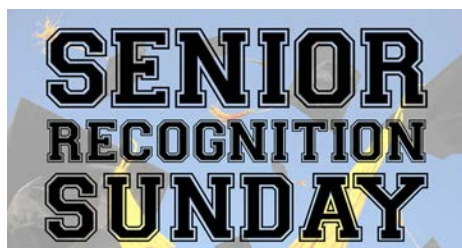
Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,346,629	3,410,152
Increase (Decrease)	<u>(50,823)</u>	<u>(49,231)</u>
Long-Term Debt - End of March	<u><u>\$ 3,295,805</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,360,920</u></u>
Line of Credit Balance - March 31	\$ -	\$ -

Financial Highlights March 31, 2021

Contribution Income for March of \$85K was \$18K less than March of 2020 partially timing difference as we were \$30K ahead of 2020 in the month of February. Contribution Income YTD is still \$52K ahead of last year. Program Registrations, Fees & Payments and Building Rental Income are off a combined \$55K YTD vs. last year, showing the continuing effects of the pandemic and reduced activity in our building. Learning programs expenses are correspondingly down by \$27K YTD compared to 2020. As discussed, the timing of receipt of some annual Contribution gifts fluctuates every year. March's Contributions reflect a drop in gifts vs. last March, a swing from February's results, reflective of the timing of annual gifts I referred to earlier. March 2021 results place us well ahead of last year at this time, showing a surplus YTD of \$70K v. a surplus of \$48K in 2020. Overall, YTD Operating Expenses are \$58K less than YTD March 2020. YTD our Contribution and Total Income continues to exceed expenses, enabling us to maintain our Line of Credit Balance at zero for the fourth straight month! Last year we also had a zero balance against the line at this time.



LIFELONG FAITH
FORMATION



Recognition and Blessing Sunday, May 16 10 am Drive-in Worship

It has been a crazy, trying, interesting year—one full of changed plans and adaptation. However, as we come to the end of a school year unlike any before it, it is even more proper that we take time to recognize the achievements and durability of the Class of 2021.

We will be lifting up and recognizing all high school seniors at our outdoor drive-in worship service in Houlton, WI on Sunday, May 16 at 10 a.m. We ask all seniors and their families to attend for a special blessing during the service that day. We will ask you to come forward during the service (with family groups properly spaced) for a time of blessing and acknowledgement.

After the service, there will be a time for all seniors to be greeted by the entire congregation as they exit.

For more information contact Monty Lysne at mlysne@trinitylc.org.

Children's Ministry NOTE

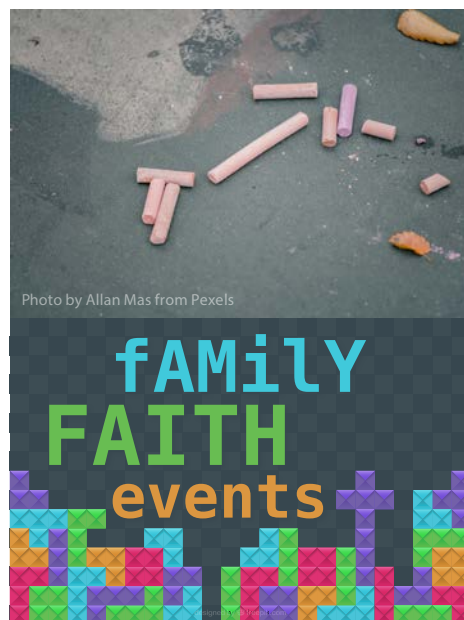
The program year that has included weekly children's messages and bulletins will take a summer break following May 23, but we're looking forward to some special summer ministry opportunities — Camp Wapo (still space, see: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/summer/camps/>), VBS and Milestone Recognitions at Drive-in worship.

MAY FAMILY FAITH EVENT:

"Chalked" Full of Hope: Sidewalk Chalk Challenge

Spread hope and fun throughout your neighborhood with our May Family Faith Event: "Chalked" Full of Hope! Grab your sidewalk chalk and decorate your driveway and sidewalks with uplifting messages and joyful activities throughout the month of May. Please share pictures and stories either directly to Trinity's CYF Facebook page, or by emailing Sarah at solson@trinitylc.org.

For inspiration visit: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/family/>



We're all on God's team! All-outdoor Vacation Bible School July 12-15, 6:30-8 pm on Trinity Green Space Ages 4-9, \$30 per child

We're all on God's team! Ages 4-9 are invited to join us the week of July 12 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for a fun-filled week of outdoor Vacation Bible School. Programming runs Monday through Thursday evenings with Friday serving as a back-up rain day.

The Summer Olympics are on their way, and we look forward to celebrating all the ways that we get to be a part of God's great team together with an Olympic twist!

Register at: <https://trinitylc.sportngin.com/register/form/568729947>



Sundays at 11 am
Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83989674185>

Adult Faith Forum: Making Sense of the Cross as Easter People

Sundays in May at 11 am on Zoom

Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83989674185>

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Now what? Are you joyous, relieved, wondering what it all means? And why did Jesus need to die on the cross in the first place or was it really necessary? What does it all mean to us now? These are just some of the questions we will explore with the help of the study *Making Sense of the Cross* by David Lose.

We are Easter People, a resurrection people. When Jesus comes back to his disciples "He said to them, This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." Luke 24:46-47 (CEB). The resurrection is God's new transformative work in the making. But notice, before the joy of resurrection there was the cross and for me it can be uncomfortable. How can such violence of the cross make sense?

Throughout history theologians have tried to sort out what the death and resurrection of Jesus means. Just as there are multiple perspectives—the four Gospels—to tell the story of Jesus's life, there are multiple theologies of atonement as well. We will explore four theologies of atonement (at-one-ment with God): Ransom and Victory; Substitution, Satisfaction, and Sacrifice; Example and Encouragement; and Event and Experience. Maybe you have one of your own to share too!

Books are available to purchase for \$10 in the church office, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Copies also available on Sundays. Please note, reading the book is not required to join the discussion.

Please join us in May for this fascinating exploration on *Making Sense of the Cross* via Zoom. Questions? Contact Pastor Peter Weston Miller at pwestonmiller@trinitylc.org or Penny Catlin at pccatlin@juno.com.

All are welcome! Peace and hope!

For more information and to watch previous sessions of Adult Faith Forum, visit: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/adult/adult-ed/>.

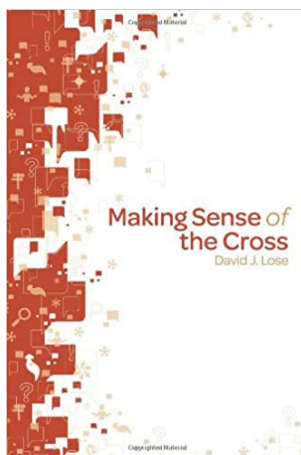
Adult Faith Formation for May—*Making Sense of the Cross*

May 2 Ransom and Victory

May 9 Substitution, Satisfaction, and Sacrifice

May 16 Example and Encouragement

May 23 Event and Experience



ONE & DONE BOOK GROUP

By Ann Wolff, Book Group Coordinator

***Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi –
June 7 at 6:30 pm on Zoom**

The One and Done Book Group meets about every two months for a thought-

May 2021 • trinity.today.

provoking, faith-based discussion of a book chosen by the group. We'd love it if you would join us!

We meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. via zoom. Email me for the link or for more information.

I have this and other outstanding books from the Trinity Library that I would be happy to bring to you. Contact me at 651-260-3855 or wolff701@msn.com.

PHOTOS: Wesely –
First Communion
Milestone

Morgen – Bible 101
Milestone

Georgia – Care for
Creation kit



Faith Milestones





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.

May 2	John 15: 1-8
May 9	John 15: 9-17
May 16	John 17: 6-19
May 23	John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15
May 30	John 3: 1-17

Palm Sunday @Trinity



Easter Sunday @Trinity



Sunday Worship

▶ **In-Person at Trinity at 8:30 a.m.** (limited capacity, sign up required)
<https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/sign-up-for-worship/>

▶ **Facebook Livestream from our sanctuary at 8:30 a.m.**
www.facebook.com/trinitylcstillwater/

▶ **Online on our web site from our sanctuary at 8:30 a.m.**
<https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/online-worship/>

▶ **Outdoor Worship at the Drive-in at 10 a.m.**
<https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/drive-in-summer-worship/>

▶ **Watch on TV local channel 18 at 11 a.m.**
<https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/>

Worship Helps

Download a bulletin (and announcements) for Sunday worship to view on your device or print at home.
<https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/bulletin-helps/>

Greetings from Tanzania and Ethiopia to Trinity

By Michele Hermansen, Outreach Missions Team

A few days before Easter we received this rare email from Mwatasi Lutheran Church and their Pastor Chaula through BegaKwaBega:

Suluhu Hassan was sworn in as Tanzania's first female President. President Magufuli's tenure has been strict and you may be interested in articles from BBC, USNews, and CNN related to his death and legacy.

Our partners in Mwatasi have special strengths in evangelism and children, youth and family ministry. We are eager for the day when we can once again worship together, not just as

OUTREACH MISSIONS

New Message

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

We hope that God is keeping you and making you safe from the situation of Covid 19. We would like to send our sorry note for the situation of Covid 19; we know that you have got challenges which have affected your economic, social as well as the spiritual life. We would like to send our comforting texts from Psalm 23, Joshua 1:16 and Jeremiah 1:8. May these texts strengthen you.

Also receive our thank you note for the funds you have given us for the scholarships in 2021. We as the members of Mwatasi have been praying for you several times. We continue preaching the Gospel to the areas where the gospel has not been reached. We also continue with the project of planting trees, we have planted 10 Acres, and we are in process of renovating the Pastor's house together with the program of preparing the workshop building.

However we wish you a good time in this important season of Easter, may the power of God which resurrected Jesus from the tomb be with you now and forever. Amen.

Pastor Chaula

Send

It brings us great joy to get a letter from our partners in Mwatasi because there are many communication hurdles to overcome. It starts with the language barrier (our extremely poor Swahili/HeHe skills which puts the burden on our Tanzanian partners to write English!), and continues with Mwatasi's lack of electricity and internet near the church.

Some notes of context may be helpful for your family discussions and prayers. The church has been generous in their prayers for us during the pandemic, but they have been forbidden to discuss COVID-19 in their country because they've been told it isn't a problem. In fact, Tanzania hasn't reported COVID-19 statistics for over a year. We cannot put our partners in a dangerous position by saying anything to them about COVID-19 in their community, but we must continue to pray for their welfare as they pray for ours!

We also pray for all the people of Tanzania, for the country to be politically and economically stable. The President, John Magufuli died in March and Vice President Samia

a community in Stillwater, but also as a united community across the globe with our long-time partners in Mwatasi who pray so fervently for our well-being.

Meanwhile, we have communication from another one of our partners in Mission: Pastor Gilo Gora Agwa, who is our partner with the Anuak immigrants who have sought political

asylum here in Stillwater and the Twin Cities from the atrocities and genocide against their Ethiopian tribe. Pastor Gilo has returned to Ethiopia this month and was provided with \$400 toward his expenses from Outreach Missions. Pastor Gilo wrote a short email upon arrival April 8, see box below.

Please keep Pastor Gilo in your prayers while he is in Ethiopia, for health and safety especially, and his wife and children, and community here in Minnesota, for their health and well-being in his absence. Pastor Gilo is employed as the chaplain at Good Samaritan Home in Stillwater.

Questions? Please contact me at 612-868-2255 or Michele2255@gmail.com.



New Message

Good morning from Ethiopia.

Yes, I arrived in Addis Ababa safely and I will take another flight this morning to Gambella. My baggage delayed, but I collected them after a day.

Covid-19 is increasing daily in Ethiopia especially in those big cities like Addis Ababa. There is violence in Western part of Ethiopia in Oromia region. I will share more when I get internet connection.

Life is difficult in this country, it is not the country I knew. I became a stranger. The prices are skyrocketed. We used to pay about 60 birr for five people's lunch ten years ago but now, it is 820 birr when we ate lunch with friends that welcomed me when I arrived. A family of five can need 10,000 a month for their expenses, but the majority earn only less than 5,000 a month or no earnings at all. I can't imagine how people manage it. I am learning each day. I will update you when I arrive in Gambella.

Pastor Gilo

Send



SOLO⁺55 PLUS

Singles Group
for Ages 55 & Up

Solo 55 Plus is a faith-based fellowship group for those single and over 55.

Frequent activities are planned and announced in a weekly newsletter. To receive the newsletter, become a member, or seek information, please send email to: SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com.



TIME FORE GOLF! Thursdays, tee time 10 am Applewood Golf Course

We have 4 tee times starting at 10 a.m. which is enough for 16 golfers. If interested contact Jerry Nelson at 651-324-3176. Please leave a message or send a text.



Saturday, May 8 10:30 am Gathering on Zoom

Mark your calendars!

Please join us, via Zoom, on Saturday, May 8 at 10:30 a.m. for our annual Talk and Tea! Our speaker and special guest for the morning is the Rev. Teresa Blythe, author of *50 Ways to Pray*, *Spiritual Direction 101* and *Incline Your Ear: Cultivating Spiritual Awakening in Congregations*.

Teresa has been offering and teaching spiritual direction for over 20 years since graduating from San Francisco Theological Seminary with an M.Div. and Diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction. As director of the Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction in Tucson (2005-2019), Teresa taught and mentored hundreds of people who came to the desert for training. Her work led her to write *Spiritual Direction 101: The Basics of Spiritual Guidance* (Apocryphile Press) and co-author a new book from Fortress Press, *Incline Your Ear: Cultivating Spiritual Awareness in Congregations*. Teresa lives in Phoenix, AZ and is connected to First UCC Phoenix. Teresa began an Apprentice Training Program in November of 2019 and works with up to 20 apprentices a year.

All her books are available at Amazon.com, and if you are to purchase one, may we suggest *50 Ways to Pray*:

"It is my hope that this book will provide at least fifty ways you may take steps in a lifelong walk with God. It is written for you, the seeker and sojourner, as well as you, the church leader, youth minister, retreat facilitator, or worship planner. It is for all of us who thought we only knew one way to pray."

We hope you can join us—Teresa is a warm, engaging, knowledgeable speaker (and was Zanny's teacher at Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction!).

Please RSVP to Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org. You will be sent an email with the Zoom link.





PHOTO: GLOW/AWE women slam weather and have a chilly blast brainstorming future events.

GLOW/AWE team meets and plans kick-off event for May 20

The GLOW/AWE team, led by Sandy Wendt, met bundled up in blankets at Washington Square Park on a chilly evening brainstorming event ideas for Trinity's women. For starters, a kick-off event at Rustic Roots Winery on May 20 and a Bocce Ball event at Bayport Park on June 24 were born. Enthusiasm was bursting, as ideas circulated, so an opportunity to get your opinions will be provided at the kick-off event and by email. Your ideas matter, as GLOW/AWE is committed to planning events for women of all ages and abilities. Additionally, there was ample discussion concerning the importance of following safety guidelines for all events, most of which will be held outdoors.

The team is excited about its first event in 2021 at the Rustic Roots Winery, which opened in October 2020 in Scandia, located across from Abrahamson's Nursery. It seemed like a good place to gather, to have conversations, and greet old and new friends. The winery offers a variety of wines and a varied menu, which includes meat and cheese platter, panini, flatbread (including vegetarian), and seasonal soup and salad. Please mark your calendar and take time to sign up.

May 2021 • trinity.today.

Glow/Awe Kick-off Event Rustic Roots Winery Scandia, Minnesota May 20, 5-7 pm

Outside seating is planned in groups of six. If inclement weather, the group will be seated under the pergola which is curtained.

Masks are required indoors and outdoors unless seated at table while eating.

If you would like to join this event, please contact Joan Fogelberg.
Cell: 651-219-8473 (call or text)
Email: joan@123m.com

Please do not hesitate to ask questions. We realize these are changing times and getting back to a routine may be a challenge. We hope you are able to join us on May 20. In the meantime, stay well and God's Peace to all!



Walking in the footsteps of our Trinity retired brothers on our journey with God!

We look forward to the defeat of the COVID-19 pandemic and a return to normalcy when that occurs. Initial plans for 2021-2022 include great seats at a Twins game, a return to Orchestra Hall, a gala Saint Valentines Day get together, our historic Good Friday Prayer Breakfast, visiting factories, offices, and venues that are at the forefront of the scientific and cultural advances of our time, and lifelong educational opportunities concerning climate change, communication, and religious beliefs. Specific dates must wait but will be announced as things develop. In the meantime, our weekly gatherings on Zoom continue.

Retired Men's Group Weekly Meeting & Study Wednesdays at 10:30 am Meeting on Zoom

The Retired Men's Group meets via Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. for a one hour bible study. For meeting information contact Jon Fogelberg at jon@123m.com.

More information about this group at:
<https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/retired-mens-group-rmg/>



May is National Mental Health awareness month! Trinity is pleased to partner with NAMI of Minnesota to provide resources.

In Our Own Voice Presentation for Members of Faith Communities
Friday, May 28, 12:00-1:00 PM
 This will be a virtual presentation provided over Zoom

Understand the journey of people with mental illness in recovery. In Our Own Voice (IOOV) is a unique public education program in which trained speakers share compelling personal stories about living with a mental illness and achieving recovery, demonstrating that there is hope for recovery for people with mental illnesses. The presentation includes personal stories and video clips, as well as offering an opportunity to ask questions. The IOOV program has touched many lives and is effective in reducing the stigma surrounding mental illnesses. The one hour presentation on Friday, May 28th from 12-1 pm is for people who are part of a faith community and hoping to learn more about mental illnesses as well as resources to support their recovery or the recovery of their loved ones. Register at: https://zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tJcldOyvqDkiEtDnjTiP-SRWPlc2lmlP5vuQ_

Saving the Birds



By Sheila Maybanks, Green Team

We all love to see and hear birds, especially in the Spring. Red winged black-birds are our first sign of spring; wood ducks and mergansers as well as mallards and geese, are meeting up on our ponds and lakes. And soon the songbirds, the spring warblers, come back to hang out with our robins, jays, woodpeckers, cardinals and our other avian friends.

Unfortunately our native birds are in peril. According to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, we in North America have lost 1 in 4 of our birds since 1970. Thirty-three percent of boreal forest birds—think northern Minnesota—are gone due to climate and habitat change. The loss of grassland birds—meadowlarks and bobolinks among them—is greater, up to 50 percent due to farming and land use changes.

600 million birds die each year in collisions with buildings, power lines, wind farms. You will recall the controversy over the glass on US Bank Stadium and Audubon Minnesota's research on bird loss. And our dear house cats are responsible for the loss of over 2 billion birds each year in North America.

It is sad. But there are things each of us can do to help our birds:

- Keep cats indoors
- Garden with native plants
- Buy a Migratory Bird Stamp (\$25)
- Turn your outside lights off at nights and install window decals or tape to deter birds from crashing into our windows
- Support organizations like Wild Wings, Carpenter Nature Center, Audubon, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Izaak Walton League
- Get involved with citizen science efforts to protect birds—The Backyard Bird Count, the Christmas Bird Count, Project Feeder Watch
- Drink “bird-friendly coffee”—shade-grown coffee certified as bird friendly

Also, consider attending the Migratory Bird Festival on Saturday, May 15 at Pioneer Park, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Read more at: <https://www.sustainablestillwatermn.org/post/stillwater-migratory-bird-festival-may-15-kicks-off-bird-city-designation>

The Very Popular Embroidered Kitchen Towels For Sale! Proceeds benefit Trinity's Sunshine Ministry

Need a gift for Mother's Day on May 9? Grandmother or a hostess gift? The busy hands of the Sunshine Ministry have embroidered kitchen towels for sale at \$5 each. The proceeds from sale of towels supports the cost of delivery of roses to our senior members on special birthdays. Contact Carolyn Minor at 651-439-7139 or carmin42@outlook.com to arrange pickup or delivery.



Quilting Ministry Donations Continue!

Donate bed sheets and cotton quilting fabric to Trinity's Quilting Ministry at BOTH Worship Services! During pandemic Trinity's quilting ministry has continued to make and send quilts to Lutheran World Relief and to a local kids/new beds program. We've found that bedsheets are the most economical way to back our quilts. We are asking for the donation of new or gently-used sheets as well as regular cotton quilting fabric. Patterns and colors are preferred, but white will also work. ALL sizes flat sheets, king or queen fitted. Look for the special bin at both in-house worship at Trinity and drive-in worship. Thank you!

Easter Garden Memorials & Honors

EASTER FLOWER GARDEN

IN MEMORY OF:

William (Bill) Nelsen _____ Barbara Stene
Herman Liberda, Joy Liberda, Eunice Vold – Parents _____ Steve & Marie Liberda
Ken & Bea Hinz; Rose & Roy Schnaith _____ Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Schnaith
Rev. John & Vivian Sutherland – Parents _____ John Sutherland
Max Evensen _____ Kerry & Dale Evensen; Jan & Tom Evensen
Tom Junker; Leo & Ardell Motylewski; Eileen Macksam _____ Charyl Junker
Reno & Marlene Carlson; Ralph & Sally French; Bob & Irene Huber; Helmuth & Marcella Reinke _____ John & Pat Reinke
Those Who Have Died of COVID-19 _____ Chuck & Joan Newman
Loved Ones _____ Doug & Kathy Karnuth

GIVEN BY:

IN HONOR OF:

Cherie, Nancy & Linda – Good Friends _____ Jeannie
Friends & Family _____ David & Debbie Beaudet
In Deep Gratitude for Trinity's Superlative Efforts to Keep Us The Church in All Circumstances _____ Kristie & Jeff Anderson
Loved Ones _____ Glenn & Marianne Anderson
The "Tuesday Guys" _____ Chuck & Joan Newman
Our Children & Grandchildren _____ Doug & Kathy Karnuth

GIVEN BY:

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE & IMPROVEMENTS

IN MEMORY OF:

Fred Hertenstein _____ Bob & Deb Eiselt
Jane Oleson; Dwight Pederson _____ Don & Gayle Lobitz
Parents _____ Norma Langness Johnson
Henry Brochman _____ June & Family
Ed & Lois Studtman – Our Parents _____ Sally; Nancy & Family
Oscar W. Peterson _____ David Peterson
Dick & Audrey Jeans – Dad & Mom _____ Randy Jeans
Harold Segelstrom _____ Marian
Fred Hertenstein – A Great Guy! _____ Jeannie
Loved Ones _____ Don & Phyllis Paulson
Our Parents _____ Fred & Dee Hertenstein
Tom Junker; Leo & Ardell Motylewski; Eileen Macksam _____ Charyl Junker
Reno & Marlene Carlson; Ralph & Sally French; Bob & Irene Huber Helmuth & Marcella Reinke _____ John & Pat Reinke
Those Who Have Died of COVID-19 _____ Chuck & Joan Newman
Loved Ones _____ Doug & Kathy Karnuth

GIVEN BY:

IN HONOR OF:

Our Family _____ Jerry & Arlene Herbst
Loved Ones _____ Don & Phyllis Paulson
Our Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren _____ Fred & Dee Hertenstein
In Deep Gratitude for Trinity's Superlative Efforts to Keep Us The Church in All Circumstances _____ Kristie & Jeff Anderson
Loved Ones _____ Glenn & Marianne Anderson
The "Tuesday Guys" _____ Chuck & Joan Newman
Our Children & Grandchildren _____ Doug & Kathy Karnuth

GIVEN BY:



Learn About our Amazing Creator, Planet Earth and Faith Formation

By Norma Wilson, Library Volunteer

Trinity families recently gathered with Children and Family Faith Formation Coordinator Sarah Olson for a Care for Creation Celebration in honor of Earth Day. The following resources were part of the Trinity Library collection. If you would like to have any of these books delivered to your home please call 651-470-5124.

This writer/volunteer loves these books and the opportunities they provide for faith connections in the home. Picture books are for everybody and these particular books are filled with learning, and love of reading. These books will enrich your family in faith, understandings, nature, family relationships and even snuggles!



Bee Dance E C – A honeybee “returns to the hive moving in a special figure-eight pattern to share the location of the food source with her hivemates.”

(provided by publisher)

Honeybee: The Busy Life of Apis Mellifera E F “...describes the life cycle of the hard-working honeybee in this poetically written, thoroughly researched picture book.” (provided by publisher)

H Is For Honey Bee: A Beekeeping Alphabet E S “The honeybee is one of the most important insects on the planet. Due to their status as super pollinators, it is estimated that a third of the food we eat each day can be

attributed to bee activity. The honey that bees produce is found in many food, health, and beauty products.” (provided by publisher)

Bee Heartful: Spread Loving-Kindness E F “Bentley the Bee sends loving-kindness thoughts to others throughout his day, even when they are unkind to him, then teaches his friends how to practice this meditation technique themselves.” (provided by publisher)

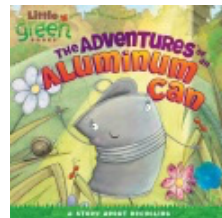
The Tree Lady: The True Story OF How One Tree-Loving Woman

Changed A City Forever E H “Part biography, part inspirational story, this picture book about following your dreams, using your talents, and staying strong in the face of adversity is sure to resonate with readers young and old.” (provided by publisher)



Would You, Could You Plant a Tree?: With Dr. Seuss's Lorax (Beginning Science Easy Reader) The “Lorax explains how trees help clean the air we breathe, and the steps required to successfully plant a tree.” (provided by publisher)

Wishtree JUV A “A deceptively simple, tender tale in which respect, resilience, and hope triumph.” (Kirkus Review) Red’s openhearted voice and generosity of spirit bring perspective gained over centuries of observation. (Publisher’s Weekly Review)



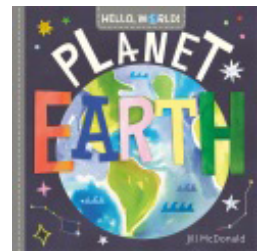
The Adventures of An Aluminum Can: A Story About Recycling (E I) “Aluminum can as it goes on a journey from a bauxite rock, to the

manufacturing line, the store shelf, to display on a bookshelf, a garbage can, and to a recycling plant where it emerges into its new life...as a baseball bat!” (provided by publisher)

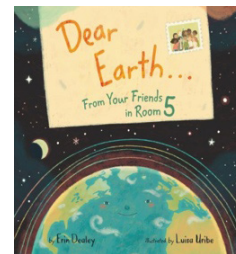
What a Waste E F “Shows how... to save our seas, how countries are implementing schemes that are having a positive impact, and how your waste can be turned into something useful.” (provided by publisher)

Fly Guy Presents: Garbage & Recycling E A Fly Guy learns about where garbage goes, trucks, landfills, recycling and how to keep the planet healthy.

Hello World! Planet Earth (BB M) “Earth-with easy-to-understand facts about countries, continents, oceans, land-forms, habitats, and Earth’s place in the solar system.” (provided by publisher)



We Are Water Protectors E L Motivated by Indigenous-led movements across North America, the author urges readers to protect the Earth’s water from harm.



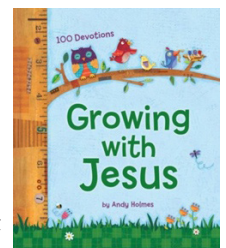
Dear Earth...From Your Friends in Room 5 E D The kids in Room 5 “write to Earth asking what they can do to help save our planet, they are delighted to get a letter

back. This beautiful picture book is a celebration of every child’s ability to connect with the environment and make a positive impact.”

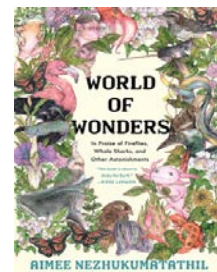
Parents, Grandparents, Families

Growing with Jesus: 100 Daily Devotions E 242.6 H ...

Encourages kids to connect to God, and fun facts that teach kids interesting and unique things about God’s creation. (Tommy Nelson Publisher)



Indescribable: 100 Devotions About God & Science “Each devotion features a “Be Amazed” section with fascinating facts, hands-on activities, and a closing prayer.” (Tommy Nelson Publisher)



World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments 590 NEZH “A collection of essays about the natural world, and the way its inhabitants can teach, support,

and inspire us. For it is this way with wonder: it requires that we are curious enough to look past the distractions in order to fully appreciate the world’s gifts.” (Milkweed Editions)

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- In-person at Trinity & Livestream on Facebook at 8:30 a.m.
- At the Drive-in at 10 a.m.
- Watch on TV at 11 a.m.

Watch Worship on local channel 18 through Valley Access

Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday Noon & 6 p.m.

Thursday Midnight & 6 a.m.

Saturday 11 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To Dee and all family and friends of **Fred Hertenstein**

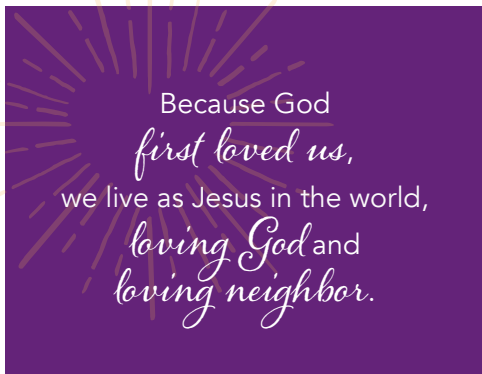
CORE VALUES

Exceptional Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Faith Formation
Compassionate Action



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Lent Wednesday March 17	Good Friday April 2
Zoom participants .. 50	Live viewers..... 35
Views/week..... 7	Views/week..... 370
March 21	Easter April 4
Live viewers..... 72	Live viewers..... 70
Views/week..... 262	Views/week..... 613
Drive-in..... 130	Drive-in..... 502
Lent Wednesday March 24	April 11
Zoom participants .. 30	Live viewers..... 61
Views/week..... 9	Views/week..... 355
	Drive-in..... 136
March 28	April 18
Live viewers.... 140	Live viewers.... 109
Views/week..... 451	Views/week..... 344
Palm Procession . 76	Drive-in..... 152
Maundy Thurs April 1	
Live viewers..... 27	
Views/week..... 347	



To read our full welcome statement please visit <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/reconciling-in-christ-process/>.

trinity
TODAY

Publication Number: USPS 509650

Published once per month by

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

Editor, Design & Layout: Marilee Tangen
Some images from freepik.com

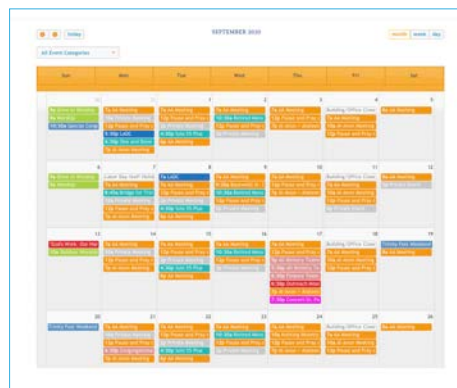
Articles for the next *Trinity Today* (June issue) are due Monday, May 17, to begin arriving in mailboxes Thursday, May 27.

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).

Postmaster: Send address changes to Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082. © Copyright 2021 Trinity Lutheran Church, Stillwater, MN



CALENDAR

Please see the calendar on our web site for events, meetings and other happenings at Trinity. The calendar has been updated with online events. Thank you for your patience as we keep it up to date in an ever-changing time. Please let us know at info@trinitylc.org if your group or event is not listed. View the calendar at: <https://trinitylc.org/calendar/>



115 4th St. N • Box 339
Stillwater, MN 55082 • 651-439-7400

Periodical
Postage Paid at
Stillwater, MN
55082-0339



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio from Pexels

Join us in person or online for this important event!

IMPACT PARENTING/GRANDPARENTING SESSION:
Technology & Student Well-Being

Wednesday, May 5 from 6:30–7:30 pm
Worship Center at Trinity

Event will also be livestream on Facebook and
posted to YouTube

In association with Youth Service Bureau, Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting a session for parents and kids called "Technology and Student Well-Being" in the Worship Center at Trinity from 6:30–7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5. Space is limited, so please sign up online at: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/youth/>

This presentation will explore the demands of technology in our everyday lives, especially in the lives of kids. This will be a great investment of 60 minutes for all parents, kids, caregivers, church staff, and volunteer leaders. During our time together we will:

- Watch a short documentary called "(dis)Connected"
- Explore the benefits and concerns around screens
- Look at the connection between brain development and devices
- Share guidelines and tips for parents and kids' well-being
- Take time for questions and answers with the Youth Service Bureau representative

This event will be livestreamed and recorded. Head to Trinity's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/trinitylcstillwater> to watch live or our YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/TrinityLCStillwater> to watch after May 5. Questions? Contact Monty Lysne at mlysne@trinitylc.org.

