



## BLESSED WITH GROWTH AND TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY

I've had the privilege of serving as one of your council trustees for the past two years and before that, I had the opportunity to serve on the Planning and Visioning committee. We here at Trinity continue to be blessed with growth and tremendous opportunity to serve out our mission.

As you've heard and read recently, we are doing some experimenting to try to find a new path forward for our congregation. In a couple of instances, we've asked some people to stay on longer than their term limit to test and learn from some new ideas. The boards of Education and Worship are trying out a committee approach; engaging people in shorter term commitments with less overall responsibility. The sign up table for the decorating committee is a good example of that. The reason we are calling it a test and learn is that we need to have room to try different approaches and ideas out. Ministry needs are changing at a tremendous pace right now. This reality has led the council to

conclude that our current model is not working.

You might be wondering "what is not working with our current model?" At literally every meeting I have attended since October of 2016 we have spent the majority of our time on who does what, and when and, we frequently leave without clarity and action steps. It feels like we are spinning our wheels and wasting valuable time and energy. As we further discuss those issues we realize that our structure of governance is working against us leading to a lack of clarity of roles and insufficient communication. In addition, it's become increasingly difficult to find willing and capable people to serve as leaders and on boards. The time commitment and duration is too intimidating for many as our society has changed and, continues to change.

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## Congregation Meetings

### Annual Elections Meeting

Sunday, August 25  
immediately following the  
9:30 am worship service.

### Financial Plan Meetings

Sunday, Sept. 15  
Wednesday, Sept. 18  
Sunday, Sept. 22  
Wednesday, Sept. 25  
all following worship service.  
A member of the finance committee will present information on our financial plan to be presented at the annual meeting.

### Annual Meeting

Sunday, September 29  
immediately following the  
9:30 am worship service in the  
Fellowship Hall.

# How Has The Spirit Gifted You?

*Here at Trinity Lutheran we are always seeking to help people explore the gifts that God has given them for service to others.*



Power Point Presentation which is viewed on the screens in the worship space. Volunteers arrive prior to worship to start the computer and advance the presentation slides with a remote.

Have you ever considered your computer skills as a gift you could share? During worship, the order of service is entered into a

If you have felt the Spirit calling you to service, you might try being a power point operator to see if it's right for you.

Training will be provided. High School age are welcome.

If computers aren't your gift, what is? If you would like to share your talents in service to others, please call Pam in the office at 715-362-4258. You may also email or just stop in the office Monday-Friday from 8 am to noon to talk and see what might be a good fit for you. Trinity has lots of ways for you to use your gifts in ways you might not have considered.

There is no obligation to continue serving in a way that does not make you happy—you are welcome to just give it a try.

**1 Peter 4:10**  
*... serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.*

The IOC Table (Information and Opportunity Center) is located in the gathering area outside the worship space. On Sunday morning it is staffed so that someone will be there to answer questions or help you sign up for volunteer projects.

Please stop by the IOC Table to check out upcoming events or locate community resources.

# Caring for Baby

*Volunteers are creating kits to send to Lutheran World Relief this fall.*

It takes a lot to bring a baby into the world and keep them healthy and happy. Imagine living in poverty. How do you provide? Baby Care Kits include the basics for a family to care for their little one. Lutheran World Relief works to get our gifts where they are needed most.

- Gently used or new baby clothes in sizes six months to 2T: sleepers, cotton t-shirts (no onesies), jackets, sweaters, outfits, long pants (no dresses, please)
- Monetary donations to purchase the required new items such as soap

Join the volunteers each Wednesday morning this August from 9 am to noon downstairs at Trinity to create baby kits. Unable to attend? Share by donating these much needed items:

- Baby socks
- Yards of flannel fabric to sew diapers or receiving blankets

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Swanson at 715-362-6227 or for more information on this project check out the Lutheran World Relief website at [lwr.org/make-baby-care-kits](http://lwr.org/make-baby-care-kits).

# Behind the Scenes Service at Trinity

With much gratitude, we thank Rich Reitz for the many, many hours he spent stripping and waxing the floors in the gym and Fellowship Hall in July. They look great and we appreciate all your hard work, Rich!

This is a great example of one of the many ways members can share their skills and time to serve others. If you would be interested in helping with a project, contact Pam in the church office at 715-362-4258.





# Transformed!

*“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*  
—Romans 12:2

The Day Camp theme this year was TRANSFORMED! and in a week of Day Camp we saw lives transformed! On the first day, the routine is unknown and the kids are a little timid, but by the end of Day 1 they are feeling comfortable and ready to participate with gusto!

The camp staff from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp and I would meet at the end of every day to share “Highs,” “Lows,” and “God Moments.” The God Moment that stood out to me for the week was when a little boy captured my heart. Steve (*not his real name*) struggled a little with the routine of each day and the staff and I worked hard to connect with him and encourage him to participate rather than be disruptive. I made calls to his guardian and received some helpful information about what he is going through in his life, and it helped me to understand his behavior. A sweet kid going through some difficult things.

Before lunch, the whole group of 65 campers as well as helpers and adult leaders gathered to share about the daily theme and the Bible Study. We did this every day and different campers would share from each group, and it’s a lot of fun to hear from their experience what the Bible Study, skits and theme were about. On Wednesday, Steve scooted next to me as I sat on the floor and he looked up at me and said, “You’re my sister.” I paused for a minute because I hadn’t caught on to what he was saying yet. He said, “You’re my sister. And all these kids are my brothers and sisters.” My heart was about to explode as I realized what he meant. So I said, “Yes. I’m your sister in Christ. And you are my brother.” He smiled so big I thought the whole room might shake. It only took him three days to see that he was part of God’s family.

In one week, Day Camp lives out Christian Community. We sing about Jesus’ love for us. We read the Bible and hear the stories of Jesus’ love for us. And we show each other Jesus’ love through the games we play and the relationships we build. I’m grateful to the Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp staff for their hard work! I am thankful to all the helpers (youth and adults) who were here every-day playing games, singing songs, providing snacks, and keeping the campers safe. It takes a team of leaders to provide this ministry for our Rhinelander community and it was a powerful experience to see the TRANSFORMATION that happens because of Day Camp.

—Pastor Kari



# God's Work, Our Hands Event

*Engage in service work in our community and share God's love.*

The ELCA website describes "God's Work, Our Hands" as an *opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) — one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor. This is our way of life.*

Trinity Lutheran Church will be participating with Immanuel Lutheran Church and 9,100 other ELCA congregations in "God's Work, Our Hands" on **Saturday, September 7.**

The Board of Witness will have sign-up sheets at the IOC Table. Two service projects have been

selected: cleaning, washing walls and possibly painting at Frederick Place or assisting at the Rhinelander Community Garden with weeding, harvesting and possibly shed maintenance. There are also two times slots to choose from: 9 am to noon or 1-3 pm.

Lunch will be provided for the volunteers at Trinity from 11:30 am to 1 pm by the Board of Witness.

You can learn more about "God's Work, Our Hands" at [ELCA.org](http://ELCA.org)

## Rummage Sale

*A benefit that supports world hunger relief and Lutheran Good Gifts.*

Time to clean out your closets, basements and garages for the annual Trinity Lutheran Church Rummage Sale on **Friday, August 16th.**

We will accept your items starting Sunday, August 11th. Please no TV's or furniture. We appreciate your assistance with this request.

Set up help will be appreciated starting Monday, August 12th.

Proceeds of this event will go towards local and world hunger relief and Lutheran Good Gifts.

For more information, please contact Yvonne Molinski or Jan Johnson who will be co-chairing the event this year. Thank you, Yvonne and Jan for sharing your gifts for this worthwhile cause.



## Consistent Giving

*Two great options to help you fulfill your stewardship plans for generous giving.*

August marks the last month of the 2018/2019 Fiscal Year. Trinity's financial calendar begins on September 1 and ends on August 31 each year. Several years ago the council decided to make this change as much of our programming is based on the school calendar year. Although this has allowed our bookkeeping to be more efficient, we have noticed that there is a significant drop in income during the summer months (June-August). Living in Northern Wisconsin, the summers are short and most of us save vacations, family reunions, spending time in the outdoors, etc., for those warm summer months. One great way to maintain consistent giving throughout the year is to either sign-up for Simply Giving or the congregation's website.

- **Simply Giving** is an easy cost effective way to give. This program is managed by Thrivent Financial Services and is set-up through our office. Giving options allow you to give weekly, bi-weekly or monthly and amounts are automatically deducted from your checking or savings account.
- The **giving app** on our [ComeToTrinity.com](http://ComeToTrinity.com) website is our newest electronic giving option. This method is easy to access on any smartphone or on your home computer. You manage your frequency and method of giving yourself. In fact, you can scan the code in your weekly bulletin to get started!

Both of these programs allow consistent giving, which allows the finance committee to more accurately predict our annual income. This streamlines the yearly budget and reduces the amount of "guess work" involved. If you have any questions regarding either of these programs, please contact Marina in the church office at 715-362-4258.



# From the Council President

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For the last few months as a council we've been laying a foundation of support for our WIG (wildly important goal) TO REIMAGINE OUR GOVERNANCE. This isn't something we're doing just for kicks, this is difficult work and we believe will see lasting benefits from our efforts. Our volunteers will suffer less burnout, we will have people using their God given talents effectively and our congregation as a whole will be more fluid and adaptable to new possibilities of ministry and engagement.

We already have two successful examples of operating outside the current system. Trinity's Connection Cafe. This was the vision of one person following an example from another growing congregation and is now a huge success and a powerful tool in relationship building. Yes volunteers are now organized through a board and staff puts out the printed schedules but all this got rolling by a passionate individual.

W O W. (Worship on Wednesday). This is the venue where we are seeing our growth in worshipping families with younger children. The casual environment and experimental atmosphere are the drivers of success. No board or committee has oversight. We are free to experiment. This is the place where the "test and learn" culture has been in place for 9+ years with success.

The goal isn't to change just for the sake of change, but to help us live out our mission statement and position our congregation to effectively and passionately minister to this ever changing world. Please have patience with our efforts and pray for our success.

Praise be to God!  
*Kevin*

## Members of Council

**President:**

Kevin Eggers

**Vice President:**

Carole Hansen

**Secretary:**

Jerry Dykstra

**Trustee:**

Josh Pudlowski

**Trustee:**

Lori Grinde

**Trustee:**

Rob Wienandt

**Rep. Witnessing:**

Sue Johnson

**Rep. Worship:**

Margo Morey

**Rep. Education:**

Jody Doro

**Rep. Property:**

Peter Leick



### Stewardship Principles

Our giving is done first, as a joyful and faithful response to God's gift of grace in Christ.

And, our gifts are joyfully given that the ministries of ones' congregation can grow and be vibrant in the proclamation of Christ and God's grace.

There are several pictures in this month's newsletter from the recent Day Camp that Trinity Lutheran held. The pictures are a vibrant example of our stewardship in action. Thank you for the many ways that you respond to God's generosity and help make ministry like this happen.

### Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Year-to-Date Through June 30, 2019

**Actual Giving: \$295,548**

(Actual Giving represents the contributions we have received thus far)

**Projected Needs: \$310,951**

(Projected Needs represents the contributions we need to support our ministry plan)

### Gift and Memorial

- Marilyn Bradley in memory of Don Schueler designated for the quilters
- Deb Johnson in memory of Don Schueler for building upgrades
- Schueler Family in memory of Don Schueler



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Abundant Garden This Summer?**

Is your fruit and vegetable garden over abundant this summer? If have produce to share, you can drop it off at the Northwoods Alliance for Temporary Housing (NATH) at 204 W. Frederick St. It will be put to good use.

- **Summer Blooms**

Garden flowers are a beautiful way to brighten our worship area on the weeks that flowers have not been ordered from Forth Floral. If you would like to provide a bouquet from your garden, sign up on the Altar Flower Calendar on the bulletin board across from the IOC table and write "garden". Please only sign up on a week that someone hasn't already ordered a bouquet from Forth Floral.

- **Altar Guild/Flower Committee**

Do you ever wonder what happens behind the scenes on Sunday morning? How the bread and wine gets set up? How the altar flowers just appear? How the banners and altar colors get changed? Be part of the mystery. Join the Altar Guild/Flower Committee. Sign up at the committee booth or contact Pam in the office.

- **LiveStream of Church Service**

We are Livestreaming our worship service on the first and third Sundays of the month. If you are interested, please email the church office at [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com) to request the [link](#) that we will send you to connect to the service. The link should be available for 21 days.

- **Staffed Nursery**

A staffed nursery is available from 9 AM-10:30AM downstairs for children during the worship service. While children are ALWAYS welcome to be in worship this option is available if needed. We want to help families have a good worship experience.

- **Join Us in Fellowship**

Immediately following the 9:30 am Sunday worship, you are invited to join us in the gathering space and enjoy a cup of coffee, a variety of refreshments and fellowship.

- **True Tales from Trinity**

Is there a time in your life when you clearly felt the active hand of God? If you'd like to share your story, please provide a written description of your experience for review and plan on setting up a convenient time to record your story. Contact Pastor Kari, Pastor Tim, or any member of the stewardship team if you'd like to share your faith story in a "True Tale from Trinity!"

- **NATH/Frederick Place Meals**

Trinity members provide the evening meal for the residents at the Frederick Place homeless shelter on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Information and signup sheets are available at the IOC table. Trinity is committed to this community service for the remainder of this year and hope to continue to do this with your help.

- **RAFP**

Every second Monday of the month from 3-6 pm volunteers are needed at the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry to distribute, weigh, and carry food. If you would like to help, please sign up at the IOC table.

- **RAFP — Senior Distribution**

On the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm. Help seniors choose food items. For information contact Georgia Mielke.

- **RAFP — Packing Baskets for Home Delivery**

Every other Friday from 9:30 am to 11 am. For information contact Nancy Eisele.

- **RAFP Milk Collection**

On **Sunday, August 11th** we will be collecting milk for the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry. Needed are 1/2 gallon and gallons of skim or 2% milk. Please leave your donations in the milk crates by/in the refrigerator in the kitchen at church.

- **Calendar Is Online**

The church calendar is now available on our website, [www.ComeToTrinity.com](http://www.ComeToTrinity.com). Go to the tab "Events" and then to "Calendar." The public calendar in Outlook will come up.

Double clicking on individual events will bring up additional information including a brief description of the event, room, and contact person.

If you see any corrections needed or your group is not meeting on a certain day, please notify the office so the calendar is current.

- **Change of Address Request**

If your address, email or phone number has changed, please complete the form in the bulletin and drop it in the offering plate or in the church office. You can also email Pam in the church office at [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com) or call 715-362-4258. Keeping our records current ensures you stay informed of the activities and programs here at Trinity.



- **From the Office**

Trinity Lutheran is a busy church! To help us keep track of our space, please contact the church office to get your meeting, practice or set-up information on the calendar so you or your group can use the space without any conflicts.

The calendar, serving schedule and birthdays and anniversaries can be found posted in the church gathering area or at the IOC table.

If you would like copies sent to you, please contact the church office Monday-Friday from 8 am to 12 pm. by calling Pam at 715-362-4258 or emailing her at [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com).

- **Newsletter Deadline**

The Newsletter deadline is the *15th of each month*. Please email submissions to the office email [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com) or drop them off in the church office Mon-Fri from 8:00 am-noon.

- **Office Hours**

Monday-Friday, 8 am to noon

- **Office Contacts**

Pastor Tim: 715-437-0774

[tvadis@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tvadis@cometotrinity.com)

Pastor Kari: 715-437-0770

[kvadis@cometotrinity.com](mailto:kvadis@cometotrinity.com)

Marina Benoy, Treasurer: 715-362-4258

[mabenoy@cometotrinity.com](mailto:mabenoy@cometotrinity.com)

Pam Karoliussen, Administrative Assistant

715-362-4258

[tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com)

*(continued from front page)*

Our goal is to have alignment, clear roles, renewed focus on fulfilling our mission and a clear process for resolving conflicts. Along with that we'd like to see a pipeline to develop leaders where everything we do is founded in compassion and community. All the while we want to maintain the legacy and image of Trinity.

The test and learn culture may sound strange to some of you. What it means is that we will try something, evaluate it and see if it worked. If it did, we'll celebrate that and move forward. If it failed, well, we'll celebrate that too because through the testing we learned something helpful!

What we really need from you now is your patience and your prayers as we try to make Trinity a better place for our congregation, for our volunteers, for our staff and most importantly for those who are in need of Christ in their lives.

Trinity has accomplished great things in its long history in Rhinelander. At this time, I and my fellow council members and the staff are asking for your support as we work to make Trinity a place where people of all ages and all stages in their spiritual journey can confidently bring their complete and authentic selves to a relationship with Christ.

*Rob Wienandt, Council Trustee*

## Upcoming Events

- RAFP Milk Collection, August 11
- Rummage Sale, August 16
- Annual Elections Meeting, August 25

## A Look Ahead

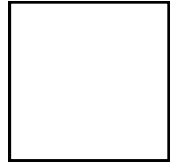
### September

- Wednesday Worship Resumes, September 4
- Wednesday Night Alive! and Registration, September 4
- Annual Financial Plan Meetings (see front cover for multiple dates)
- Annual Congregational Meeting, September 29
- CROSS+GEN Event for all ages, September 25
- "First We Give of Ourselves" Stewardship Drive

### October

- First Communion, October 13
- CROSS+GEN Event for all ages, October 30

Trinity Lutheran Church  
235 N. Stevens St.  
Rhineland, WI 54501



**Address Service Requested**

*Read our Newsletter on our website at  
[www.ComeToTrinity.com](http://www.ComeToTrinity.com)*



***Our Mission is to help  
people of all ages become  
active and engaged  
followers of Christ.***

We are a Lutheran congregation with a variety of ages, backgrounds and passions. We are a community striving to grow in our walk of faith with Jesus Christ to love and serve the world. We are a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (often referred to as the ELCA) in the Northern Great Lakes Synod. These relationships help us to share the saving message of the gospel in our congregation, in the Rhineland community, in our country and throughout the world. We welcome you to be part of our community and join us in the mission we share in Christ. For more information about Trinity Lutheran, to get involved in our ministries, or to learn more about becoming a member, please contact us.

Phone: 715.362.4258

Email: [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com)

Website: [www.ComeToTrinity.com](http://www.ComeToTrinity.com)

You can also find us on Facebook