

# Trinity Tidings

A Monthly Publication of Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)

June 2018

## ELCA National Youth Gathering

Houston, We Have a Gathering! I'm excited to announce that because of your generosity, we are going to make it all the way to Houston and back again. Right now its all about the "getting-ready" details. Our group of 12 will travel with a group of 10 from Good Shepherd Lutheran from Peshtigo. For many of the youth, the new friends they will make from ELCA congregations around the country is a huge take-away from a gathering like this. Well, as we get ready, we are assembling our packing list, planning our departure time, and packing our T-shirts (the Rhinelanderians along with the Peshtigoians – will have matching T-shirts every day... it helps a lot in a big crowd to find each other), filling out forms, creating meal plans and.....all the getting ready details are spinning through my head!!!! I don't want to forget anything.

People have asked me, "Why are you going to Houston? It's a lot of stress. There will be a lot of people there. Why go?" I ask

myself that question too. For me, it was Hurricane Harvey that really pushed me to say, "Yes. We're going to Houston in 2018." I want our youth (and myself) to see the damage that a hurricane can do to a major city and to be part of the rebuilding of that city. Houston is the 4th largest city in the USA and there are still people who are

homeless, jobless and hopeless as a result of that hurricane. But that's not the only thing we will participate in while we are in Houston. We will also gather with 30,000+ youth for worship, for

play, for social justice... The theme is "This Changes Everything" and the theme verse is Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." Each night we'll gather for worship with music and speakers that will bring this theme to life in a powerful way. Molly Beck Dean, the ELCA Youth Gathering Director put it this way, "This is a powerful and transformational ministry:.... if you are brave enough to let your  
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### Upcoming Events

Tuesday Nights and  
Tue—Wed—Thr mornings  
Continuing Pickleball

Sunday June 17  
Father's Day

June 26-July 2  
ELCA National Youth  
Gathering in Houston, TX

Sunday July 22  
Look for some changes to this annual congregation event at Hodag Park. This year's theme: "Connecting Water and the Word," will include opportunities to renew the gift of faith, hear inspiring faith journey stories, joyful music and good food.

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## Trinity's History: Present and Future



*Above:* Removal of the Bell Tower in 2013. *Below:* Trinity's Production of "To the Castle"

Even into the twenty-first century, Trinity Lutheran church in continually changing. In the summer of 2001, remodeling began on the building once again, this time focusing on the area that would become the present-day Fellowship Hall and the area by the elevators. More classrooms would be added underneath the Fellowship Hall in the following years. Eventually the Bell Tower, which had moisture issues since it was first built, was removed in 2013.

**Trinity's focus on youth and outreach into the community has remained a large part of Trinity's identity.** Trinity decided to share the downstairs with NAMI during weekdays, as well as letting Pickleball groups utilize the gym. Members of the congregation are encouraged to make a meal for the local homeless shelter or to assist Faith in Action on whatever job may be available at the time.

The youth at Trinity also get involved in many of the activities

that are offered for them. Teenagers have participated in servant events in the community, either volunteering to rake **someone's yard or serving a meal** to those who are in need of one. The high schoolers routinely take trips in the summer to experience the love of God in an environment that is much different than that of the local community. In the past few years they have gone to the Boundary Waters in Minnesota, backpacking out in Montana, gone to California and volunteered there, and this year are planning to head down to Texas for the National Youth Gathering.

Even the young kids find programs they could be a part of. For many years, Trinity hosted Vacation Bible School at a local camp to surround them in the **beauty of God's creation while**

they were taught stories from the Bible. Recently, Trinity has been hosting Day Camp out at CAVOC and bringing in camp counselors from Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp to lead and teach the kids.

Inter-generational activities have taken a large step into focus for Trinity. With the assistance of Pastors Kari and Tim, there have been events organized to encourage communication across generational divides. These Cross-Gen nights include fellowship, games, and oftentimes some form of snack. The young are given opportunities to bond with elders and vice versa to create the intricate faith webs encouraged.

The future holds many things for us here at Trinity, not all of them known. But this will not stop Trinity from doing what it is called to do for other members of the body of Christ and for members of the community around us. We are all a part of **God's hands and feet on this**



world and as long as we continue to feel the love he has for us in our hearts, we will go out and live that love to those around us.

■ *Christine Blakeslee*



## From the Council President

Greetings

Charlotte and I were honored to attend our nephew Todd's confirmation. He and his family are members of Bonnet Prairie Lutheran church in Rio Wisconsin, a small farm community 25 minutes North East of Sun Prairie. On an average Sunday their

worship attendance is about 60.

This confirmation Sunday there were 85. Pastor Joanne Wittrock lead a traditional worship

service straight out of the Green LBW. Todd and the other candidates for confirmation affirmed their vows after the sermon time and Mothers were blessed as it was also Mother's Day!

What struck me was that I was seeing how a PASTORAL size congregation functions. The Pastor manages every aspect of worship. The usher was also the congregation president and his wife was the reader of the lessons, the communion assistant and the prayer leader. Sounds pretty typical for a smaller community.

In the last few months our council has been spending a lot of time learning how PROGRAM size churches function. When a congregation grows to 225 weekly worshippers it enters into new territory with very different needs.

Pastors alone are not able to handle every need of the growing community. Lay leaders and other support staff are needed to help. Lay leaders and others who volunteer can face burnout with the increased stresses on their time. The list continues....**Brothers and sisters,**

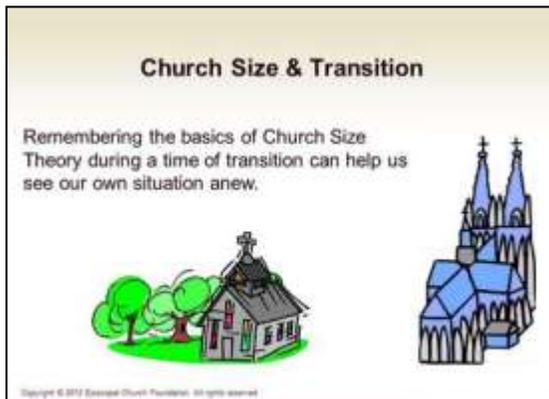
we are a PROGRAM size church! We average 240 weekly worshippers and if we dig deeper, that number is probably much higher. If we look at the

fluctuations in worshippers who may not attend every week but DO attend regularly. With that in mind we could be as high as 300 regular worshippers. This is a blessing, and proof of the work of the Spirit here a Trinity! Praise be to God!

With this REALITY in mind, we as individuals and as a congregation must make a fundamental shift in our thinking, and how we function here at Trinity. This can be difficult, but if we are to live out our mission statement, it is imperative that we do so, and with Gods help we will. Keep our growing community in your prayers.

Blessings.

■ Kevin Eggers



## COUNCIL OFFICERS

President—Kevin Eggers  
 Vice President—Carole Hansen  
 Secretary—Keith McCaffery  
 Trustee—Josh Pudlowski  
 Trustee—Rick Taylor  
 Trustee—Rob Wienandt  
 Rep Witnessing—Maureen Sorensen  
 Rep. Worship—Mary Taylor  
 Rep. Education—Jody Doro  
 Rep. Property—Bill Weyker

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guard down long enough for the Spirit to enter in....if you can be quiet long enough to listen to someone different than yourself....if your prayer is to be open to what God is calling you to....if you realize the strong roots of a community will ground you no matter the strength of life's storms, and..... if you imagine yourself as part of something bigger than you."

Our presence in Houston will have a positive impact on the community. AND, when we return, we will have had a high-impact experience of Worship, Service, Belonging & Becoming active and engaged followers of Christ. Please pray for us by name: Ciarra Kadlec, Haley Seefeldt, Morgan Johnson, Emma Hjella, Jenna Hawley, Paige Buss, Brooke Mork, Ava Stauter, Joshua Doro, Faith Bartlet, Sandy Buss & Pastor Kari Vadis. Pray for our safety and that we would experience the living Christ in an impactful way while we are impacting the community of Houston. Thank you again for your generosity of funds, prayers, love and grace.

■ Pastor Kari Vadis

# Congratulations to our High School Seniors

On Sunday May 20 we recognized our High School Seniors during worship and presented a special quilt made the Trinity Lutheran **women's quilting ministry**. We thank God for being able to celebrate this achievement and pray for these young adults as they pursue different plans for their futures.



**MADDIE MEYER**  
Will be attending Northcentral Technical College to earn an AA in Radiology.



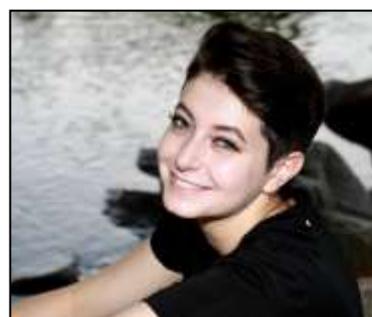
**MARKUS JOHNSON**  
Will be attending Marquette University to study Economics and eventually attend Law School.



**NATHANIEL ZIEGENBEIN**  
Will be going into the medical field. He will be studying Nursing at Nicolet.



**ERIC SCHEUER**  
Will be attending Nicolet for an electro-mechanical degree.



**JENNA HAWLEY**  
Will be working for a year as she pursues her higher education.



**LEXIE RICK**  
Will be attending UW Stout to study Human Development and Family Studies.



**ALLY SEEFELDT**  
Will be attending UW River Falls majoring in Animal Science or Pre-veterinary.



**JACOB MAHNER**  
Will be attending UW Stout in the fall.



**DARIN BLOOMQUIST**  
Has accepted a bowling scholarship with Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.



**NICHOLAS JENKINS**  
Will be raising his son Wyatt with Brittany, as well as working and possibly going to Nicolet.



**ZEBASTIAN MICHEAU**  
Plans to join the USMC for life.



# Camp Needs Project Update



Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, located in Crystal Falls, Michigan, is one of our mission partners and the camp needs our help. Like most outdoor ministries there are more maintenance projects than available funds. During the month of May Trinity Lutheran took a special offering to help provide funds to do some of the top priority maintenance needs for the camp. We want to be able to complete several projects before the summer camp season begins in mid-June.



A new Double Door and Loading dock for the kitchen will be put in by Trinity Lutheran volunteers the weekend of June 9-10.

One of the top needs we are going to do is to upgrade the door and loading dock to the kitchen. At the time of this writing we have received \$1,600 plus in our offering. The good news is that there are enough funds to cover the cost of the project! We will also be sending a work crew up to camp

to provide the labor to install the door and build the loading dock.

We are also grateful for the donation of a well-working outboard motor, from Gene and Mary Copenhaver, to replace the one on the pontoon boat. Gene saw our appeal and had an

outboard that he could donate. Thank you! And thank you to Dan Holquist for getting the motor tuned up. We look forward to the camp getting lots of good use of the motor and pontoon this summer.

All the money we receive from the special offering will be used to buy supplies or items for top priority

maintenance camp needs projects. There will be several more projects for volunteer work crews later this year. Thanks to the congregation for their generosity to help our mission partner. ■

## Update on Those Serving in Worship

A quarterly schedule of Those Serving in Worship is sent home to all those who help out with various worship assistant roles. These include readers, ushers, power point operators, communion helpers, Trinity Connection Café, IOC Table. Because everyone receives this schedule we will not be printing it in the newsletter. You can find a copy of the three month schedule at the IOC Table for review. The names of those serving each week will also be printed in the Sunday bulletin.

If you are unable to help at your scheduled time, *we ask you to find someone to fill in for you, and contact Mary Taylor to let her know what the changes are.* If you need help finding someone to take your scheduled time you can contact Mary Taylor at 715-369-3669. For Wednesday, please contact Charlotte Eggers at 715-360-0483.

You can also contact the church office if you have misplaced your copy of the quarterly schedule and get a new one.

We will also be posting a quarterly list of church member anniversary dates and birthdates on the bulletin board outside the worship entrance doors and at the IOC Table rather than in the monthly newsletter.



## Missionary Care Package Sent



Board of Witness Members assemble items for the Care Package for our Missionary and his family.

A thinking of you care package was sent to Pastor Derek and Dawn Harman and their boys from members of Trinity Lutheran Church. Pastor Derek is an ELCA Missionary serving at Bratislava International Church in Bratislava, Slovakia and our congregation is a covenant sponsor of the work he is doing. Pastors Tim and Kari and members of the Board of Witness came up with items that were sent in the package. It included locally made maple syrup, jam, pancake mix and cranberry craisins from Wisconsin. Goldfish crackers and instant oatmeal were also included which are favorites of their children. Other items included games the family can enjoy together. It is

a small token of our appreciation **for God's work Pastor Derek and his family** are doing in the global church. Please remember to include Pastor Derek, Dawn and their two boys in your prayers. Watch for a poster and journal book at the IOC Table the beginning of June that will be available for members to write notes of thank you, support or share pictures and stories of **Trinity's work and life in the Northwoods** to share with Pastor Derek and his family. We hope to present this book to Pastor Derek when he comes to Trinity later this summer for a visit!

■ Board of Witness

### Gift and Memorial

Guy & Carole Hansen—  
In memory of Tim Vocke

Emily Bodensteiner—  
In memory of Tim Vocke  
designated for the  
Music Fund

### Save the Dates

The Board of Witness announces two joint opportunities between Immanuel Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran coming later this summer and early fall. The first is the *Walk for Water* event on August 4. Members from both congregations meet together at church and then walk to Hodag park and back to raise awareness of the need for clean drinking water in our world.

The other event is **God's Work Our Hands** on September 8 and 9. **God's Work Our Hands** will take our mission work into our community. Please fill out a form found in the pews and at the IOC Table. You can contact Sue Johnson 715-493-0099 for more information on these events.

The Board of Witness will also be updating member information during the month of June. Someone will be available after worship services on both Sunday and Wednesday to update contact information. Members who miss this opportunity will be contacted by phone or through mailings. The updated information will also be used for a new directory.

### Check Out the Relunched Church Website

We have relaunched the new website. Several new features are being added such as devotional material, a blog, online giving options, video/audio of sermons, and electronic fillable forms. It will take us some time to get all these features built up and functioning but we are making progress. We are hoping that we can get more people taking advantage of our church website. Please share this resources with others and encourage them to take a look.

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



## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### 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. The current office hours are Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 9:00am-Noon.

### Continuing Pickle Ball

Continuing Pickle Ball sessions will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church gym. Due to limited space, these sessions are open to NPT and Trinity Lutheran members and their guests only. Equipment will be provided. These sessions are offered at no cost. There is especially room for people on Tuesday nights from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Other times are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00am-11:00am.

### NATH/Frederick Place Meals:

Reminder that we still need

people to help provide the evening meal for the residents at the Frederick Place homeless shelter. This for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Information and sign-up 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.

### Trig's Brat and Bake Sale

Saturday, June 23, 10:00am-2:00pm. We are looking for donations of baked goods. A sign-up sheet will be available at the IOC Table. Please drop baked items off at the church on Friday, June 22 before noon or Saturday, **June 23 by 10:00am at Trig's**. Thank you – The Board of Witness Members.

### Help With Baby Care Kits

Starting in June, some dedicated people will be putting together Baby Care Kits that will be

sent to Lutheran World Relief in the fall. We are looking for items to go in the kits and are in need of: baby socks, yards of flannel fabric, gently used/new baby clothes in sizes 6 months to 2T: sleepers, cotton t-shirts, jackets/sweaters, outfits, and long pants or monetary donations to purchase items we need.

Come join us starting the first Wednesday in June from 9 a.m. to noon downstairs at church we are always grateful for the extra help. If you have any questions, please call Susan Swanson at 715-362-6227.

### Calendar Is Now 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. 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 can be accurate and up-to-date.

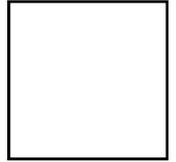
### Northwoods Memory Cafe

The Northwoods Café is a gathering for people with memory loss and programs and most of all a place to be who you are. Hosted by Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church, first Thursday every month, 10:30am-noon. For more information or to register, call the Immanuel Lutheran Church office at 715-362-5910. This program is Free. Registration is appreciated but not required.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH'S  
**DAY CAMP**  
WITH FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP STAFF

**July 9-13, 2018**  
**9 am - 4 pm** (9 am - noon on Friday)  
Early drop-off (7-45 - 9) and late pick-up (4 - 5:15) available.

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