



# Trinity *Tidings*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA) | SEPTEMBER 2019

## FAMILY FAITH NIGHT

Family Faith Night is a time to share a meal, sing, pray, have fun and be inspired as our faith is strengthened. This is an evening for anyone in the community to connect with one another and grow in faith together.

We will start the evening by offering an open meal time from 5:15—5:50 pm in the Fellowship Hall. There is no charge for the meal. Sharing a meal is a great time to enjoy fellowship with one another, and we hope it will make participating in Wednesday nights easier for people coming from all different directions (work, school, sports etc.). Following the meal we will move into the worship center for a time of singing, prayer and worship from 6:00—6:25pm. After this large group worship time we will offer faith formation break out groups for various ages. Examples of break out groups would be things like: Music group practice, Godly Play (for kids 4k—3rd grade), W45 (for those in 4th—5th grade),

Middle School Group (for the fall it will be confirmation), Adult Groups such as book study, prayer group, Living Your Strengths or other intentional groups.

### EVENING SCHEDULE

**5:15—5:50pm** Open Meal Time

**6:00—6:25pm** Singing, Prayer, Inspiration, Praise

**6:30—7:00pm** Break out groups

Once per month we all stay together for a Cross+Gen experience.

We begin the year on **Wednesday September 4**, with registration for youth. The faith formation groups begin the following week.

One area that has a particular need on Wednesdays will be for **Kitchen Crew helpers**. The kind of help we need is very simple. It would entail being part of a group that helps serve the meal and clean up—  
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## Congregation Meetings

### 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.

At this once a year meeting we celebrate and hear about ministry, review the financial report, pass the new budget and complete any business of the congregation.

# NATH Dinner

*Sharing food and fellowship at Frederick Place.*

On the second Tuesday of each month, Trinity has committed to provide dinner at Frederick Place Homeless Shelter (aka NATH).

Providing the meal involves:

- Providing the food (paying for it—but if you need assistance, please see Marina Benoy in the office).
- Preparing the food in the NATH kitchen (or other location). It may be easier to bring food already cooked.
- Dinner estimate is around 20-24 which includes residents, staff and yourselves.
- Provide two gallons of milk (could also include lemonade).
- Provide volunteers to prep and serve (limit 2-4 at NATH).
- Food is served “buffet style”. Dinner should be ready at 5:30 pm.
- Please plan to eat with the residents and enjoy a time of fellowship with them.
- Whoever signed up at the IOC Table as

“Contact” will coordinate dinner with others who signed up.

- Two or three days prior, the office receives an email with the head count at NATH-informing us as well if there are babies or any food allergies. The office will forward this info to the contact person.

If you enjoy cooking, please consider getting a group of friends together to plan and serve a meal on Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, or Dec. 10.

Please call Pam Karoliussen in the office if you have any questions about this service..

## Hebrews 13:16

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*

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.

# Share the Love

*God’s Work. Our Hands Event allows us to 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.**

Two service projects have been selected: cleaning, washing walls and possibly painting at Frederick Place

or assisting at the Rhineland Community Garden with weeding, harvesting and possibly shed maintenance.

The Board of Witness will have sign-up sheets at the IOC Table with 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).

## Behind the Scenes at Trinity

Don’t the gardens at Trinity look beautiful? It’s all thanks to the dedication of a team of members who are talented gardeners. They meet in the spring to design, do the planting, weeding and watering all spring, summer and fall. Pictured below are Ray and Connie Griesbach deadheading and watering during a recent hot spell. Thank you, gardeners, for making Trinity bloom!





# Blessing of the Quilts

*Join us Sunday, September 29th at the 9:30 am worship for the quilt blessing.*

Pastor Kari and Pastor Tim will be blessing the quilts that have been created all year by WELCA quilters before sending them off to Lutheran World Relief.

Imagine the comfort and care you feel when you snuggle under a comforter made by a loved one. That's the feeling that is shared through a Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilt. Useful for shielding against the cold and rain or for warm bedding, quilts can also be purposed as simple tents, floor coverings, or a wrap to hold a baby on a mother's back. In a simple combination of fabric and thread, our Trinity Lutheran WELCA quilters reach out to people in their time of need with a strong message of hope—you are not alone.

The first Monday and Tuesday of each month, quilters gather from 9 am to 3 pm measuring, cutting fabric, sewing and tying 60" by 80" quilts that are packed and stored for shipment until fall. Last year 701 quilts were made and shipped to Lutheran World Relief for distribution!

Do you enjoy sewing and fellowship? If you would like to share your gifts in this way, please contact Connie Griesbach, Virginia Randolph or Pam Karoliussen in the church office.

If sewing is not your talent, the quilters are always in need of large pieces of fabric, sheets, curtains, or light-weight bedspreads for backing the quilts. Monetary donations are also welcome to purchase the large rolls of quilt batting. You may write a check to WELCA noting the money is to be used for quilts.

It's not just all work and no play, fellowship abounds at breaks and potluck lunches on quilting days in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity.



# 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.*



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

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? Cooking? Photography? Music? Reading? 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 to her 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 fulfill you—you are welcome to just give it a try.

## Coming Soon. . .

*Mark your calendars for the Christmas Bazaar—Saturday, November 9, 2019*

The planning begins for the annual Trinity Christmas Bazaar! Meetings are scheduled for September 10, October 8 and November 5—all at 2:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us to help make this bazaar better than ever!

A traditional part of the bazaar is the lefse. Please see the IOC Table to sign up to help with lefse making. No experience needed. Men are welcome. October 14 and 15, 28 and 29. Mondays are from 9 am to noon and Tuesdays from 9 am to 2 pm.

# Rummage Sale Thank You

A special "Thank You" for the generous donations made by all to the annual church rummage sale and to the dedicated ladies and men who worked all week setting up, cleaning up, packing leftovers and delivering them. Projects like this are only successful with dedicated help. The rummage sale raised \$1,624.88 to be split between the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry and Lutheran World Relief Hunger Projects. Again, thank you all for a great job done!

*Yvonne Molinski and Jan Johnson, Co-chairs*



*Photos by Nancy DeWitt*



# From the Council President

Greetings,

Last fall we held a council retreat where we took an honest look at the ministry here at Trinity, and while it is clear God is blessing us, we still face many challenges. We began work on the WIG - Wildly Important Goal. A goal essential to carrying out our mission and ministry.

We came to the consensus that our governance structure (the system) was our largest threat. Since the retreat, we've been evaluating how we function and those things that are hampering our ministry. As a council we've been as transparent as possible throughout this process. We've met with all the boards and the staff. We've held a joint council meeting with all available board members. We've written articles in the newsletter and given updates in worship. And we have embraced the "TEST AND LEARN" environment that the VISIONING AND PLANNING report suggested.

The Board of Education had an episode several years ago that saw three members resign. Since that time, Jody Doro has chaired that board and has been working closely with Pr. Kari. They have functioned as a committee, finding appropriate help when needed, and are succeeding in their efforts. The council has asked Jody to stay on beyond his term limit to (test and learn) how this type of committee system will benefit Trinity.

One month after this decision, the Board of Worship, embracing this concept, laid out a similar proposal and a simpler way of operating using more short-term committees and a person whose skills and passion for such work will continue to serve beyond her term limit as well, Sue Underberg.

In addition, the council implemented a motion that was made in 2006 to aid communication and direction for the boards. The board chairs will be the council representatives. A behavioral covenant has been instituted for the entire council and we are exploring extending that to the boards as well. We will continue to elect the executive team as the constitution states and observe the term limits.

The spirit is alive and active at Trinity, and we ask for patience as we explore new opportunities and seek a more productive way of living out our mission statement and carrying out our Ministry.

Praise God.

*Kevin Eggers*

## 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.

## Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Year-to-Date Through July 31, 2019

**Actual Giving: \$326,019**

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

**Projected Needs: \$344,090**

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

## Missionary Update

"Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."—Jesus (Mark 3:35)

Who are my siblings? Who are my family? Jesus challenges us to think about our relationships with others in the world, who or what it is we value and why. Ultimately, Jesus' radical inclusiveness pushes us to open our hearts, our minds, and our doors, to all people.

We are grateful for our sibling sin Christ throughout the world and we look forward to the ways God will continue to reveal His love to us through those that come into our lives.

*Pastors Rachel and Zach with Baby Dot*

The missionaries in Hungary that Trinity supports welcomed baby Dorothy in June. The Board of Worship sent them a baby quilt with our congratulations.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Lutheran World Relief School Kits**

It's almost time for back to school. Help those less fortunate learn with the help of "Back to School Kits" put together by members of the congregation. Items will be collected through September and sent to Lutheran World Relief with the quilts. Donation basket is located at the IOC Table.

Needed items for each kit include:

Four 70-sheet notebooks (no loose leaf)  
One 30 centimeter ruler (or with inches and centimeters)  
One pencil sharpener  
One blunt scissors  
Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink), secured with rubber band.  
One box of 16 or 25 crayons

- **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.

- **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 is available for 21 days so you can watch at other times, too.

- **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.

- **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, September 8th** 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.

- **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 (Carole Hansen, Al Hofstetter, Jerry Dykstra) if you'd like to share your faith story in a "True Tale from 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)

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so you would do things like put out plates, heat up food, make coffee, use dishwasher etc. We are looking for lots of help so we can spread the serving times around. Please consider volunteering to help out in the kitchen on Wednesday nights. You can talk to Pam Karoliussen our administrative assistant to get more info or to sign up.

We want to help people of all ages become active and engaged followers of Christ. So, please know that you don't need to be a family with kids to be part of Wednesday nights. We want all generations to join together! We pray Family Faith Night will be a blessing to you, our church and community.

*Pastor Kari and Pastor Tim Vadis*

### **September Cross+Gen Event**

Join us Wednesday, September 25th for a Cross+Gen Event—a fun way to build our “Faith Web” and make connections with people of all ages.

Cross+Gen Meal from 5:15 to 5:50 pm

Cross+Gen Large Group Gathering at 6 pm

Cross+Gen Table Groups from 6:30 to 7 pm

Enjoy scripture, skits, music, games, blessings and more surprises.



## **Upcoming Events**

- Family Faith Night begins September 4
- Faith Formation Registration, September 4
- RAFP Milk Collection, September 8
- Annual Financial Plan Meetings (see front cover for multiple dates)
- CROSS+GEN Event for all ages, September 25
- Annual Congregational Meeting, September 29
- “First We Give of Ourselves” Stewardship Program begins

## **A Look Ahead**

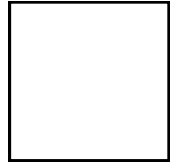
### October

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

### November

- Christmas Bazaar, November 9
- Christmas Program Practice Begins

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