

TRINITYnews

JUNE 2019

VOLUME 25 ■ ISSUE 6

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

203 East Main Street
PO Box 188
Spring Grove, MN 55974

507.498.5291
www.trinitysg.org



Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove



Instagram
trinityyouth203
trinitylutheransg

Office hours:

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Wed: Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Sundays at Trinity

9:15 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Listen live on KVIK 104.7 FM

STAFF

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Rachel Storlie, Organist
Willy Leafblad, Handbell Director
Jean Ellingson, Pianist
Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist
Mark Udstuen, Praise Band leader

Visioning and Planning Results: We Need Space Updates

At the May Council meeting the Visioning & Planning Team (Steve Kemp, Bev Nelson, Nolie Kapplinger) presented their report. They were tasked with gathering information in order to make recommendations about the future growth and enhancement of the congregation. Based on the 112 surveys, interviews, forums, and electronic communication, “the ministries of Trinity can be maintained and have the potential to grow with some changes to our existing space.” Results were summarized into three areas:

- Additional, enhanced space: education, welcome/fellowship, accessibility
- Space: storage, updates, flexible, green
- Things that should be retained

A list of “dreams” shared by participants for Trinity’s ministries was also compiled. If a decision is made to go forward, the Visioning & Planning Team members asked to talk to the Building Team. The Congregation Council agreed that we have assessed the needs and we have a need. The next steps include:

- The Congregation Council selects a Building Team Chairperson.
- A Congregational meeting will be scheduled to share the findings and recommendations.

At the June meeting, the Council will select a Building Team Chairperson(s) and will set a date for a Congregational meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the Building Team, the Building Finance Team, or the Communication Team, please leave your name with the church office.

The three additional teams’ responsibilities are as follows:

- Building Team: Coordinate the entire building program from the development of the Schematic Design to the final acceptance and dedication of the new church facility.
- Building Finance Team: Interview Capital Campaign Companies, research loan sources, establish an account with the Mission Investment Fund, and set up a system for campaign pledges.
- Communication Team: Coordinate congregational meetings, direct mailings, write articles, coordinate congregational support, and coordinate ground-breaking and dedication activities.

Let’s keep praying as we continue to discern what God wants for Trinity.



Vacation Bible School (VBS): June 24-27, 9:00-11:30am

Day Camp: June 24-27, 9:00am-3:00pm

Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village: June 9-14

Outdoor Worship with picnic: Sunday, June 30

Thirst Day: June 27, 8:30pm

Habitat build: June 26 & 29, 8:00am-4:00pm

3:16s outing to Trampoline Park: June 20, 6:00pm

*Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19*

Dear friends in Christ,

By the time most of you read this, we will have elected a new bishop to lead the Southeast Minnesota Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. The “numbers” tell us that church membership is shrinking – across all denominations – and there’s a shortage of clergy – across all denominations. In our synod, a number of churches have closed their doors and others have yoked to share a pastor and activities. It’s not like it used to be, we say. The new bishop has a big job to do. And yet ...

At Trinity we ran out of candles on Christmas Eve (too many people showed up!) and we couldn’t get chairs into the sanctuary fast enough on Easter (too many people showed up!).

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton in her February 2019 “Living Lutheran” column wrote:

Some see the decline of the church as inevitable. ... We ask “What can we do?” But that question is all about us and it doesn’t lead to productive answers; it also doesn’t point to hope. It’s as if the church’s one foundation rests on us and our efforts. I think we need to ask: “What is God up to?”

All around us God is re-creating the world God originally created, every minute of every day. What is God up to at Trinity? In Spring Grove? In Southeast Minnesota?

And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Revelation 21:5

From the Old Testament to the New, God promises to make all things new. These words are trustworthy and true. God can bring water to deserts and clear paths in wilderness. Just imagine what God can do here. I can’t wait to find out!

God bless you!
~ Pastor Elizabeth



**REMEMBER, TRINITY IS AIR CONDITIONED
EVERYWHERE NOW!**

**NO MORE HOT, STICKY SERVICES! UNLESS OF
COURSE A CUTE LITTLE ONE SPILLS
THEIR CUP OF APPLE JUICE
DURING WORSHIP! 😊**

COME COOL OFF WITH US THIS SUMMER!

FROM PR. ELIZABETH

Thirst Day is June 27 at 8:30 p.m.**"Searching for Sunday," by Rachel Held Evans**

People are still mourning the death of Rachel Held Evans, who passed away in April at age 37 leaving behind a husband, a young child, and many readers who've found renewed faith in faith communities because of her writing.

Like millions of her peers, Held Evans didn't want to go to church anymore. The hypocrisy, the politics, the building budgets, the scandals – church culture seemed far removed from Jesus. Yet, despite her cynicism and misgivings, something kept drawing her back. And so she set out on a journey to understand Church and to find her place in it.

Centered on seven sacraments, we'll go through a liturgical year with her stories about baptism, communion, confirmation, confession, marriage, vocation, and death that are funny, heartbreaking, and sharply honest.



Eight copies of the book have been ordered and will be available to check out in the church office.

June is a very busy month, so once again, Thirst Day will move to the FOURTH Thursday of the month, June 27 and an hour later to accommodate the VBS program in the park. Just walk on over to the parsonage after it's done! We'll begin about 8:30 p.m.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY - HERITAGE HOUSE The official ground breaking ceremony for the Habitat for Humanity home was held May 17 at the construction site on 1st Avenue SE. The Sherry Pitts Family will be the partner family moving in, hopefully by the end of the year. They will become homeowners and they are extremely grateful for this opportunity.



Trinity has signed up for two work days — Wednesday, June 26 and Saturday, June 29 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with lunch provided. Workers must be 16 years old to be on the job site and 18 years old to operate power tools. Tools will be provided. It is too early to know what specific project we will be working on. A community-wide fundraising event for this project is scheduled for August 16 at Rockfilter Distillery. Further details we be released later.

If you are interested in working on this home, please sign up in the church office. If you have any questions please contact Steve Nelson, . Thank you.

FRIENDS IN FAITH TEAM The Care Ministry Team is reorganizing a "Friends in Faith" team. This team will provide regular visits to congregation members who are unable to fully engage in the life of the church and to provide extra support to members during difficult periods in their lives. The Friends in Faith team will expand our current pastoral care by providing these monthly visits to share Trinity news, provide encouragement, share a short devotion and provide information on resources within our church and community.

Our pastors and team have identified members who might benefit from ongoing visits. A Friend in Faith will contact the individual to schedule a convenient time for the visit. If you know someone who might enjoy a visit or if you would like to be a member of the Friends in Faith Team, please contact Milly Halverson at (507) 498-5339 or gmhalv@springgrove.coop.

DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN GIVE TO TRINITY ELECTRONICALLY?

During the busy summer months, many families are traveling for vacations. Did you know there is an easy and convenient way to give an offering even when you're gone? Through Trinity's website, you can set up a Direct Debit Giving account to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account, or credit card, to go directly to Trinity's bank account. You set the schedule as it best fits for you! Think about setting up an electronic giving account. Visit, www.trinitysg.org. On the right-hand side of the home page, click on the link "Contribute" then click on the bar "Contribute Online" and it will bring you to the site to set up your online giving account. Questions? Just let us know! Thank you!

PRAYERS FROM CHILDREN The final rotation of Sunday School was about the Lord's Prayer. Children studied why we pray and why Jesus gave the "Lord's Prayer" to his disciples. Then they wrote prayers as a group. The third, fourth, and sixth grades "rewrote" the Lord's Prayer into their own words. The first and second grades wrote their own prayer.

1st and 2nd grade prayer:

Hi God,

How are you today? Hope you're not sick. I'm doing good. Do you have a dog? I do. Her name is Chloe. Thanks for food, families, shelter, and life. Amen.

3rd and 4th grade Lord's Prayer:

Father in Heaven, your name is amazing. The white house comes, stuff will be done, at home as in the white house. Give us food. Forgive our sins. Keep us out of trouble. For yours is the white house and strength and awesomeness always. Send.

5th and 6th grade Lord's Prayer:

God above, We worship your name. We care for your world as if it were Heaven. Give us enough food. Forgive us as we forgive others. Don't let people tempt us. Keep us from becoming greedy. You have power and glory always. Amen.

BEARY PATCH It has been another very successful year of preschool education at Beary Patch Preschool with full enrollment during this 2018-19 school year. Bethany Bergsgaard the Director of the program has had Beary Patch recertified as a Four Star rating with the Parent Aware Program through the state of Minnesota. Beary Patch has on its wish list to replace and improve the playground equipment the kids utilize each day. We are asking if there is anyone who no longer uses their outside playground equipment to give Bethany a call. Beary Patch has certain requirements for their equipment and Bethany would know if the equipment would meet those standards. The number to contact Bethany would be 507-450-3812.

3:16s THIS SUMMER

3:16s, Trinity's high school youth group, will meet once a month during the summer before it goes back to weekly meetings in September. On Thursday, June 20, 3:16s will head to **Jump Start Adventure Park** (trampoline park) in La Crosse. We will leave from the church at 6:00 p.m. and return about 9:45 p.m. Cost is \$15 and includes grip socks.

3:16s will go **canoeing on the Upper Iowa River** on Friday July 19. We will leave from church at 8:30 a.m. and return about 3:00 p.m. Pack a lunch and sunscreen! Limited spots available, so RSVP to save a spot!

On August 28, 3:16s will be back at Bekah's at 8:00 p.m.

3:16 events are for you who just completed 9th-12th grades. All are welcome — invite a friend! Please RSVP for trampoline park and/or canoeing with a text to Bekah, (701) 552-2918, by Monday, June 17.

BONFIRES!

Youth completing grades 6-8 are invited to Bonfires at Bekah's beginning Sunday, June 16 at 8:30 p.m. Bonfires will be most Sunday nights throughout the summer (check dates below) at Bekah's house (231 1st Ave SW). Come for s'mores, stay for fun fellowship with friends! Bring your friends — you don't have to be a Trinity member to attend.

Bonfire dates: June 16, 23, 30; July 7, 14, 21; August 4, 11, 18, 25.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR USHERS FOR THE SUMMER Would you be willing to help greet people as they come to worship? It's an important part of our ministry and a fun way to see our Trinity family through the summer months! Four ushers are needed each week. Gather your family and friends and find a week that works for you. We appreciate your willingness to help! A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board across from the elevator by the sanctuary entrance. Any questions, contact Mark Udstuen, 498-5536. Thank you!

HYMN SINGS BEGIN JUNE 9 at 9:00 a.m. Come request a favorite hymn prior to worship!



OUTDOOR WORSHIP June is a five-Sunday month; which means June 30 is Servant Sunday! Weather permitting, we will have worship in Viking Memorial Park beginning with the Hymn Sing at 9:00 a.m. and Worship at 9:15 a.m. After worship, we will have a picnic. Stay and enjoy fellowship and delicious food! We'll be serving Red's pork burgers, assorted chips, calico beans, dessert, and lemonade – all for a freewill donation. The freewill offering this month will go to the boiler/AC fundraiser. Come join us for a picnic and good fellowship after worship! If it rains, we'll have worship in the sanctuary and the picnic in the Fellowship Hall.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH VBS AND DAY CAMP! Volunteers are needed to help with this summer's Vacation Bible School and Day Camp. These programs are June 24-27 at Trinity. You could help by: hosting 4 Sugar Creek counselors at your home for the week, hosting 4 counselors for supper one evening, bringing a lunch for counselors during Day Camp, bringing snacks for VBS students and Day Campers, teaching VBS (to 3-5 year olds, curriculum provided), or helping counselors during Day Camp. If you are interested in any of these positions, please call Bekah Leafblad at the church office or email bekah@trinitysg.org. Thank you!

WOMEN'S DAY AT GOOD EARTH VILLAGE All women are invited to Good Earth Village on Saturday, June 29 for "Herstory: How we tell and understand our stories within God's story." The day begins with registration at 9:00am follow by a keynote speaker, lunch, workshops, and a closing worship. Cost is \$30. Registration can be done online, <http://goodearthvillage.org/womensday>. Or by calling Good Earth Village, (507) 346-2494.

RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM Houston County's Relay for Life is August 2 at La Crescent High School. This is the 25th year of the relay in Houston County. Trinity has had a team participate nearly every year and would like to again this year for this 25th anniversary. Are you interested in being a part of a Trinity team? The funds raised through Relay For Life not only honor survivors and remember loved ones, but also help give cancer patients and their families the resources and support they need, including a 24/7 helpline for answers and support. If you're interested in being a part of a Trinity team, contact Judy Bratland, 498-5147.

MAY 8, 2019 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Motions approved:

- To direct the Noisy Offering from Sunday, May 12 to the Habitat for Humanity project (10% to budget, 90% to Habitat).
- To direct the donations from the 2x4 stud fundraiser to the Habitat for Humanity project.
- To pay a stipend of \$10/month to Marlene to be used toward cell phone plan as compensation for the use of her phone for Trinity business.

Updates:

- A Summer Surge fundraiser is being planned.
- Trinity will have a team of 8-10 people onsite of the Habitat for Humanity build for two work days (6/26, 6/29).

Next Meeting: June 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Room.

Complete minutes are on Trinity's website, at sanctuary entrances, and in the office.

TIDBITS

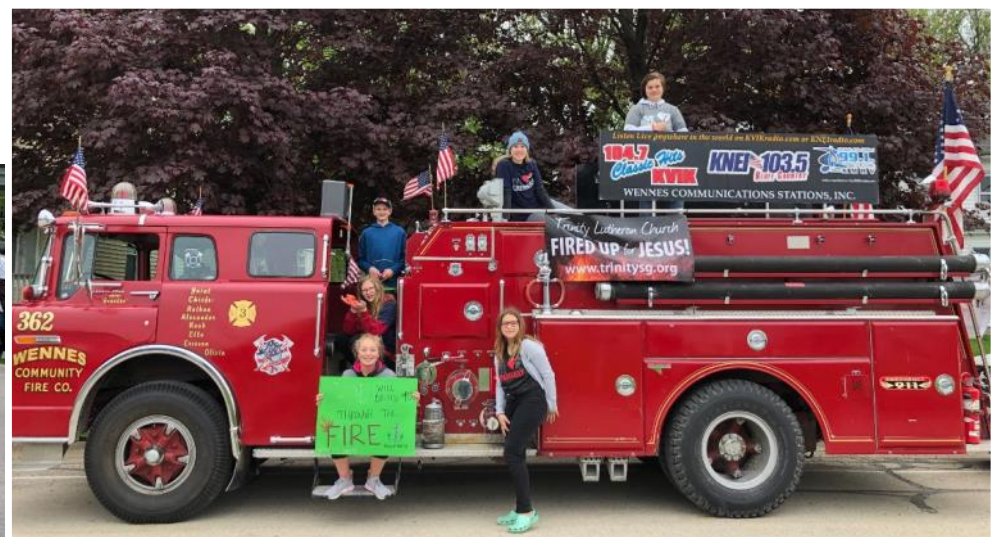
UPDATE



Thank you to everyone who helped with the Syttende Mai Meatball Dinner. 540 carry-outs were served! Thank you!



PHOTOS



▲ Trinity had an entry in the Syttende Mai parade. Greg Wennes' fire truck was the parade "float" that youth rode along on. They also handed out bracelets ... "Trinity is on fire for Jesus."



◀ THANK YOU to our fill-in custodians for all the work that you have done while we are in the process of hiring a custodian. Your hours of work is very appreciated! Thank you, Lee Hoekstra (right), Rick Sundet (left), and Dana Kjome.



▲ The 2nd Farmers' Roundtable, hosted by the University of MN Extension and the Houston County EDA in partnership with the Spring Grove EDA, was held at Trinity on May 29. A booklet, "Ideas and Resources for Farmers" was available for anyone that was interested. More copies are available in the office. Another Roundtable is being planned.



◀ Our graduating seniors received a special blessing on Sunday, May 26. Your Trinity family will keep you in our prayers as you enter this next phase of your lives.

Congratulations to: Kai Bjerke, Hailey Conway, Kyleigh Doering, Mariah Edgington, Noah Elton, Alex Folz, Emily Guberud, Amaya Johnson, Dylan Johnson, Sydnie Kampschroer, Ryan Lawson, Gina Lund, Maria Myrah, Kailee Olerud, Calvin Sylling, and Kaitlyn Vickerman



◀ The last day of Sunday School for the school year was celebrated with outdoor games and treats! ▶



PHOTOS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
2 9:15am Worship/Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Outreach (FH), Property (GR)	3	4	5 5:00pm Worship, MR	6 9:30am Staffing, GR 5:30pm Education, MR	7	8 2:11pm Wedding of Kayla Hahn and Alex Folkmann
9 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/Pentecost 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Stewardship, FH 11:30am Tweenen Care Ctr. Service 2:30pm 7th grade students leave for Good Earth Village	10	11 9:00am Deborah Circle 5:00pm Support, GR	12 9:30am Adah Circle 7:00pm Council, GR	13	14	15 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
16 Happy Father's Day! 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/Communion 10:15am Fellowship 8:30pm Bonfire	17 7:00pm Hannah Circle	18 2:30pm Phoebe Circle	19	20 9:30am Communion at The Manor 6-9:45pm 3:16s to Jump Start Adventure Park	21 12:00pm Newsletter info due	22
23 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 8:30pm Bonfire	24 9:00-11:30am VBS 9am-3pm Day Camp	25	26	27 9:30am Communion at Tweenen Apartments 10:30am Communion at Assisted Living 2:00pm Newsletter mailed 7:00pm VBS/Day Camp prgrm, Viking Mem. Park 8:30pm Thirst Day, parsonage	28 9:00am Love Day	29 8am-4pm Habitat build
30 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship in the Park 10:15am Picnic for all! Hosted by Stewardship Team 8:30pm Bonfire						

FH = Fellowship Hall (large room in basement)

GR = Gathering Room (in basement near men's bathroom)

MR = Middle Room (upstairs by offices)

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for all that you do!

	JUNE 2	JUNE 9 Pentecost	JUNE 16	JUNE 23	JUNE 30
LECTOR	Terry Holland	Julianna Lile	Jean Ellingson	Nolie Kapplinger	Jen Solberg
ACOLYTE(S)	Ava Olerud Brielle Neeley	McKenzie Fisch	Cierra Albrecht	Julia Halverson	Maria Albrecht
COMMUNION SERVERS	Lori & Gary Wilhelmson, Judy Bratland	Servers needed	Lori Wilhelmson, Carolyn Olson, Bill Fried		
COMMUNION BREAD	Terry Holland (June 2, June 9 Pentecost, June 16)				
ALTAR GUILD	Peggy Landsom (chair), Judy Bratland, Missy Bratland, Judy Dahle, Rachel Olerud				
COFFEE HOSTS	Karen & Jim Gray, Yvonne Krogstad	Outreach Team	Tammy & Chris Peterson, Angie & Jeremy Halverson	Lynn Solum, Angie Berns, Amy Olerud, Tina Kampschroer	Stewardship Picnic
498-AMEN	May 26-June 8: Nolie Kapplinger	June 9-15: Saundy Solum		June 23-July 6: Janna Myrah	
SUNDAY USHERS	Jen & Scott Solberg family	Ushers needed	Ushers needed	Rachel & Mark Udstuen family	Ushers needed
MEALS ON WHEELS	Monday, June 24: Bill Fried; Tuesday, June 25 & Wednesday, June 26: Cindie Gunderson; Thursday, June 27 & Friday, June 28: Dana & Elaine Kjome				

HAVE YOU....moved? ...changed phone numbers? ...changed email addresses? Let the office know! Thanks!

LET US KNOW.....If you have a loved one ill or hospitalized, have a new baby, would like a pastoral visit, or if any pastoral need arises.

ELECTRONIC VERSIONS..... Would you like to receive the newsletter electronically instead of a paper version? Just let us know in the office! We also send a weekly email....would you like to receive it?
Let us know!

FOLLOW TRINITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook: *Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove*

Instagram: Youth account = *trinityyouth203*

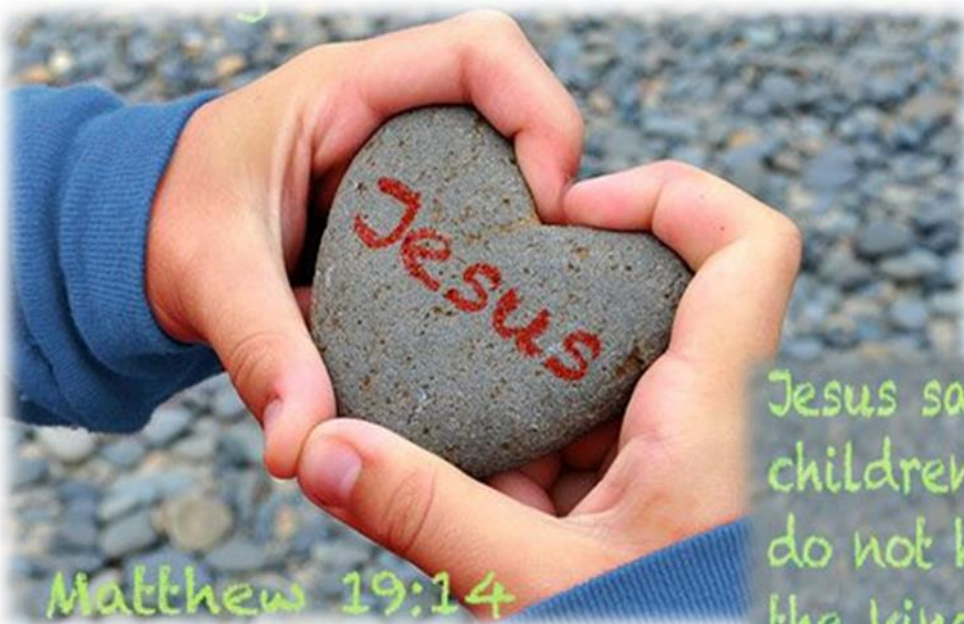
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."