

TRINITY^{news}

NOVEMBER 2018

VOLUME 24 ■ ISSUE 11

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



Office hours:

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 10a.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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trinitysr@springgrove.coop

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David Myrah, Custodian
Scott Solberg, Choir Director
Rachel Storlie, Organist
Willy Leafblad, Handbell Director
Jean Ellingson, Pianist
Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist

END-OF-THE-YEAR HOLIDAY CHEER

Get your calendars out so you don't miss any of the wonderful events happening at Trinity during November and December.

► **Sunday, November 4**, is **All Saints Sunday** when we commemorate all the saints who've gone before us.

► **Sunday, November 18** is our annual **"Bag-a-Buck"** fundraiser and New Member Sunday; we will be welcoming new members.

► Back by popular demand: **Thursday, November 22**, we'll celebrate **Thanksgiving** at **10:00 a.m.**

► **Sunday, November 25**, is **Christ the King Sunday** when we celebrate the end of the church year.

► **Monday, December 3**, 7:00 p.m. is the Spring Grove High School Choir Concert held at Trinity, celebrating the 200th anniversary of "Silent Night."

► **Sunday, December 9**, 3:00 p.m. We're honored to host the **Luren Singers Christmas Concert**.

► **Monday, December 10**, 7:00 p.m. is the Spring Grove High School Winter Band Concert (at the school), featuring Trinity's own Handbell Choir on one song!

► **Saturday, December 15**, is the Nisse Treehouse Christmas program at 1:00 p.m.

► **Sunday, December 15** is a double-header: Our **Sunday School kids** will present their **Christmas program** at the 9:15 a.m. service, and our **Trinity Choir** will present their **Christmas Concert** that evening at 7:00 p.m.

► **NEW THIS YEAR: Wednesday Advent services** at 7:00 p.m. on **December 5, 12 and 19**. These will be short (20-25 minutes), contemplative services that help us prepare for Christmas.

► Our **Christmas Eve services** will be **Monday, December 24** at **3:00 p.m.** and **8:00 p.m.** *Note the new time for the second Christmas Eve service.*

► Our **Christmas Day service** will be **Tuesday, December 25** at **10:00 a.m.**

► **Sunday, December 30** is a **Servant Sunday**. We'll have a hymn sing and potluck—bring something extra for the Food Shelf for Servant Sunday.



PASTORS' PEN

Dear friends in Christ,

You get a lot of time to think when you're confined to your couch with the flu. Which is where I was most of the last couple of weeks. So I want to start out by thanking the many people who stopped by with soup and apples and chocolate, and all of you who sent me your good wishes and prayers. It means a lot.

You're supposed to drink plenty of liquids when you're sick, and that made me think of the other things we often thirst for. We thirst for knowledge about the Bible and our faith. We thirst for fellowship with our family of believers. And sometimes we thirst for time away from our busy lives to simply socialize with friends.

So I've decided to create an opportunity for some of those thirsts to be quenched. Beginning in January, I'm introducing a monthly "Thirst-Day." On the third Thursday of the month, at 7:30 p.m., I will host a "BYOB" get-together at the Parsonage for anyone interested in attending. It's not circle. It's not a club. You don't have to join anything. It's just a chance for us to get together and quench our collective thirst.

So what is the "B" in "BYOB"? Well, you should **Bring Your Own ... Bible ... book** you'd like to share ... topic that challenges your **belief ...** or idea that makes you feel **blessed**. Oh, and you should bring a beverage as well.

"Thirst-Day" will launch on January 17, and to get us started, I'm assigning a book to read, "Love Wins," by Rob Bell. Originally published in 2011, "Love Wins" addresses one of the most challenging topics of faith—hell and the afterlife—asking whether a loving God would really send people to eternal torment forever.

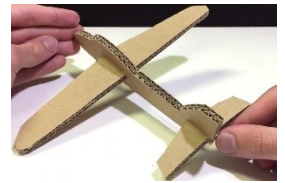
If you're thirsty for conversation about the Bible and topics of faith, I hope to see you for "Thirst-Day."

Thank you and God bless you, ~ Pastor Elizabeth

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." **Matthew 28:19**

These are the final verses of the Gospel of Matthew. They are one last command, urging, suggestion. As Christians we call these verses 'the Great Commission!' It is a task that we are left to fulfill. We are supposed to share our faith with each other and people we meet.

A few years ago, my family buried my Uncle Howard, who was a faithful man. As we gathered at the gravesite, I told the others how Howard knew all about salvation and redemption. Howard designed and made model airplanes. For each plane he would take old cardboard from behind stores and design a box unique for the airplane he made. The dimensions were exact and the plane fit perfectly. Just as Jesus reclaimed us from the garbage of cast-out sin and recast us as children of God. My family looked at their shoes for a while and then began to tell funny stories about Uncle Howard, which is what we do to lighten things up.



We don't usually talk in this language or terms. I have heard people refer to it as God-talk, which is acknowledging how God works in our lives and in the world. For the most part we don't use those metaphors, phrases or language. For example, I am much more comfortable saying "Good Luck" rather than "God be with You." Right after it comes out of my mouth I feel pretty sheepish because I had a chance to share my faith and instead I regurgitate an empty phrase which means – nothing, encourages no one and would be better left unsaid. As if everything is chance and God isn't involved. But I keep blurting it out without thinking not wanting to offend anyone or embarrass them by bringing God into the conversation.

So why don't we talk about or share our faith? Is it a combination of embarrassment, being uncomfortable, not wishing to offend, or looking foolish, out of place? When something terrible happens, I am usually Ok to say I will pray for you, but too chicken to stop and actually pray with them at that time. 'My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness.' Good Luck, errr, I mean God's blessings to you!

~Pastor Lane

TRINITY HERITAGE ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

On October 14, 2018, the Heritage Endowment Committee met to discuss the Anna Rosendahl estate gift to Trinity from several years ago. Her gift was designated to be used only to aid in building a ground level addition to the church. It was disclosed that in 2007 the gift that had been in a savings account at Jennings State Bank was moved to the Heritage Endowment Fund. The \$93,0000 has been held ever since in that Trinity Heritage Endowment Asset Management Fund within the InFaith Community Foundation where it has grown to \$113,886.87.

Gifts to the Asset Management side of the Trinity Heritage Endowment are invested in perpetuity. Gifts that are designated to the Trinity Heritage Endowment Capital Fund can be spent when there is a project that meets the designation for which the gift was made. The committee felt that the original gift and its earnings since 2007 should be moved into a sub fund of the Capital Fund so that eventually it can be spent as Anna Rosendahl designated.

A motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously to move \$113,886.87 from the Asset Management side of the Trinity Heritage Endowment to the Capital Fund of the Trinity Heritage Endowment in a designated sub-account called *Rosendahl Capital Fund*.

This necessary action ensures that the Rosendahl gift with its growth earnings will be available for its designated use when it is needed. By moving these monies, the balance of the Heritage Endowment Asset Management Fund was decreased to \$526,138.00. That means that no income can be withdrawn from the fund this year and possibly for the next several years as well, depending on what happens with the market.

When the Trinity Endowment Asset Management Fund has grown to more than \$600,000, the Trinity Heritage Endowment Committee will again be able to recommend use of 80% of the income less the inflation rate over a three-year rolling average for property upkeep. The committee looks forward to receiving gifts and planned giving bequests which will more quickly grow this fund to more than \$600,000, and on to its original goal of \$1.5 million.

Anyone who has questions about this report is invited to contact committee chair, Dr. James Gray, or committee members Betty Bergsgaard, Chris Deck, Eric Frydenlund, or Justin Landsom.

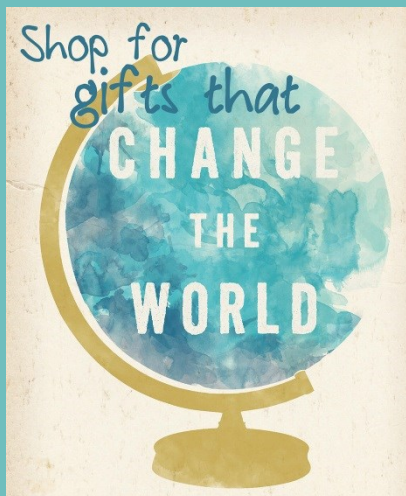


Remember to change your clocks back Saturday night November 3 before you go to bed or we'll see you extra early Sunday morning!

NEWSWORTHY

Trinity's 2018 Alternative Giving Opportunity

Kick-off November 25



Pick up an Alternative Giving Shopping List and Catalog at the church entrances or Fellowship Hall on **December 2, 9, 16**. Also available in the office or online, www.trinitysg.org.

Browse the catalog to learn about the various giving options. With each project purchased, you will receive a complimentary card along with an insert describing the project.

Begin to make a difference
in someone's life today.

Spend Less. Give More.
Worship Fully.

**Make Your List.
Check It Once.**

- ☒ Won't collect dust
- ☒ No batteries required
- ☒ No wrong sizes or colors
- ☒ Makes a difference in the world

The Perfect Gift.



FLOAT FUNDRAISER The Scholarship Endowment invites you to their Annual Fundraising Floats on **Sunday, November 4** during Fellowship. Spring Grove Soda ice cream floats will be served and free will donations are greatly appreciated. All money raised will go toward scholarships for the graduating seniors and graduates who are attending college. Please join us so we can continue to support the young adults of our congregation!



BAG-A-BUCK RIGHT HERE AT TRINITY IN NOVEMBER! Deer season opens in the woods the first weekend of November and here at Trinity we will Bag-A-Buck for the Houston County Food Shelf. **Sunday, November 18**, we will pass metal buckets during offering. As the buckets come down the row, we encourage everyone to put a "buck" (or any amount!) in the bag. Checks can be made out to the Houston County Food Shelf. These cash donations almost triple in value when the Food Shelf does the purchasing! Thank you for your heartfelt contributions. ~Care Ministry Team

STAY ACTIVE AND INDEPENDENT FOR LIFE (SAIL) Beginning in November, Spring Grove area residents will have a new, free option for remaining physically active — Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL). This is a nationally recognized program geared toward keeping older adults fit and connected. An informational session and example of the exercise program will be held on November 6 at 9:00 a.m. Joyce Bergrud, Betty Dokken, Donella Griffin, and Nancy Kraus recently trained to lead SAIL and are excited to begin the classes. Classes will be on-going and offered Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. at Spring Grove Manor, located at 129 Maple Drive. SAIL is free and open to the public, all equipment is provided.



LUREN CHRISTMAS CONCERT For the first time in 150 years, the Luren Singers will present their Christmas Concert at Trinity on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00 p.m. Featured soloist this year is Rachel Storlie. Trinity members that are also members or Luren are Dan Alstad, Kenny Anderson, Fred Arnold, Fordyce Brevig, Bill Fried, Eric Frydenlund, Jim Gray, Paul Gray, Kim Kapplinger, Brent Newgaard, David Storlie, and Stewart Storlie. The congregation will have the opportunity to participate with two songs, "Jeg er så glad" and "Her kommer dine arme små."

DRIVERS NEEDED SEMCAC is in need of drivers. Volunteer drivers use their own vehicles and are reimbursed for their miles, meal, and parking. SEMCAC provides transportation for those not able to provide it for themselves to appointments such as doctor, dental, vision, and therapy. They also help seniors by taking them to buy groceries, visit their loved ones, and so much more. If you are interested contact Amber.duncan@semcac.org or (507) 634-4490.

OCTOBER CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Motions approved:

- Group mission trip July 27-August 2, 2019 to Indianapolis for youth in grades 8-12.
- Thanksgiving pie sales by youth going on mission trip.
- To add Lead Pastor, Treasurer, and Secretary as a voting member of the Congregation Council as recommended in the ELCA Model Constitution.
- The Facilities Use Policy with the changes discussed and a suggested donation for facility use of \$50, to be reviewed in one year.
- To accept the Gifts and Memorial Policy with the changes discussed.
- To accept the Ad Hoc Hiring Committee document with changes.
- Pr. Elizabeth's benefit package at the Silver Plan A rates for 2019 with a \$100/month HSA benefit.
- To begin direct deposit for payroll for all Trinity and Beary Patch staff.
- To pay the first boiler bill of \$96,935.40 from pledged funds.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 14 at 7:45 p.m. in the Gathering Room.

Complete Congregation Council minutes are on Trinity's website, available at sanctuary entrances, or in the office.

Heating / Cooling Project update by the numbers

Total amount committed with donations and matching fund gifts = \$133,884!

Amount includes \$30,000 anonymous gift and \$10,000 gift from Norman Ellingson. Project goal is \$250,000.

**Two new challenges —**

- \$10,000 matching funds if we raise \$10,000 by Dec. 31, 2018.
\$9,009 has already been given toward this challenge!
- **Blue Hair Challenge** — Pastor Elizabeth will dye her hair blue for Advent if 100 new families donate to the boiler/AC fundraiser by November 30. Let's see our pastor with crazy hair! We have 62 donations toward this challenge so far! An envelope is included in this newsletter if you'd like to donate.

What's next? To strive to meet our project goal and if necessary to take out a loan, make it as small as possible to complete the project!

Donations to the heating / cooling project are still needed and do not have to be paid in one lump sum, they can be paid in installments.

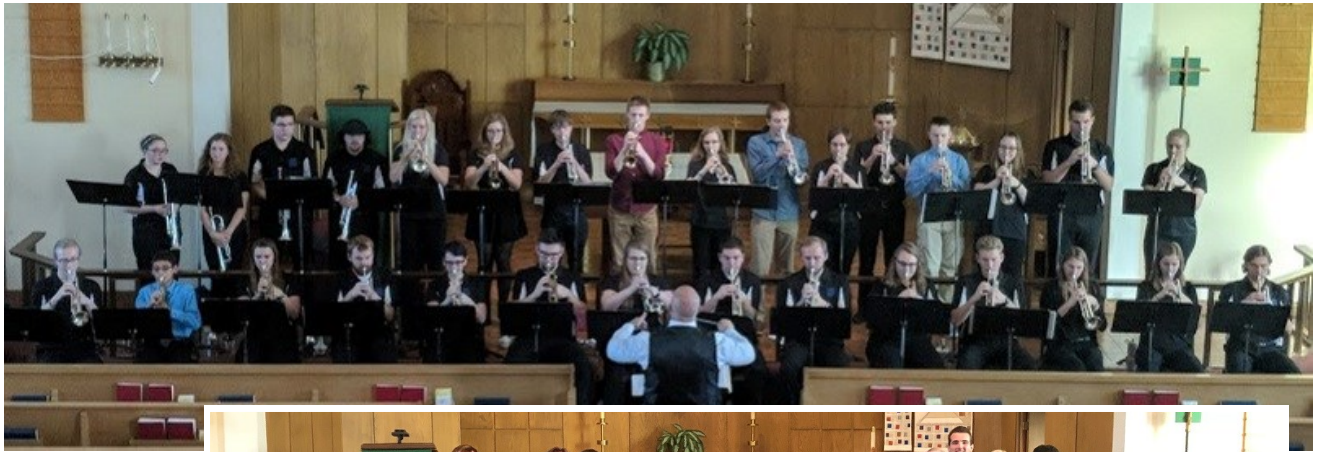
How to donate? Pick up a form in the office. Visit trinity's website, www.trinitysg.org, and download a form under "Quick Links" on the home page. Give electronically, following the "Contribute" link on our website.

Received so far.....

DONATION FROM	IN MEMORY
Milly Halverson	In memory Gaylord Halverson
Dan & Kari Alstad	In memory Mark Johnson & Shirley Alstad
Greg & Jacque Wennes	
Justin & Joyce Landsom	In memory of Julian & Vivian Landsom
Curt & Carol Rustad	In memory of Jon & Alice Halverson
Dale & Sharon Buxengard	
Sanford & Doris Morken	In memory of Kim & Aaron Morken
Richard & Caroline Housker	In memory of Norman Housker
Morris & Geneva Tweeten	In memory Jaclyn Morken and Bernt & Ella Berquam
Anonymous	
Bradley & Wendy Haugstad	In memory of Howard Haugstad
Beulah Onstad	In memory Carty Onstad
Jeff & Carla (Haugstad) Crepeau	In honor of their 30 th Anniversary
Brian & Leah Bjerke	
Dana & Elaine Kjome	In memory of their parents
Ona Housker	In memory of Norman Housker
Ryan & Megan (Kinneberg) Turek	In memory of Sally Kinneberg, In honor of Glenn Kinneberg
Lonny & Jean Ann Tweeten	
Janet Fossum	In memory of Ove Fossum, Jr.
Alden & Ruth Johnsrud	
Sara Deters	In memory of Jake Deters
Joan Lewis	
Justin Lewis	
Jason Lewis	
Leonard & Janna Myrah	
Jim Wilhelmson	
Pat Blagsvedt	In memory of Ken Blagsvedt

BLESSINGS

PHOTOS



► A great concert by the Luther Trumpets Ensemble. Four Spring Grove High School students also got to perform with the group.



LET US MAKE YOUR THANKSGIVING PIES! Trinity youth are excited to make your Thanksgiving pies this year! A group of Trinity youth will be heading to Indianapolis, IN next summer for a mission trip to help the communities of this urban area. To help offset the costs of the trip, we are making and selling homemade Thanksgiving pies! The pies will be available to pick up the evening of Wednesday, November 21 from 6-8 p.m. An order form is on the back of the newsletter and can also be found at the entrances to the sanctuary. Order forms are due November 18.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH OUTING WITH FAITH LUTHERAN OF BLACKHAMMER!

Trinity high school youth (grades 9-12) are invited to an evening at an Escape Room and supper in La Crosse with our Faith Lutheran of Blackhammer friends.

When: Saturday, November 10, leave Trinity at 3:00 p.m. (return about 8:00 p.m.)

Cost: \$30, includes admission to Escape Room and supper at Buffalo Wild Wings

RSVP: by November 1 by texting Bekah, 701-552-2918.



YOUTH GROUP 3:16s is a group for 9th-12th grade youth that meets **Sundays at 8:00 p.m.** at Bekah's house. We discuss questions the youth have about their faith, the church, God, world events, and everything else! We also have time for fellowship, playing games (ping pong, air hockey, board games), doing homework, practicing yoga, and more! Bring a friend....all are invited, Trinity member or not!



QUESTIONS ABOUT ANYTHING YOUTH RELATED?

Bekah would be happy to answer your questions!

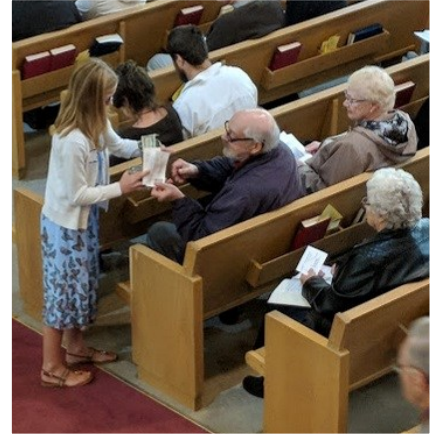
She can be reached at 498-5291 or bekah@trinitysg.org

YOUTH NEWS



◀ Thanks for being here, Bishop Delzer!
Celebrating with a delicious brunch!

▶ Children had fun collecting coins during our Noisy Offering.




◀ We blessed our new handbells.



◀ Children's time during worship is always special!

Love Day ladies busy making quilts and enjoying each others' company! ▼ ▶



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 5:30pm Education, MR 7:00pm Finance, MR	2	3 5:00pm Worship/ Communion <i>Daylight Saving Time ends —set clocks back 1 hour!</i>
4 All Saints Sunday 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Property, pr offc 10:30am Sunday School, TC 6:45pm Praise Band practice 8:00pm 3:16s	5	6 6:00pm Stewardship, MR 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	7 1:00pm Release Time (K) 5:00pm Worship Team, MR 6:00pm Confirmation w/ Supper 6:30pm Staffing Team, GR 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir	8	9	10 10:30am Praise Band practice 3-8:00pm High School Youth Outing with Blackhammer Youth
11 9:15am Worship/Praise Band 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, church 11:30am Tweenen Care Ctr Service 6:45pm Youth Handbells 8:00pm 3:16s	12	13 9:00am Deborah Circle 5:00pm Support Team, FH 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	14 9:30am Adah Circle 2:00pm Release Time (1 st) 6:00pm Confirmation w/ Supper 7:00pm Adult Handbells 7:45pm Council 8:00pm Choir	15 9:30am Communion at The Manor	16	17 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
18 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, church 10:30am Outreach, pr offc 6:45pm Youth Handbells	19 7:00pm Hannah, MR	20 10:00am Anna Circle 2:30pm Phoebe 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC 	21 <i>No Release Time</i> 2:00pm Eve Circle 4:00pm Newsletter info deadline <i>No Confirmation</i> 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir	22 Thanksgiving <i>Office Closed</i> 10:00am Worship	23	24
25 Christ the King Sunday 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, church 6:45pm Youth Handbells 8:00pm 3:16s	26	27 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	28 1:00pm Release Time (3 rd) 6:00pm Confirmation/ Supper 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir	29 2:00pm Newsletter mailed	30	

VOLUNTEERS

	NOVEMBER 4	NOVEMBER 11	NOVEMBER 18	NOVEMBER 22 Thanksgiving	NOVEMBER 25 Christ the King
LECTOR	Fred Arnold	Carolyn Olson	Rob Gross		Milly Halverson
ACOLYTE(S)	Maria Albrecht, Cierra Albrecht	August Allen	Austin Conway, Jonah Udstuen		Dane Edgington
COMMUNION SERVERS	Roxie & Bob Finnesgard, Bill Fried	n/a	Doris & Kim Sherburne, Ruth Johnsrud	n/a	Bekah & Willy Leafblad, Judy Bratland
ALTAR GUILD	Cindy Thorson (chair), Jan Lochner, Jan Kraabel, Marilyn Hillman, Bev Nelson, Sue Engen				
USHERS	Lonny Tweeten (captain), Jeff Engen, Rick Tisthammer, Bill Fried, Aaron Solum, Justin Landsom				
COFFEE HOSTS	Float Fundraiser— Scholarship Endowment	Nolie & Kim Kapplinger, Jan & Al Lochner	Linda Pierce, Marilyn Sylling, Dennis & Linda Williams	n/a	Carolyn Olson, Dave & Kathy Overland
498-AMEN	Oct. 21—Nov. 3: Vivien Mathsen	Nov. 4-17: Mary Newgaard	Nov. 18—Dec. 1: Terry Holland		
MEALS ON WHEELS	Nov. 12 –13: Judy & Red Dahle; Nov. 14-15: Darla & Jim Hunzeker; Nov. 16: Mary Deters Nov. 19: Mary Deters; Nov. 20-21: Barb & Dennis Gulbranson; Nov. 23: Janna & Len Myrah				
COMMUNION BREAD	Vivien Mathsen	n/a	Vivien Mathsen	Janice Messner	Janice Messner

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.

CONTACT TRINITY..... (507) 498-5291, trinity@springgrove.coop

FOLLOW TRINITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove



Instagram: Youth account = trinityyouth203

Trinity Church account = trinitylutheransg



203 East Main Street
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Spring Grove, MN 55974

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Presorted Standard
Non-profit Organization
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Spring Grove, MN
55974
Permit No. 2



Pies for Thanksgiving Made by Trinity Youth

Order your pies by November 18!



- Cost is \$12 per pie (\$16 for pecan)
- Pies are to be picked up on Wed., Nov. 21 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
- Please place your orders by Sun., Nov. 18 so we can have supplies ready to make the pies on November 21!

Complete the order form below with the quantity of pie, your name, your phone number, and your total:

_____ Pumpkin _____ Cherry
_____ Blueberry _____ Pecan (\$16 each)

TOTAL # OF PIES: _____ TOTAL \$: _____

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Orders must be placed by **Sunday, November 18** at the Trinity office by: calling 498-5291 or returning this completed form and payment to the church office.

All proceeds will go toward the Trinity youth's trip to Indianapolis, IN in July 2019. THANK YOU!!!