

# TRINITY *news*

OCTOBER 2018

VOLUME 24 ■ ISSUE 10

## 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:** 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

Elizabeth Hermeier, Lead Pastor  
trinitysr@springgrove.coop

Lane Zaffke, Visitation Pastor  
lane.zaffke@gmail.com

Bekah Leafblad, Dir. Of Children, Youth  
and Family Ministries  
bekah@trinitysg.org

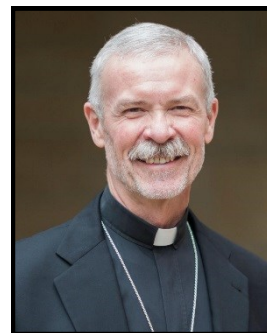
Marlene Deschler, Admin. Professional  
trinity@springgrove.coop

Stewart Storlie, Admin. Professional  
stewart@trinitysg.org

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

## BISHOP STEVEN DELZER WILL LEAD WORSHIP AT TRINITY ON OCTOBER 7!

We hope you plan to be in worship on Sunday, October 7, for this extra-special service with Holy Communion. As you know, Bishop Delzer is in his last year of service with our Southeast Minnesota Synod before he retires, and we are one of only a few churches at which he will preach during this last year. The bishop will be preaching about our global ministries and partnerships and how we are all one global congregation in Christ Jesus.



This Sunday will also be our Mission Sunday with another **Noisy / Crinkly offering**. The proceeds from our Noisy / Crinkly offering will be used to support Lutheran ministries in South Sudan (saving the lives of pregnant women and infants) and Puerto Rico (hurricane relief). In a twist on our “First Fruits” initiatives, 10% of everything gathered will come back to Trinity to support the General Fund. So bring your pennies, nickels and dimes to worship because your change can make a big change in people’s lives. And if you want it a little quieter, just throw in some of those crinkly dollars!



## REFORMATION 501: A CELEBRATION OF LUTHER’S CATECHISM IN SONG, WORD, AND DANCE

This special service is Reformation Sunday, October 28, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. here at Trinity. A fun-filled and informational afternoon will include a polka service with Mark Heinz on the accordion, a lecture by Dr. Mary Jane Haemig on Luther’s Catechism, and Kathy Chatelaine, synod director for Global Mission/ Companion Synods, will update us about the synod’s global partnerships.

A light luncheon will follow. This is a special service hosted by Trinity for the Root River Conference of churches. **Mark your calendars!**

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear friends in Christ,

I mentioned in my last letter how much I love this time of year. And as I write this today it only confirms how blessed we are to live in this part of the country. I know I'm biased, having been born and lived most of my life in Minnesota, but I think you don't find days like this too many other places. There's a brisk breeze that hints of falling leaves and football games to come. But it's also sunny and still warm enough that we don't have to wear a coat or turn on the furnace. I love it.

And speaking of furnaces (ba dum bah!), tremendous progress is being made on the boiler system project. If you've been tracking the progress on our Facebook or Instagram pages, you'll know that the asbestos abatement went very well, the energy audit went very well, the old system removal went very well, and the installation of the new boilers and piping is going very well!

But even better is the response of you, our members, to this massive undertaking. You have been supportive and cheerful as the Fellowship Hall was unavailable (and hurrah! – it's now mostly available again ... earlier than planned!) and meetings had to be moved upstairs. You've been understanding as we switched things around in the sanctuary. But most of all, you have been tremendously generous with your financial support.

As I write this letter, the congregation has pledged more than \$70,000 to fund the project. This means we will receive both of our matching pledges, of \$30,000 and \$10,000, respectively. Thank you, thank you, anonymous donor and Norman Ellingson! And we've managed to do this well ahead of our year-end deadline. So where do we go from here?

Well, we don't stop now, that's for sure. When we voted to take on this project, we assumed we'd have to borrow some of the funds. Because of your tremendous generosity, it's possible we could fund the entire project without borrowing. Let's keep going. Give what you can. And remember that this is an investment in our church building that you and your children and even your grandchildren will be able to enjoy for many, many years to come.

Thank you and God bless you,  
*Pastor Elizabeth*

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## WHAT IS NEXT IN THE PROCESS OF CALLING A BISHOP TO THE SOUTHEAST MN SYNOD?

The next step in our process is our **Focused Conversations**. We will do this in a very intentional way, through the focused conversations model of deep discussion. These focused conversations are a critical piece of our journey toward calling a new bishop. **It's important to note that you can participate in a focused conversation even if you didn't fill out the Landscape survey!**

Each focused conversation will offer a time for people to gather to have a focused conversation about calling a new bishop. Childcare will be provided. Everyone is invited.

During the event, a brief summary of the outcomes of the Landscape survey will be offered, and then all gathered will participate in focused conversations to share their hearts and minds as they think about the upcoming call of a bishop.

The Focused Conversation for our Root River Conference is **Sunday, October 7** at 2:00 p.m. at Chatfield Lutheran.

**WELCA PROGRAM** A Patchwork Quilt of Heartwarming Stories Brunch and Speaker at Immanuel Lutheran in Caledonia on Sat., Oct. 13 at 10:30 a.m. Christian storyteller Pati Kachel from the Parable Fund of Minneapolis will present one of her most popular presentations, "A Patchwork Quilt of Heartwarming Stories." Pati creates a comforting quilt of short stories of inspiring people who have added color and craziness to her own life. Her listeners will be kept in stitches with meaningful messages that are sure to warm their hearts. To help plan for the brunch, please RSVP to Marilyn Sylling, 498-5649.

**LUTHER COLLEGE TRUMPETS FALL TOUR CONCERT AT TRINITY** The Luther Trumpets is a trumpet ensemble that includes outstanding collegiate trumpeters from all over the country. They have appeared and performed in many Midwest high schools, churches, and community venues and have competed at the National Trumpet Competition. As part of their fall tour, they will be presenting a concert here at Trinity on Tuesday, October 16 at 4:00 p.m. Oliver Leafblad, the brother of Trinity's Handbell Choir director Willy Leafblad, is a part of this prestigious ensemble.

**ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER? HAVE YOU DESIGNATED YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS?** How do I know if I'm eligible to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars®? Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership. Members are designated Choice Dollars that they can direct to enrolled charities. **What are Thrivent Choice Dollars®?** Choice Dollars are the dollars made available to you from Thrivent's charitable outreach funds, based on your eligibility, to designate to the charity of your choice. **Can I designate Choice Dollars to my favorite organization?** There are thousands of participating organizations. You can direct Choice Dollars to as many participating organizations as you'd like, but you may not direct less than five Choice Dollars to an organization.

## How do I direct my Thrivent Choice Dollars®?

### Online:

- Visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).
- In the Direct Choice Dollars section on the right, click "Get started now."
- Log in, enter your user ID and password, and answer your security question. (If you haven't yet registered on Thrivent.com, click "Register for account access.")
- Find the number of Choice Dollars available to direct.
- Locate the organization to which you want to direct Choice Dollars:
  - a. To direct to a previous organization:
    - Click "Direct Now" next to the organization's name, or
    - Click on the "View activity history" link, scroll down and click on the name of the desired organization.
  - b. To direct to a new organization, enter keyword(s) like organization name, ZIP code, cause, etc. Click "Search."

Choose "Direct All" or enter a specific number and click "Direct Now." Follow the prompts on the confirmation page to direct Choice Dollars.

### By Phone

- Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice®."
- Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.)
- A representative will work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

**Other questions regarding Thrivent Choice?** Call one of Thrivent's Customer Care Professionals at 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" when prompted.

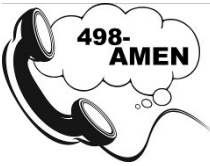
**SUPPORT OUR YOUTH AND PURCHASE SCRIP CARDS!** Scrip Gift Cards are available for Spring Grove businesses. Scrip Gift Cards are used **just like cash** at these locations; however, the best part is that Trinity's Youth earn a percentage of what you spend! Scrip Cards are available to Kwik Trip, Ivy Grove, Turquoise Tomato, Yah Sure Ya Betcha Shoppe, and Calluna. Stop in the office or contact Bekah via email, [bekah@trinitysg.org](mailto:bekah@trinitysg.org).

## DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN GIVE TO TRINITY ELECTRONICALLY?



### ELECTRONIC GIVING

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! It's convenient and easy especially during the summer months when many people are traveling more for vacations. Consider setting up your electronic giving account. Visit, [www.trinitysg.org](http://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!



## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT 498-AMEN?

This is a free service that anyone can access by calling 498-AMEN (2636). A scripture and daily devotion are recorded each day. We strive for this to be a meaningful ministry to our members and the Spring Grove community. Spring Grove Communications offers this service to us free of charge.

**HEARTLAND HOSPICE VOLUNTEER TRAINING** Heartland Hospice is a non-profit based out of Rochester that services 12 counties in the southeastern MN area. They are looking for caring and dedicated people with an interest in serving terminally ill patients and their families in Spring Grove and the surrounding area. Volunteers with Heartland Hospice help enrich the lives of our patients by:

- Running errands for patients and families
- Reading or providing a comforting touch
- Staying with patients so family members can get a much-needed rest
- Playing or singing soothing music to patients
- Keeping vigil with patients in their final hours
- Providing a friendly visit to lift a patient's spirits
- Providing special veteran volunteer support to veteran patients

Volunteer classes are available to fit each person's schedule. Interested in learning more? Contact Jennell Bethea at Heartland Hospice, (507) 292-1170 or [Jennell.bethea@hcr-manorcare.com](mailto:Jennell.bethea@hcr-manorcare.com).

# TIDBITS

## SEPTEMBER CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Motions approved:

- to accept the recommendation of the Staffing Team to change Bekah's title to *Director of Children, Youth and Families Ministry*.
- to accept the proposed choir concert dates: December 3, March 19, May 23.
- to approve the Finance Team Boiler fundraiser.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 pm 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

\$71,425 committed donations as of 9/27/2018.

\$30,000 anonymous matching funds when we received \$60,000 in donations.

\$10,000 matching funds from Norman Ellingson when we received an additional \$10,000.

***Both goals have been met!***

Total amount committed with donations and matching fund gifts = \$111,425!

Project goal is \$250,000

**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](http://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
Anonymous	
Anonymous	
Anonymous	
Anonymous	In memory of Almore Mathsen
Bob & Audrey Liudahl Atchison	
Bingham Family Charitable Trust	
Gerald & Judy Bratland	
Howard and Mary Deters	
Jake Deters Memorials	In memory of Jake Deters
Norman Ellingson (Match funds challenge)	In memory of Lloyd & Harriett Ellingson
Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier	
Terry Holland	
John Holm	In memory of Donald & Helen Holm
Wayne & Deloris Jacobs	In memory of James & Stella Ellingson
Kim & Nolie Kapplinger	
Glenn Kinneberg	In memory of Sally Kinneberg
Carlyn & Jan Kraabel	In memory of Annette William
Jerald & Joyce Lee	In memory of Nels & Helen Gulbranson, Odell & Ruth Lee
Jackie Parker	In memory of Shirley Alstad
Alan & Judy Roble	
Susan Schulte	
Lorraine Solum	In memory of Alden Solum, Roy & Clara Hauge
Judy Tollefsrud	In memory of Beth Tollefsrud Peterson
Jim Wilhelmson	In memory of Lois Wilhelmson

thankful  
&  
blessed

BLESSINGS





▲ Mark Dokken has spent many hours carefully cleaning the stones in the cemetery north of the church. This is a slow process that requires patience. The cleaner has to sit for an extended amount of time before it can be removed to reveal the true color of the stones. Watch for a more in-depth article on this process. Thank you, Mark, for your time and patience as you work to preserve our history!



From this ↑ to this ↓ takes time and patience.



◀ Our first Noisy / Crinkly Offering raised \$458.79 for missions to Sudan and hurricane relief! We will continue our Noisy Offering one Sunday every month. The next one is Sunday, October 7.

## CONFIRMATION SERVICE INFORMATION

Confirmation service **practice** for 10th grade youth — **Wednesday, October 24 at 6:30 p.m.** in the sanctuary. Come dressed for photographs and bring your decorated stoles.

Confirmation service — **Sunday, October 28 at 9:15 a.m.** Please arrive by 8:45 a.m. and meet in the Middle Room.



3:16s is a group for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth that meets every week on **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](mailto:bekah@trinitysg.org)





## A few snapshots of September at Trinity

▲ Rally Sunday was a jubilant day filled with giving Bibles to 3-yr olds, 3rd graders, and Confirmation Students.

► Sunday School students played games outdoors.

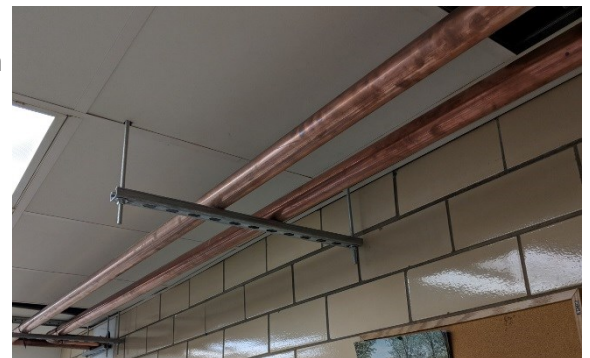
▼ We collected our first Noisy/Crinkly offering.



The Heating/Cooling project is moving along....

► New boilers are in place along with new pipes.

◀ This is the method for removing the asbestos; this part of the project is complete.





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		6:00pm Stewardship, MR 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	1:00pm Release Time (K) 5:00pm Worship Team, MR 6:00pm Confirmation w/ Supper 6:30pm Staffing, GR 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir	5:30pm Education, MR 7:00pm Finance, MR		5:00pm Worship/ Communion
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:15am Worship/ Communion, Bishop Delzer 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Property, pr offc 10:30am Sunday School 6:45pm Praise Band practice 8:00pm 3:16s		9:00am Deborah Circle 9:30am Anna Circle 5:00pm Support, GR 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	9:30am Adah Circle 2:00pm Release Time (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 6:00pm Confirmation w/ Supper 7:00pm Adult Handbells 7:45pm Council, <b>FH</b> 8:00pm Choir			10:30am Praise Band practice
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:15am Worship/Praise Band 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Tweenen Care Ctr Service 6:45pm Youth Handbells 8:00pm 3:16s	7:00pm Hannah, GR	2:30pm Phoebe 4:00pm Luther Trumpets Concert, Sanctuary 7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	2:00pm Release Time (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 2:00pm Eve Circle <b>No confirmation</b> 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir	9:30am Communion at The Manor	12:00pm Newsletter info deadline	5:00pm Worship/ Communion
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, <b>TC</b> 10:30am Outreach, pr offc 6:45pm Youth Handbells 8:00pm 3:16s		7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	1:00pm Release Time (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) 6:00pm Confirmation w/ Supper 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir	9:30am Communion at Tweenen Apartments 10:30am Communion at Assisted Living 2:00pm Newsletter mailed	9:30am Love Day	
28 Reformation and Confirmation 9:15am Worship/ Communion/ Confirmation 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, TC 6:45pm Youth Handbells 8:00pm 3:16s	29	30	31			
		7:00pm Al-Anon, TC	6:00pm Confirmation/ supper 7:00pm Adult Handbells 8:00pm Choir			



## VOLUNTEERS

	<b>OCTOBER 7</b>	<b>OCTOBER 14</b>	<b>OCTOBER 21</b>	<b>OCTOBER 28</b>
<b>LECTOR</b>	Rachel Udstuen	Mary Zaffke	Bekah Leafblad	Willy Leafblad
<b>ACOLYTE(S)</b>	Brielle Neeley, Madilyn Ostern	Ava Olerud	Nathan Solberg, Lydia Solum	Kylie Standahl, Jonah Udstuen
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b>	Jan & Al Lochner, Fred Arnold	n/a	Darla & Jim Hunzeker, Mary Newgaard	Lori & Gary Wilhelmson, 1 needed
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Linda Pierce (chair), Marcia Holland, Gloria Oakes Speltz, Gloria Sagdalen, Betty Johnson, Doris Sherburne			
<b>USHERS</b>	Jeff Ellingson (captain), Jeremy Myhre, Dale Buxengard, Duron Bratland, Chris Deck, Dave Selness			
<b>COFFEE HOSTS</b>	Jessi & Chris Strinmoen, Joe & Marlene Deschler, Andy & Sheri Allen	Judy Tollefsrud, Karen Fried, Bev Nelson	Judy Bratland, Mary Newgaard, Milly Halverson	Betty & Bruce Bergsgaard, Kristi and Neil Storlie, Bethany Bergsgaard, Jessica Kraus
<b>498-AMEN</b>	Karen & Bill Fried		Vivien Mathsen	

**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](mailto:trinity@springgrove.coop)

### FOLLOW TRINITY ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



*Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove*



**Instagram:** Youth account = *trinityyouth203*

Trinity Church account = *trinitylutheransg*



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**“GOD DOESN’T  
LOVE US BECAUSE OF  
OUR WORTH,  
WE ARE OF WORTH  
BECAUSE GOD  
LOVES US.”**

**- Martin Luther**

