

TRINITY *news*

MAY 2024

VOLUME 30 • ISSUE 5

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

[trinitylutheransg](https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheransg)
[trinityyouth203](https://www.instagram.com/trinityyouth203)



YouTube

Trinity Lutheran: Spring Grove

Office hours:

Mon - Fri: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sundays at Trinity

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

Listen live Sundays on **KVIK 104.7 FM**

www.kvikradio.com

and on Facebook Live

Saturday Worship 5:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Saturdays each month

STAFF

Elizabeth Hermeier, Lead Pastor

prelizabeth.trinitysg@gmail.com

Lane Zaffke, Visitation Pastor

cyf.trinitysg@gmail.com

lane.zaffke@gmail.com

Marlene Deschler, Admin. Professional

trinityspringgrove@gmail.com

Stewart Storlie, Admin. Professional

trinityspringgrove@gmail.com

Nicole Krenzke, Bookkeeper

trinity.sgtreasurer@gmail.com

Gary Wilhelmson, Custodian

Rachel Storlie, Organist/Pianist

Scott Solberg, Choir Director

Demitre Ellis, Handbell Director

Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist

Rachel Udstuen, Pianist

Rick Sundet, Technology Lead

Syttende Mai Meatball Dinner

Sunday, May 19

10:30 a.m. until sold out

drive-thru & limited in-house seating

\$13 each

MENU: meatballs in gravy, mashed potatoes,
glazed carrots, dinner roll, lefse, rømmegrøt

DRIVE-THRU: Turn on 2nd Ave SE (by Roble Funeral Home) and watch for people to direct you around the block to Trinity's parking lot. Proceed to canopy to purchase meals, continue into parking lot where your meals will be brought to you, exit onto Main Street.

Fundraiser for Youth Ministry. Thank you!



Sat., May 11 • Moms event at Trinity Center

Sun., May 12 • Mother's Day • Last day of Sunday School

Sun. May 19 • Syttende Mai Meatball Dinner

Wed., May 29 • Community Baccalaureate Service

Fri., May 31 • Scholarship applications due (2nd-4th year college students)

Mon., June 10 - Thu., June 13 • Vacation Bible School and Day Camp

Sun., June 16 • Pastor Elizabeth's last Sunday • Special Retirement Fellowship

Sun., June 16 - Fri., June 21 • Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village

Sun., July 14 - Sun., July 21 • ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans



From Pastor Elizabeth

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Acts 2:1-4

Dear people of Christ,

Every Sunday worship service typically offers four readings from scripture: one from the Old Testament, a Psalm, one from the New Testament (typically from one of the letters), and a Gospel reading. Except during the Easter season. During Easter, the Old Testament reading is typically replaced by a reading from the Book of Acts. Why, you ask?

After His Easter resurrection, Jesus spent 40 days with his disciples, preaching and teaching and performing miracles, much as he had done during the three years of his ministry, but with a big difference. During these 40 days, Jesus was preparing them to continue His ministry without Him. Jesus was preparing His disciples to begin building a new church in His name. The Book of Acts is filled with stories about this time of building the new church.

The Book of Acts is exciting! It begins with the gift of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (which we will celebrate in just a few weeks on Syttende Mai weekend), and continues with snakebites and shipwrecks, punishment and prison, miracles and martyrdom. We learn in the Book of Acts about the sacrifice of Stephen, the first martyr. We learn about the travels and struggles of Peter and Paul and the other disciples. We learn about how challenging it can sometimes be to build a new community.

We think, sometimes, that the work of building the church has already been completed, and that now we are only watching the church decline. But the church is always in a process of reformation. If Easter and the resurrection means anything, it is that hope never dies.

During this season of Easter and on to Pentecost, let's go forth in hope for the church. We, too, are disciples of Christ, called by the Holy Spirit to go into the world with the sure and certain hope that we have Jesus by our side. Because Jesus said, "Remember I am with you always, even to the end of the world."

God bless and keep you.

Pr. Elizabeth

EVENT CELEBRATING MOTHERS — SATURDAY, MAY 11

Come enjoy some time and space at the Trinity Center on Saturday, May 11 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. to celebrate mothers and the little people who make it all worthwhile.

There will be space for mothers of all ages to do crafting, sewing, or other soul-fulfilling activities. For the little ones, there will be a nap room (Bring Your Own Blankets), and activity rooms for older children upstairs, complete with Lego building blocks, diamond art, paper crafts, and other kid-oriented things to do.



A light snack will be provided for both kids and moms. Please let us know of any food allergies.

Please RSVP for children 4 years old and under due to their special supervision needs. An RSVP is also highly recommended for children aged 5 and above. Please RSVP to Charity Schroeder, 319-360-3107, or charityschroeder75@gmail.com.

A free will donation to help cover the costs of the event will be collected. This event is hosted by our Outreach Team; proceeds will go toward their future projects.

TRINITY CHURCH PEW REHAB – PROPERTY TEAM PROJECT

The Property Team, along with several other volunteers from the congregation, wants to refinish the church pews. This project could take as long as 18 months and will be paid for privately. The sandblasting, fixing, sanding, and refinishing will be done at Jeremy Lee's rural home body shop. Our tentative plan will be to have two groups of six workers. Labor will include moving pews, assisting sandblaster, sanding the pews, pew ends rehab (filler or veneer replacement), staining, sealing, applying top coats, and hauling them back to the church. We are looking for 12 volunteers that can commit to this project. Not sure about your woodworking skills? We will have technical support and will train you. Good tools will be provided, but we will need a few more sawhorses and a trailer. If you want to talk more, call Jerald Oakes, 507-500-1518. If you want a written detailed description of the plan, email Mark Dokken, markdokken@gmail.com.

FROM FINANCE TEAM LEAD, JACQUE WENNES What a glorious return to Spring Grove seeing the steeple glowing as we came home from Arizona. The Finance Team is happy to report that the steeple fund has paid in full for the repairs and replacement of slate with the ornaments on Trinity's steeple as voted at the 2023 Annual Meeting. Trinity is approximately \$10,000 shy in the windows restoration fund in order to complete the window restoration of the west windows on the church. Trinity is extremely grateful for those who have participated in preserving a central icon in Spring Grove to carry on God's work through our hands.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY Our Little Free Pantry is open 24/7 for anyone to use. Many people use this as an opportunity to supply extra food for their families. Our Care Team works hard to keep the pantry stocked. It is used often. Donations of food or monetary gifts to purchase food are always welcomed. Thank you for thinking of those who face food insecurity.



GOOD SAMARITAN FUND Through donations to our Good Samaritan fund, we are able to purchase gift cards to Red's Hometown Market and fuel-only gift cards at Kwik Trip. These cards are available for those who are facing food insecurity or need gas to get to appointments. We often have requests for assistance in this way as well as assistance for car repairs or help with energy bills or rent. If you'd like to donate to the Good Samaritan fund, please indicate that on your check or choose that fund when donating online. Thank you!

STAFFING TEAM UPDATES

Our Staffing Team continues to work diligently to recruit for a new Director of CYF Ministry. We have also created a position for a Summer Youth leader. This person would work with Pastor Lane and the Education Team to coordinate and lead summer activities for youth in grades 7-12.

Our team has tried many different avenues to find someone to facilitate our Christian Education and Bible teachings. Below is an update of the advertisements our team has explored.

- Mailed 55 letters to college-aged students and young adults describing the two opportunities for employment positions with Trinity Lutheran Church.
- Extended our advertisement for Director of CYF Ministry on many different Facebook Job websites
- Sent a cover letter with posters and postcards advertising our position to the director of five Campus Ministries.
- Contacted four Bible Camps
- Posted advertisements in three local newspapers
- Sent job information to 20 local churches (twice) asking to have them post it
- Ran an advertisement ad on KVIK radio station.
- Advertising on handshake.com to nine colleges.
- Went to career fairs in March 2024
- Posted advertisements at the Spring Grove School Job Board
- Placed two signs on the church lawn about our CYF position.

We remain very optimistic and confident that we will find the right applicant in the near future to facilitate our youth Christian education. If you are interested or know someone who loves working with children and youth, please forward this information to them.

Thank you.

The Staffing Team: *Betty Dokken, Nancy Gulbranson, Danielle Myhre, Steve Hagen*

TRINITY YOUTH DIRECTOR NEEDED

Trinity is looking for a Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry. This is an active and fun position developing and leading programs for children and families. Candidates should have strong communication and organizational skills and an understanding of Lutheran beliefs. Prior experience working with youth programs is preferred.

Learn more on our website at www.trinitysg.org. Paid position with benefits. Questions can be directed to the following: Betty Dokken bettydokken8@gmail.com

SUMMER YOUTH LEADER

Trinity Lutheran Church is seeking a college-age student or adult to work with Pastor Lane and the Education Team Lead to coordinate and lead summer activities for youth in grades 7–12. This is a paid position for 100-125 hours total (averaging 10-15 hours/week) and will include evening and weekend hours depending upon events planned. The weekly activities will run approximately from June 5 through August 7. Contact Nancy Gulbranson at nancygulbranson01@gmail.com or Betty Dokken at bettydokken8@gmail.com or Pastor Elizabeth at prelizabeth.trinitysg@gmail.com.

SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2ND-4TH YEAR COLLEGE STUDENTS

Trinity's Scholarship Endowment invites Trinity members who are in their 2nd –4th year of college to apply for a scholarship. Applications are due at the church office no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 31. Applications are available in the office or online, <https://www.trinitysg.org/scholarship-endowment>. The Scholarship Endowment not only helps Trinity members achieve their educational goals, but also leads them to understand the power of giving. Our hope is that one day they will be led to give in return.



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE SCHOOL activities are done for the year. Thanks to all of the families that participated in this programs. Look for information about our fall programming in the August newsletter.

LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL will be MAY 12, which is also Mother's Day.

SYTTENDE MAI MEATBALL DINNER Our youth will be serving the dinner on Sunday, May 19, from 10:30 a.m. until gone. **This year, we are offering limited in-house dining (up to 125 tickets).** Early bird signup will be before church from 8:45 – 9:15 a.m. the day of. Meals are \$13 each and includes meatballs in gravy, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, lefse, dinner roll, rømmegrøt, and dessert. If you are homebound and would like a meal delivered, please let Pastor Lane know or contact the church office at 498-5291 by Friday, May 17. There will also be sign-up sheets at the Spring Grove Manor and Tweeten Apartments. Meals will be delivered between 10 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, May 19. This is a fundraiser for our youth going to the ELCA Youth Gathering in July and for our 7th and 8th grade students attending confirmation camp at Good Earth Village. Thank you for supporting our youth ministry!

COMMUNITY BACCALAUREATE SERVICE is Wednesday, May 29, at 7:00 p.m. This ecumenical service is for graduating high school seniors, families, and friends. Area pastors will participate. Join us for this meaningful service here at Trinity.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is June 10-13 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. for children 3 years old through those entering kindergarten this fall. **DAY CAMP AT TRINITY** will be the same days, but from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. for youth completing kindergarten through 5th grade in 2023-2024 school year. Registration is \$10 per student for VBS or \$20 per student for Day Camp. New this year is a special price of \$25 per family (two or more children). Scholarships are available! Complete the registration form on the next page and drop off at the church office or mail to PO Box 188, Spring Grove, MN 55974. **Sign up deadline is Monday, May 20.**

DAY CAMP COUNSELOR HOST FAMILIES Trinity is looking for host families to serve an evening meal to the camp counselors that are coming from Good Earth Village Bible Camp to lead our Day Camp and Vacation Bible School. Please call Bev Nelson at 507-421-2214 if you are willing to host a dinner one night between June 10 - 13. We will also be looking for people to provide lunch for the counselors at the church.

A REMINDER - CONFIRMATION CAMP at Good Earth Village (GEV) in rural Spring Valley, MN, is June 16-21 for our 7th grade youth. Confirmation campers have memorable, faith-building adventures during this week! Campers spend time each morning with Pastor Lane exploring faith topics in depth. Afternoons and evenings include group activities, canoeing, swimming, arts and crafts, epic games, and campfire worship led by GEV staff.

YOUTH GATHERING SEND-OFF Our high school youth and leaders will be heading to New Orleans for the ELCA Youth Gathering in July. We will have a special send-off for them on Sunday, July 14. Watch for more details!

2024 VBS / DAY CAMP REGISTRATION & HEALTH HISTORY FORM

RETURN FORM / FEE TO: Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 188, Spring Grove, MN 55974
or drop off in the office.

- If a scholarship is needed, please mark here. No additional information is needed.
- New this year!** Family rate is \$25 for two or more children.

VBS - Preschool (age three) thru entering Kindergarten - \$10 fee

Day Camp – leaving Kindergarten thru Fifth Grade - \$20 fee

NAME OF CAMPER _____

Grade (Fall '24) _____ Male Female

Birthdate _____ Current Age _____

Home Congregation / Town _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent / Guardian Name(s) _____

Parent #1 Cell Phone (_____) _____ Parent #2 Cell Phone (_____) _____

Parent / Guardian Address (if different from camper) _____

MEDICAL ALLERGIES

If none apply, check here

Life Threatening? Bee Stings Yes No EpiPen available Yes No

Medical Allergies: Yes No _____

FOOD ALLERGIES

If none apply, check here

Life Threatening? Peanuts Yes No EpiPen available Yes No

List food allergies: _____

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Emergency Contact Person - If Parent or Guardian cannot be reached.

Name: _____ Phone (_____) _____

Permission for this person to take the child for medical, dental, or other care? Yes No

MEDICAL INFORMATION

Family Doctor _____ Clinic: _____

Phone (_____) _____

CONSENT INFORMATION

Yes No My child is allowed to walk or ride a bus to and from an afternoon activity away from the church property.

Yes No My child's photo or electronic media image may be used in the following ways:
 On Facebook or Instagram On Trinity Lutheran Church's website
 In the church newsletter or other print materials

Parent / Guardian Signature (required): _____ Date: _____

SEM N SYNOD CALL PROCESS OVERVIEW FOR CONGREGATIONS AND COUNCILS

Now that Pastor Elizabeth has announced her retirement, this time until the next ‘settled’ roster leader begins his or her call is a special time in the life of Trinity Lutheran. It is a time filled with hope and expectation, of questioning and experimentation. It may also be a time of anxiety.

The first and foremost task of Trinity Lutheran and of its leaders during this time is spiritual reflection and prayer. Prayer, Bible study, and regular devotions will keep the Trinity spiritually centered, responsive to the movement of the Spirit, and focused on what God’s hopes are for Trinity and its missions.



A Four Phase Call Process

As a congregation of the SEMN Synod, Trinity Lutheran will participate in a four phase call process.

PHASE I: The Leave-taking/The Transition-time

Now that Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier has announced her retirement at Trinity Lutheran, a representative from the Office of the Bishop has met with our congregational council to orient them to the call process. It is also the time that information about transitional pastoral support is shared with the congregation council in order that they might make the best decision about how Trinity and its ministries will be cared for upon the departure of Pastor Elizabeth. It is during this phase that a conversation is had regarding what it means for Pastor Elizabeth to leave well and the expectation to honor boundaries set forth by the ELCA between the congregation and her. This is also the time to celebrate the ministry that Pastor Elizabeth and the Trinity congregation have shared. The council will also form and appoint the Call Committee.

Phase II: Self-Study Process and Ministry Site Profile Completion

In this phase, the Call Committee will participate in an orientation facilitated by the Assistant to the Bishop. The Call Committee will explore the vision and ministry needs of Trinity by engaging the congregation in a self-study which may be accomplished through a variety of ways. The self-study will lead to the completion of the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which becomes an integral document shared with potential candidates as their first exposure to who Trinity Lutheran is. After the MSP is completed and before it is officially submitted, a congregational town hall meeting may be held to review and comment on the MSP. This is attended by the Assistant to the Bishop in Call Process. After final edits are made to the MSP, it is submitted by the Call Committee on the ELCA website.

Phase III: Interviewing Candidates/Discerning the Candidate of Choice

This phase begins with an orientation of the Call Committee. In the orientation the Call Committee will discuss its interview protocol, develop questions for candidates, and prepare packets of information for candidates. It is also at this time that the Call Committee will elicit nominations of pastoral candidates from Trinity congregation. When the Call Committee is ready to begin interviews, they will receive names of candidates from the Assistant to the Bishop in Call Process. The Call Committee will engage in first interviews with each candidate that is presented to them. After the first interviews are completed, the Call Committee chairperson will communicate with each candidate as to whether they will retain or release the candidate. The Call Committee will then engage in second interviews and gather other information (including sermon and reference checks). The Call Committee will discern the candidate of choice and, with mutual consent from the candidate, present the candidate of choice recommendation to Trinity’s congregation council. The congregation council will then set a date for a Special Congregational Call Meeting.

Phase IV: Preparing for and Welcoming the New Pastor

The new pastor, the council president, and the Assistant to the Bishop, coordinate a date for the installation of the new pastor. The Assistant to the Bishop will be present to perform the Rite of Installation. Trinity’s congregation council and Call Committee will plan activities to welcome the new pastor (and family) to Trinity Lutheran and the community of Spring Grove.

Phase One: Introduction

The call process is primarily Spiritual Work

The first and foremost task of the Trinity congregation and of its leaders during this time is spiritual reflection and prayer. Prayer, Bible study, and regular devotions will keep Trinity spiritually centered, responsive to the movement of the Spirit, and focused on what God's hopes for Trinity and its missions are.

Every gathering of Trinity, whether it be for worship, for meetings, or for social interaction, is an opportunity to gird the call process in prayer. Through bulletin announcements, newsletters, and social media, people can be invited into deep reflection about the mission and ministry of Trinity.

Understanding Call

At the very core of Lutheran theology is the 'priesthood of all believers.' In baptism, God has called us all to be part of the body of Christ. We are all ministers of the Gospel in our daily lives. Within this priesthood of all believers, there are some who are called to serve the people of God through Word and Sacrament ministry (Clergy) or through Word and Service ministry (Deacon).

Rostered Leaders (Clergy and Deacons) are called, *not hired*, to serve congregations. A call to a rostered leader to serve is one element in Trinity's seeking and following God's movement into the future. The call process is not the same as a hiring process in other parts of society. For in a call process, the congregation is seeking and following God's movement into the future. The congregation engages in an effort to discern what God wants for their setting so that the Gospel may be more fully proclaimed. This call is not just a call to Trinity – it is a call by the whole church to engage in the ministry of the Gospel.

The Call to Ministry

God calls some Christians to rostered ministry. Once that call is discerned, individuals normally devote years to study, training, and preparation under the guidance of the Office of the Bishop, the Candidacy Committee, and the leadership of the seminaries.

Similarly, through the church, God calls rostered leaders to a specific ministry. Local congregations participate directly in the call process. The whole church also participates through the Office of the Bishop. Just as the whole church took an active role as individuals prepared for ministry, so now the whole church takes an active role in the call to a specific ministry. This is demonstrated by the process through which a person is approved for rostered ministry in the church. Candidates must receive and accept a call to a specific ministry in order to be ordained as pastors or consecrated as deacons. The Rite of Ordination or Consecration usually occurs in a local congregation, but it is always an action by the whole church. That's why a Bishop of the Church presides at all ordination and consecration services.

The Church, the Congregation, and Call

The work of the call process is not just the work of Trinity. The whole church has a stake in this process since the whole church is involved in the proclamation of the Gospel, wherever it occurs. The congregational leadership, the Call Committee, and the Trinity congregation all participate in different ways in this process. The Office of the Bishop also participates, representing the commitment of the whole church to the "next best chapter in ministry" for both the Trinity congregation and the rostered leader. The Office of the Bishop, Trinity, and the prospective rostered leader work together to insure that this new ministry is faithful to the Gospel, empowers Trinity in its ministry, and strengthens the witness of the whole church.

Phase One: The Leave-taking

Retirement of Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier

With Pastor Elizabeth's announcement of her retirement, Trinity will want to find a new pastor quickly. No one can determine how long a particular call process will take. We are encouraged to be diligent in our process of calling a new rostered leader. Laying a strong foundation for the next chapter in our congregation's life and calling a rostered leader who can most appropriately lead our congregation are more important than the length of time the process takes.

Now that Pastor Elizabeth has notified the congregation of her retirement and has determined her final date, several steps need to be taken:

- 1) Members of Trinity's congregation council meet with a representative from the Office of the Bishop to review the call process and determine the kind of transition-time pastoral support that will be needed.
- 2) Pastor Elizabeth and a representative from the Office of the Bishop will conduct an exit interview.
- 3) Pastor Elizabeth and Trinity's congregational leadership will insure that the congregational records are complete and that all financial obligations on the part of the congregation and Pastor Elizabeth are completed.
- 4) A celebration of the ministry that Pastor Elizabeth and Trinity have shared will be planned and on the final Sunday of her service to Trinity (June 16), the *Litany of Closure at the Completion of Ministry and Litany of Farewell and God's Speed* will be included as part of the service.

It is also important to note that there are also ethical boundaries regarding pastoral acts by former pastors and deacons. In the ELCA, there is a very clear understanding of these pastoral boundaries. These apply both to rostered leaders who accept another call and to those who retire. Once a rostered leader has left a call, that person *may not*:

- Do funerals for persons from the former congregation.
- Do weddings for persons from the former congregation.
- Interfere in the life, pastoral care or mission of that former congregation.
- Return to or engage in the life of the congregation.
- Retain membership with the congregation.



To donate online to the Youth Gathering or to the General Fund or any of Trinity's missions, scan the QR code that will take you to the "contribute" page on Trinity's website. *Thank you!*

UPDATES FROM TRINITY COUNCIL MEETING | MARCH 13, 2024

- Pastor Elizabeth announced her retirement as of June 2024. She feels this will be a good time to look at what the mission of Trinity will be going forward.
- Care Ministry: moving backpack/HIP restocking to Trinity Center. Held a craft day at Trinity Center. Will be scheduling more events like this.
- Communications Team: working on making a new church directory
- Property Team: working to refine and prioritize list of repairs; taking quotes to repair the flat roof on the church
- Staffing Team: working on finding a Youth Director – attending job fairs and increased advertising for position.
- Worship Team: preparing for St. Patrick's Day meal, started as a way to relieve loneliness and help people reconnect; will be holding a job fair for readers, ushers, altar guild, and other positions needing volunteers

Motions passed:

- to raise the rent of two bays in the Trinity Center garage to \$1,200/year for Spring Grove Public School; approx. 19' x 26' area
- to have Ron Shermer do mapping of the graveyard by the church for \$7,149.67 using the funds from Special Accounts Building Fund for the project
- to approve the use of Trinity Church as an emergency shelter for the trailer park residents now that Northern Engraving is no longer an option (request came from the City)
- to accept the offer from Mark and Betty Dokken for the restoration/repairs of the church pews.

UPDATES FROM TRINITY COUNCIL MEETING | APRIL 10, 2024

- Education Team: have plans started for VBS, Confirmation Camp, April 28 Senior Recognition, Baccalaureate; Confirmation Camp – WELCA covers \$200 per student/ \$95 from Youth Account / \$150 covered by parent.
- Heather Gray and Lorilyn Dehning will co-chair Syttende Mai Meatball Dinner
- Property Team: Have identified list of items to do this year as funds available; steeple is done; church roof IS asbestos so plan for future replacement (last bids were in 2019)
- Staffing Team: sent letter with posters advertising the Youth Director position to 5 campus ministries (Winona Lutheran Campus Ministry, Luther – Decorah IA, La Crosse, Mankato, and Minneapolis Campus ministries); have two signs on the church lawn about the position. Other advertising: ads in three newspapers, sent to 20 local churches (twice), put on Handshake.com for 9 colleges until June 31 and ran an add on KVIK radio station; will also contact Bible camps
- Stewardship Team: feels they should build relationships before fund raising; age group of target audience –will get data/statistics from church office to help with next steps; wants to be sure not to exclude remote worshippers.
- Worship Team: hosting a Tax Relief Stone Soup Supper on April 15 with bingo; planning a job fair for September 2024 to help fill groups (fellowship servers, altar guild, ushers, readers....etc.)
- Graveyard Mapping Project – company is getting some new equipment so project is postponed to June 2024; will be paid out of building funds in special accounts.
- Meeting with Assistant to the Bishop Barb Streed on Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 at Trinity Church
- Exploring new idea: Sunday School and Confirmation on Wednesday evenings at Trinity Center along with adult education, informal service and family night. Discussed various options, contacting church's that currently have family time on Wednesday. Education Team was directed to continue to work on this concept by doing further research, what teams may need to be involved, possible field trip to see how this works (Northfield, Rochester, Benson). Meals, worship, education all around the "Family." Kim Kapplinger's family currently attends a Wednesday service and helps them stay involved with church while doing sports. It was requested that if this is done it needs to be consistent and weekly. Education Team will look into the possibility of sending a survey out to see interest. Pr. Lane and Education Team will work on this.

Motions passed:

- to approve lease agreement with changes (60 day written notice termination clause, space will be restricted to two spots on ground level, retro-active to Jan 1, 2024.)
- to move forward with the Summer Youth Leader position (a college-age student or adult to work with Pastor Lane and the Education Team Lead to coordinate and lead summer activities for youth in grades 7–12, paid position for 100-125 hours total (averaging 10-15 hours/week), includes evening and weekend hours depending upon events planned. The weekly activities will run approximately from June 5 through August 7.)

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 8 at 7:00 p.m.



CAREER FAIR

Staffing Team co-leads, Nancy Gulbranson and Betty Dokken attended 2 career fairs as they work to fill the Dir. Of CYF position.



LENTEN GRASS

Sunday School youth planted Lenten grass as one of their projects.



UPDATE

The island at the parsonage got an update to make it more useable.



LAYETTES

WELCA ladies met and assembled many layettes that will be distributed through Lutheran World Relief.



COMMUNION CUPS

Our 5th grade youth created their own cups that they used for their First Communion.



MAPLE SYRUP

The 2024 batch of syrup is ready and available! 359 jars were canned! When you're done with your delicious syrup, please return the jars and rings to the church. Thank you!

COMMUNION BREAD

Youth made communion bread!





ST. PATTY'S DAY MEAL

A delicious Irish meal was enjoyed by many along with St. Patty's Day themed crafts.

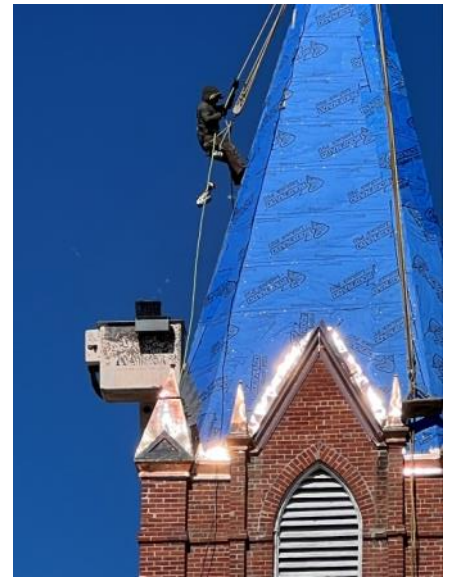
TAX RELIEF SUPPER

A meal of Stone Soup was prepared and fun games of Bingo were played. Watch for more themed meals to come!



LENTEN SUPPERS

Thank you to all who served, prepared food, and attended!



STEEPLE PROJECT COMPLETE!

They climbed to great heights to replace the shingles, cross, brass trim and cupolas. It looks amazing!

DOWN CAME THE CHIMNEY

The old, unused chimney has been dismantled.



CONGRATULATIONS SENIORS!

Elijah Solum and Jaxon Strinmoen at Senior Recognition Sunday.



How your CONGREGATION'S GIFT HELPS

With your support, Lutheran World Relief not only feeds hungry families; we also ensure they have the tools, skills and support they need to grow nourishing food long into the future.



\$2,100

purchases grain and fertilizer to support 10 farming families in Mali. Due to the war in Ukraine and other contributing factors, the price of these key supplies has skyrocketed in the past two years — leaving more and more families hungry. The fertilizer helps to boost their crop production, and the grain provides nourishment until their harvest is ready. With your support, Lutheran World Relief identifies those with greatest need to ensure the most vulnerable are cared for.



\$10,000

provides training and support to over 330 low-income families in Guatemala so they can sustainably raise cows, goats and pigs to feed their families and sell for income. In addition to fighting hunger, your support also helps families to find hope and a future in their own backyards. In this way, they also avoid the dangers of migrating in search of better opportunities far from home.



\$20,000

provides enough food for four health centers in South Sudan to treat malnourished children for one year. In addition to nutrient-dense foods to help children gain weight, these health centers also counsel parents and caregivers in health and nutrition to help keep their families healthy.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**





**Your Quilts & Kits
offer comfort in**
Türkiye

ABOVE: Leyla Güleriyüz (right) and her mother Seher Güleriyüz (left) hold some of the LWR Quilts, Baby Care Kits and Personal Care Kits their family received following the collapse of their home in the February 2023 Türkiye earthquakes.

Over a year after the earthquake destroyed her home, Leyla Güleriyüz still lives under a tarp with eight other people. Her family includes her chronically ill parents and her four-month-old nephew.

“It gets very, very bitterly cold at night,” Leyla says.

Thankfully, Lutheran World Relief Quilts & Kits — assembled by congregations like yours — provide warmth, comfort and dignity to families like Leyla’s who have lost so much.

Leyla says she was grateful that someone cared enough to make and deliver these handmade items. **“With these things you have brought, we will be able to warm up in a better way,”** she said. **“We are very happy that you thought of us.”**

Thank you for all the ways you’ve loved your neighbors in Türkiye!

Hear Leyla tell her story in her own words by watching the video online at lwr.org/congregations.

Thanks to your generosity, families in Türkiye received:

5,760 Baby Care Kits



11,880 Quilts



14,440 Personal Care Kits



Each icon represents a quantity of 1,000.



MAY HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FH = Fellowship Hall (large room in basement) MR = Middle Room (upstairs by offices) YGR = Youth Gathering Room (in basement near men's bathroom) TC = Trinity Center			1 4:30pm Cub Scouts, TC 6:00pm Confirmation, FH 7pm Handbells 7:15pm Outreach Team 8pm Choir	2 4:30pm Cub Scouts (girls), TC	3 9:00am Love Day 7:00pm NA, TC	4 10:30am AA, TC 5:00pm Worship/Communion /Holy Baptism—Ole Miles Wilhelmson
5 9:15am Worship/Holy Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School	6	7 5:00pm AA, TC 7:00pm Finance Team, FH	8 9:30am Adah, Tweeten Apts. 1:00pm Eve, Manor 4:30pm Cub Scouts (boys), TC 6:00pm Confirmation, FH 7pm Handbells 7pm Council, FH 8pm Choir	9 4:30pm Cub Scouts (girls), TC	10 7:00pm NA, TC	11 9am-5:30pm Synod Assembly, Mankato 10:30am AA, TC 1pm-4pm Mother's Day Event, TC
12 Mother's Day 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School (last one) 11:15am Worship at nursing home	13	14 9:00am Deborah 5:00pm AA, TC	15 4:30pm Cub Scouts (boys), TC 6:00pm Confirmation, FH 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	16 9:30am Worship at Manor 4:30pm Cub Scouts (girls), TC 6:30pm Hannah, SG Library	17 7:00pm NA, TC	18 10:30am AA, TC 5:00pm Worship/Communion
19 Pentecost 9:15am Worship/Holy Communion 10:30am Meatball Dinner (drive-thru and limited in-house dining)	20 9:30am Anna, Assisted Living	21 2:00pm Phoebe Circle, FH 5:00pm AA, TC	22 4:30pm Cub Scouts (boys), TC 6:00pm Confirmation, FH 7pm Handbells 8pm Choir	23 9:30am Worship at Tweeten Apt. 4:30pm Cub Scouts (girls), TC	24 June newsletter info due 7:00pm NA, TC	25 10:30am AA, TC
26 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship	27 Memorial Day <i>office closed</i>	28 10:00am Worship at Assisted Living 5:00pm AA, TC	29 2:00pm June newsletter assembled 4:30pm Cub Scouts (boys), TC 7:00pm Baccalaureate	30 4:30pm Cub Scouts, TC	31 Scholarship applications due in office 9:00am Love Day 7:00pm NA, TC	

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!

Date	Lector	Acolytes	Communion Servers	Communion Bread Maker	Fellowship Hosts
May 5	Ruth Johnsrud	Roland Bjerke Tyler Turner	Janice Messner Jacque Wennes	Karen Bingham	Joyce and Steve Bergrud Sue and Jeff Engen
May 12	Janna Myrah	Renner Staggemeier Mariah Fretty			Nancy Gulbranson Karen and Bill Fried
May 19	Mary Newgaard	Raeanne Lemke Maria Solberg	Gary & Lori Wilhelmson		Syttende Mai Meatball Dinner (no fellowship)
May 26	Julianna Lile	Adah Solum Weston Ingvalson			Mary and Howard Deters
May Ushers Dana Kjome Blaine Liudahl Curt Roverud Alfred Wendel <i>**captain to be determined by team</i>		May Altar Guild Dawn Hewitt, chair Milly Halverson Carolyn Kampschroer Carolyn Olson Carol Sherburne		498-AMEN April 21-May 4: Lara Wold Mendez May 5-18: Terry holland May 19-June 1: Nolie Kapplinger	
Meals on Wheels May 13-14: Jan Kraabel May 15-19: Kim & Nolie Kapplinger May 17, 20: Gary & Lori Wilhelmson May 21-22: Jim Wilhelmson, LeAnn Kraus May 23-24: Dana & Elaine Kjome					

Fellowship Host Instructions and Tips:

- Make coffee
 - instructions are on the wall by the coffee pots, it takes a little time, so plan to start it before worship
 - about **40** cups decaf, **50** cups regular; coffee is on the counter to the right of the refrigerator
 - feel free to bring your own creamer
- Other beverages — water is usually served, pitchers can be filled from the tall faucet and placed in the refrigerator to chill. You can choose to serve other beverages (lemonade, juice, or anything else you'd like). You can personalize it however you'd like!
- Provide treats for **50-60**
 - Treats can be anything you'd like to provide, savory or sweet...bars, cookies, fruit, breads, muffins, ice cream, store-bought is fine too! This is YOUR day, do what works best for your group!
 - Decide how many dishes you'd like to wash — serve on paper plates, napkins, or on plates found on the carts in the kitchen. Serving trays are in the cupboards, look for labels on cupboard doors to find location
 - Take time to sit down and enjoy a treat and conversation with friends and neighbors before you finish up your fellowship duties. You are doing God's work and you are SO appreciated!
 - Clean up when fellowship is over — wash and put away mugs, glasses, plates, and silverware. Wipe down tables in Fellowship Hall and kitchen counters, turn off lights on your way out. Please take any extra food/drink items with you.
 - Please let us know if you have any questions. We're always striving to make this an easy, enjoyable experience for everyone. If you'd like to add anyone to your group, please do!



Questions? Changes? Please contact Outreach Team member, Jan Kraabel, 498-5687, kraabelcj@outlook.com. Or the church office, 498-5291, trinityspringgrove@gmail.com.

Thanks for serving fellowship!

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.

--Author Unknown