

TRINITY *news*

JULY/AUGUST 2022

VOLUME 28 ■ ISSUE 7&8

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

lane.zaffke@gmail.com

Kerri Jahnke, Dir. Of Children, Youth
and Family Ministry

cyf.trinitysg@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

Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist

Mark Udstuen, Praise Band Leader

Rick Sundet, Technology Lead

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SUMMER SERVICE TRIP — BOUNDLESS W.Y.L.D.E.

“I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”

Ephesians 3:18-19

In response to the unfortunate news that the ELCA Youth Gathering was canceled, **Sugar Creek Bible Camp** in Ferryville, WI, is offering additional High School Youth Group experiences this summer. Kerri Jahnke, Trinity's Children, Youth and Family Director, will lead our high school youth to “Boundless W.Y.L.D.E.” July 24-28.

Our youth group will experience a powerful week of immersive youth ministry this summer! The Boundless **W**isconsin **Y**outh **L**eadership **D**evelopment **E**vent will be a gathering designed to inspire, equip, and send.

Activities include hands-on service opportunities, leadership learning activities, spirit-filled worships, meaningful faith exploration, and supportive community!

More than ever, this world needs the faith, hope, and love that God inspires during a powerful week at Bible camp. Summer schedules fill fast. After two years without in-person camp activities, make it a **priority** this year to give your High School youth a truly powerful experience of **adventure, in-person fun,** and **memorable experiences** of empowerment through God's love.

All youth entering 9th-12th grade this fall are invited to participate in this trip. Invite a friend! Do not need to be a Trinity member to attend. Cost is \$300. Scholarships are available. For more information, call Kerri at 498-5291 or email cyf.trinitysg@gmail.com. Deadline to register is July 15.

Boundless W.Y.L.D.E.

Program Highlights

<h4>SERVICE</h4> <h5>Local</h5> <p>SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP Spend a day on the trails with Daniel and the Sugar Creek staff blazing new trails to epic lookouts!</p> <h5>Regional</h5> <p>FRIENDS OF POOL 9 Learn about River Conservation and spend the day cleaning on the Mississippi River.</p> <h5>Relational</h5> <p>SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP Practice relationship building skills learned with Lyle to counsel and support fellow campers.</p>	<h4>LEADERSHIP</h4> <h5>Peer Ministry</h5> <p>LYLE CRINER Daily sessions led by Lyle Criner that will inspire, empower, and equip your youth for Church leadership.</p> <h5>Diversity Training</h5> <p>DANIEL KIRSCHBAUM Intentional time every day with Daniel Kirschbaum leading deep conversations about diversity.</p> <h5>Team Building</h5> <p>ALL OF US TOGETHER Guest leaders, Sugar Creek staff, Campers, and Pastors working together and learning from one another.</p>	<h4>FUN!</h4> <h5>Activity Rotations</h5> <p>SUGAR CREEK STAFF Every day youth will let loose and have fun! Archery, Horseback Riding, swimming pool and more!</p> <h5>Nature</h5> <p>SUGAR CREEK STAFF Youth will be outdoors and unplugged for the week! Connected with one another and God's creation.</p> <h5>Community</h5> <p>EVERYONE Spend time each night playing fun games and enjoying epic campfires!</p>
--	--	---

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)*

Dear people of God,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As I write this, I am preparing for outdoor worship this Sunday, and I am also listening to the blessed sounds of our Vacation Bible School and Day Camp youth sing, pray, shout, and play throughout the church building and outdoors. These two activities represent opposite emblems of our lives for the last two years. Outdoor worship is something we can now choose to do (rather than doing it because we have to); and VBS and Day Camp are something we get to do, when for the last two years we haven't been able to. "The old has gone, the new is here!"

A few months ago, I attended an online seminar for pastors, and I wrote down this quote from one of the leaders: "In the rush back to normal (after the COVID-19 pandemic), we ought to consider what are the things about 'normal' we want to rush back to." And that leads to a further question: Of the things we changed because of the pandemic, what are the things we'd like to keep?

I have a few ideas. For example, outdoor worship was something we could do more safely during these last two years, when previously it was something we did just once a year for fun. But we live in one of the most glorious areas of the world, so outdoor worship is something we can do more often so we can enjoy God's good creation while worshipping God. Plus, Lee and Rick built us a fantastic outdoor pulpit!

Facebook Live is another resource we added (along with Zoom for meetings) during the pandemic. And now, though we can meet in person again, Facebook enables us to reach more people than ever for worship, just as we've always done with our radio ministry. And Zoom allows us to host meetings even when members are traveling or need to be at home for one reason or another.

By the way, did you know that our total attendance each Sunday is the same as it was before the pandemic? But now people have more choices and opportunities to worship with us. Some choose to be here in-person. Some choose to worship at home, or from their campers, or from their vacation homes. As I always say, it's a blessing to have you worshipping with us however you are able to join us.

Martin Luther said "Here I stand. I can do no other." But Luther didn't stand still. And neither did Jesus. He was on the go during his entire ministry.

We are a church of the Reformation, a church called by Jesus to respond to the needs of our neighbors. And now we can go where our neighbors are, wherever they are, whoever they are, on a Sunday morning.

I would love to hear from you about other ways Trinity is called to respond to this changing world. "The old has gone, the new is here!" Thanks be to God.

-Pr. Elizabeth

*"Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning."
Proverbs 9:9*

Yeah, well I hope to add to my learning. But I am feeling like an old dog trying new tricks.

I did a continuing education week online on homiletics. I confess I didn't enjoy it that much. Not being there I found it hard to feel a part of it. People would clap for something and I would think "Why are they doing that?" Sometimes they told a joke and I would miss that completely. And because I was home distractions pulled at my attention. I find online learning a struggle.

So now I have signed up for another one. Because maybe the more I do it the better I will become at it. This one is called 'Discovering Christ in the Old Testament.' It sounds more interesting than being preached at for a whole week. Perhaps the only wisdom of the wise is that they are willing to continue learning. Eventually things pile up.

~ Pastor Lane

HIGH SCHOOL BONFIRES

Starting June 8, we will have weekly bonfires on Wednesday nights from 8-10 p.m. for 9th-12th grade youth on the big lawn at the church. There will be games, devotions, community time, and of course.....s'mores! Bring a friend or two, you do not need to be a Trinity member to attend — all are welcome!

TENNIS TUESDAYS

We will meet on Tuesdays, July 5 and August 2 at the tennis courts from 7-9 p.m. and have fun playing tennis, no skill needed, as Kerri has no skill! Bring a racquet and tennis balls if you have them. This will be a fun community time for 7th-12th grade youth.

CONFIRMATION CAMP AT GOOD EARTH VILLAGE BIBLE CAMP

ALL 7th - 9th graders are encouraged to attend Confirmation Camp on July 10-15! Confirmation campers have memorable faith-building adventures during this week! Campers spend time each morning with our pastor or a confirmation leader exploring faith topics in depth. In the afternoon and evenings, campers enjoy group activities, canoeing, swimming, arts and crafts, epic games, and campfire worship led by the GEV summer staff.

1. Please sign up as soon as possible: <http://goodearthvillage.org/register>
2. Make sure to list in your registration: CONFIRMATION CAMP with TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, SPRING GROVE, MN in the program space.
3. You will have to pay a non-refundable deposit when you register.
4. Total cost per youth is \$200 (monies from WELCA and other groups have been given to offset costs). If you are unable to pay the amount or deposit, scholarships are available. Please let Kerri know and we can help.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SUMMER SERVICE TRIP — BOUNDLESS W.Y.L.D.E.

All youth entering 9th—12th grade this fall are invited to participate in this trip. We will experience a powerful week of immersive youth ministry. The Boundless Wisconsin Youth Leadership Development Event is at Sugar Creek Bible Camp in Ferryville, WI. It is a gathering designed to inspire, equip, and send. The trip dates are July 24-29. We will experience hands-on service opportunities, leadership learning activities, spirit-filled worships, meaningful faith exploration, and supportive community! Cost is \$300. Deadline to register is July 15. (This trip is replacing the ELCA Youth Gathering that was canceled.)

THANK YOU NOTES FROM SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Thank you very much for the scholarship which I will be putting toward my education at the University of Minnesota. Knowing I always have the church means a lot.

Sincerely, Reid Bjerke

Thank you for gifting me my scholarship.

Sincerely, Cierra Blaskowski

Thank you so much for choosing me as one of the recipients to win your scholarship. I will use this to further my education.

Sincerely, McKenzie Fisch

Thank you so much for the gift of money. I will use it to further my education at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. I look forward to attending services during breaks! Thank you again. I appreciate it greatly!

Sincerely, Ava Olerud

Thank you for this scholarship to help further my education at University of Iowa. I look forward to coming home and attending church services during my breaks. Thank you again, it is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely, Julia Halverson

Thank you so much for the scholarship that I have received. Through all of the time that I have spent at Trinity, this gift is something that means more to me than its physical values. Once again, thank you.

Sincerely, Jonah Udstuen



GIFTS AND MEMORIALS TO TRINITY

The Stewardship Team has several responsibilities, one of which is overseeing gifts and memorials that honor the passing of loved ones. Trinity has a long history of families giving generously to celebrate the life of a family member. Congregation members have in the past planned ahead for their assets to be used at Trinity for projects that are close to their hearts. What these actions tell us is that faith is passed among all generations.

Another responsibility of Stewardship Team is to suggest to the Congregation Council where undersigned gifts and memorials should be directed. Having specific areas where gifts and memorials can be directed that are specific, achievable, relevant, and timely will make certain projects, such as those listed in the Master Plan a reality. A recent gift to Trinity honoring a family's mother was given to help landscape the old cemetery. Since the gift was given specifically for the old cemetery, Trinity can begin to plan a landscape that honors those who rest in our old cemetery. We thank all those who have made gifts and memorials to honor their loved ones.

If you would like to make a gift to Trinity in memory of a loved one, please indicate to what you would like the gift to go. If you would like to know of a specific need in the church, please contact Pastor Elizabeth or Stewardship Team Lead, Steve Kemp.

FUNERAL WORK GROUPS—Let us begin by serving a large portion of gratitude to some of our funeral serving ladies who have given MANY YEARS to help in many ways during funerals of Trinity members. We thank you! The "Work Group" Chairs met to revise and renew the numbers of each work group. A few more volunteers and substitutes are needed. Groups typically serve at 1-2 funerals/year working between 10 am-2 pm. Interested in serving? Please call Carolyn Kampschroer at 498-3469 (Coordinator) or Jacque Wennes 563-380-5454 (WELCA President).

WINDOW CHALLENGE: CAN PR. E LEAD WORSHIP WITH RED, GREEN, OR WHITE HAIR?

Maintenance on our glorious stained-glass windows is #1 on the Master Plan priority list (see the May/June newsletter). There are already some funds set aside for this big project, but we know we will need more. This week, a generous donor offered to match up to \$30,000 in donations pledged by the congregation. What a blessing!

We have two outstanding bids for the window project. This week, Dan Alstad (Property Team Lead), Jacque Wennes (Master Plan Committee Interim Lead) and I (Pr. Elizabeth) met with a third company. We expect to receive a project plan from them within a month. Our goal is to schedule a congregational meeting later this year to approve the project and to complete the windows in 2023.

But first things first. I (Pr. Elizabeth) would like to challenge us to meet our donor's pledge goal by September 1 of this year. And to add an additional incentive, if we receive \$30,000 in pledged donations from congregation members by September 1, I will again dye my hair a liturgical color. And the first person in the congregation to pledge at least \$1,000 gets to choose which color! Blue has already been done (remember the boiler?!). The remaining liturgical colors are green, white, and red.



Let me know if you have any questions about the windows or the challenge. And thank you!

~Pr. Elizabeth



ALL TEAMS PICNIC! All team members and leads are invited (and encouraged to attend) a picnic on **Wednesday, July 13 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We will have a special guest in attendance — **Pastor Emily Carson**, Assistant to the SEMN Synod Bishop. Pr. Emily is here to give thanks for all that Trinity has done and contributed to the synod. **Please RSVP by July 1** so that food can be planned appropriately. The regular

Council meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m. (only Council members need to attend the meeting).

HELPING HANDS GIVE-AWAY

Providing clothing & school supplies for students in need • August 4-5 at Caledonia Methodist Church

HOW CAN WE HELP?**1) DONATE SUPPLIES!**Paper Products for Middle & High School

Our primary request is for larger backpacks (new or slightly-used), college-ruled notebooks, loose leaf paper, 2-pocket folders, index cards, composition notebooks, graph paper, post-it notes, Kleenex, and Clorox wipes.

Additional Supplies

We are also seeking donations of pens/pencils, crayons, glue sticks, earbuds, 3-ring binders, loose-leaf paper.

New or gently used youth clothing

Clothing for infants through adults should be clean, of current style or basic designs, free of stains/tears, and bundled by size. Please remember that this is a clothing drive especially for students, so please be selective for what students will actually wear!

All items can be dropped off at Trinity – enter the southwest door on Main Street (the entrance farthest from the parking lot facing Main Street), turn right and go up the stairs to the drop box. Signs will be posted to direct you.

You can also **shop online** and have them delivered directly to the Trinity Lutheran Church: 203 E. Main Street, Spring Grove, MN 55974.

Please have all donated items dropped off by July 27.

2) MAKE A MONETARY DONATION!

With monetary donations we can shop in bulk for the most needed supplies. **Checks or cash can be turned into the church office by July 27.** Please make checks out to Trinity Lutheran and write Helping Hands in the memo line. Or make donations via Venmo to @Jessica-Strinmoen or PayPal to jstrinmoen@gmail.com.

3) VOLUNTEER!

Help sort, pack, fill, and distribute backpacks. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jessi Strinmoen at jstrinmoen@gmail.com.

Volunteer opportunities:

- July 25, 5-7 pm: Sort donations at Trinity
- July 29, 12:00 pm: Haul Spring Grove donations to Caledonia
- August 1-3, daily at 9:00 am or 1:00 pm: Sort supplies and help organize backpacks in Caledonia
- August 4, 9:00 am: Assist with set-up, help organize backpacks in Caledonia
- August 4, 12-7:00 pm (many shifts!) Help distribute backpacks to students in need (adult volunteers only).
- August 5, 9 am-1:00 pm (many shifts!): Help distribute backpacks to students in need (adult volunteers only).

4) SHARE THE NEWS!

Please share information about this event to those that might be interested in donating and to those that could use a helping hand with back-to-school supplies.



Families needing a helping hand with school supplies....

- Attend the event at Caledonia United Methodist Church, 308 North Kingston Church, Caledonia
- August 4 (12:00-7:00 p.m.) or August 5 (9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.).
- There will also be adult clothing, household items, and hygiene items.
- Available while supplies last.

MAY 10, 2022 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTSUpdates:

- The school is forming a pre-K program and Bethany Bergsgaard will be the director. The Beary Patch board of directors is meeting in late May to determine next steps for Beary Patch.
- Last day of Sunday School is May 8, singing at the nursing home at 10:30 a.m.; last day of Wednesday School is May 25; last day of Confirmation is May 25.
- Our youth will be leading the Meatball Dinner on Sunday, May 15. Senior Recognition Sunday is May 22.
- High School Bonfires will be most Wednesdays this summer on the church lawn from 8-10 p.m. Tennis Tuesdays for 7th-12th grade youth will be the first Tuesday of June, July, and August, from 7-9 p.m.
- Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village for 7th-9th grade youth is July 10-15. High School youth summer service trip is July 24-29 at Sugar Creek Bible Camp. Day Camp and VBS will be June 20-23.
- Outreach Team delivered Glazer Donuts to the local daycares on May 5 and May 6 as a random act of kindness.
- Boiler at Trinity Center. Looking for parts to fix boiler. Received two bids: \$25,000 and \$24,000.
- Staffing Team have been working on face-to-face evaluations with staff members.
- Reminder if you have a receipt to turn in to the bookkeeper to fill out and attach an expense report.
- Master Planning Committee/Facility Planning reported that two projects need to be done before going forward with an addition — 1) stained glass windows on the south side of the building, 2) steeple — it is losing slate shingles. It was recommended to hire a project manager.
- Rev. Emily Carson, Assistant to the Bishop Director of Evangelical Mission, will be coming to a council meeting to share a brief presentation on benevolence and giving, and to thank us for our gifts to the greater church.

Motions passed:

- To authorize Congregation President, Saundy Solum, and Treasurer, Steve Nelson, to access funds, to authorize Bookkeeper, Nichole Krenzke, to inquire and view the account, and to remove Barb Arnold and Marlene Deschler from the account.

JUNE 8, 2022 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTSUpdates:

- The Beary Patch board of directors met and there will be no Beary Patch programming in the 2022-23 school year. Bethany Bergsgaard has been hired to direct the school's new 4K program.
- Education Team is serving dinner June 8 at Music in the Park. Fundraiser for Education & Youth Ministry.
- Education Team will be refilling/restocking/cleaning out the children's coloring bags in the sanctuary.
- We served 570 meatball dinners and brought in \$4,979 for the Youth Luther League account!
- Care Ministry Team had a site visit with Channel 1 at the Trinity Center. The food is stored in the furnace room in the Trinity Center. Channel 1 said that Laurie Moen (team lead) needed to take a food safety test. Laurie took the test and passed.
- Trinity received a phone call from Sugar Creek stating that they do not have enough counselors to lead Trinity's Day Camp. Kerri is working on a different plan. Day Camp will be happening at Trinity.
- Stewardship Team still needs volunteers to help serve refreshments following outdoor worship on July 31. Peggy Landsom is making the meal and needs people to help serve.
- Fall Retreat for all Team members: Sunday, October 2 at Giants of the Earth, 11:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m., lunch will be served. Retreat for all team members.
- Burying electrical wires in old cemetery — over \$30,000 quoted to have this done and cannot do for a couple of years. This is a city job. Saundy will meet with the city for a firm number.
- Pr. Elizabeth met with an anonymous donor who asked for needs for the church. She mentioned the windows project. The donor offered that they will match up to 30k of what we can raise.
- The parsonage porch is deteriorating. Gary Wilhelmson got a bid from the lumber company: \$3,350 for the porch, an additional \$870 for underneath framework, \$395 for the fascia. Total, if all this needed to be done: \$4,615. Only \$2,000 in the budget.

Motions passed:

- To winterize the Trinity Center by September 1 as long as we have a place for Release Time.
- To hire Kerri full-time. Stated that the salary would be around \$8,000 more for the year.
- To get funds from Special Accounts to cover repairs to the parsonage porch that are above what is in the budget.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 13, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Complete minutes are on Trinity's website.

A Gentler, Better Way to Change Minds: Stop wielding your values as a weapon and start offering them as a gift.

Edited from an article in the Atlantic Monthly by [Arthur C. Brooks](#)

Research shows that changing minds, especially changing beliefs that are tied strongly to people's identity, is extremely difficult. The way that people tend to argue today, particularly online, makes things worse. Disagreements can feel like a war in which the fighters dig trenches on either side of any issue and launch their beliefs back and forth like grenades.

Odds are that neither camp is having any effect on the other; on the contrary, attacks make opponents dig in deeper. If you want a chance at changing minds, you need a new strategy: Stop using your values as a weapon and start offering them as a gift.

Extensive survey-based [research](#) has revealed that almost everyone shares [at least two common values](#): Harming others without cause is bad, and fairness is good. But even when two groups agree on a moral foundation, they can radically disagree on how it should be expressed.

The solution requires a change in the way we see and present our own values. If we want any chance at persuasion, we must offer them happily. A weapon is an ugly thing, designed to frighten and coerce. A gift is something we believe to be good for the recipient, who, we hope, may accept it voluntarily, and do so with gratitude. That requires that we present it with love, not insults and hatred. Here are three steps to make this easier.

1. Don't "other" others. When people feel excluded from a community, they can become hostile toward that community. Go out of your way to welcome those who disagree with you as valued voices, worthy of respect and attention. There is no "them," only "us." Bring them into your circle to hear your views, as long as doing so would not invite and reward abuse.

2. Don't take rejection personally. When someone dismisses your beliefs, that can feel like they're dismissing *you*. But just as you are not your car or your house, you are not your beliefs. The first step helps you prove to yourself that you can love someone with whom you disagree; this step is about knowing they can do the same with you.

3. Listen more. According to research undertaken by social scientists at Yale and UC Berkeley, when it comes to changing someone's mind, [listening](#) is more powerful than talking. And listening with empathy is a gift. If someone is verbally abusing you, the best course of action is not to engage at all. But when possible, listening and asking sensitive questions almost always has a more beneficial effect than talking.

But for your values to truly be a gift, you must weaken your own belief attachment first. This is the argument of the late Buddhist master Thich Nhat Hanh. As he taught, we should all [promise to ourselves](#), "I will cultivate openness, non-discrimination, and non-attachment to views in order to transform violence, fanaticism, and dogmatism in myself and in the world."

Making such a promise is hard. But if I truly have the good of the world at heart, then I must not fall prey to the conceit of perfect knowledge and must be willing to entertain new and better ways to serve my ultimate goal: creating a happier world. Generosity and openness have a bigger chance of making the world better in the long run.



Worship will be outdoors on the following Sundays

- ▶ **Sunday, July 31 at Trollskogen Park**
followed by a meal served by Stewardship Team
- ▶ **Sunday, August 28 on Trinity's lawn**
fellowship follows in the Fellowship Hall



Trinity is grateful for and appreciates all who serve in our country's military. If **you or a family member serve**, please let us know in the office. We are working on a project and would like to directly offer our thanks to all who are serving. We would like their name, mailing address, and email address. Thank you for your help!

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Do you know someone that needs a little help with food or toiletries? Please let them know that Trinity has a Little Free Pantry — enter using the southwest door (on Main Street, farthest from the parking lot).

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

We also have a Good Samaritan Fund. Please call the church office if you or someone you know has a need.

LOOKING FOR A DELICIOUS HEALTHY MEAL? CHECK OUT SENIOR DINING!

Meals served Monday-Friday at the American Legion front room, please sign up 24 hours ahead of time by calling Annette at the Legion, 498-3385 from 10:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. or (507) 458-4046 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. A suggested donation of \$3.75-\$7.00 is requested, but any amount is fine. Chair volleyball will be played after lunch on Thursdays. Anyone is welcome to play!

HOPE IN ACTION

The Afghan refugee humanitarian crisis. Newly arriving Ukrainian refugees. Asylum seekers at the southern border.

Immigration impacts SEMN congregations as new neighbors are welcomed into local communities. Join Beth Nelson Chase, LIRS, and SEMN Synod staff representatives at a complimentary breakfast or lunch. Be inspired as we learn about up-to-date immigration policy and practice, advocacy and ministry initiatives for faith communities, and a vision of action and change towards the preferred future of US immigration. This catered meal event is sponsored by Lutheran Immigration Refugee Services (LIRS) in partnership with the SEMN Synod and the ELCA Foundation. Follow the link (below) to make your reservations by **Friday, July 22!**

Tuesday, August 2, 8:30-10 (breakfast) ▪ Central Lutheran Church, Winona

Tuesday, August 2, 12-1:30 (lunch) ▪ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rochester

Wednesday, August 3, 12-1:30 (lunch) ▪ Bethel Lutheran Church, Northfield

Thursday, August 4, 12-1:30 (lunch) ▪ Grace Lutheran Church, Mankato

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF TRINITY AND ITS MINISTRIES!

Thank you so much for your continued support of Trinity and our ministries.

We have several options to receive your offering:

- ▶ **ELECTRONICALLY:** via our website, www.trinitysg.org. Click on the "Contribute" link on the right-side of the page.
- ▶ **BY MAIL:** Trinity Lutheran Church, 203 E. Main St., Spring Grove, MN 55974.

Remember — **sponsorships for the Media Ministry Fund** (\$100) or **Missionary for a Day candle** (\$40) can also be done. Do you have a certain date in mind? Give us a call, 498-5291, or send us an email, trinityspringgrove@gmail.com.

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
...
GENEROUSLY



VBS and Day Camp at Trinity
So much energy, joy, excitement, and fun!
Thanks to all the helpers, parents, and snack-providers.
You helped make the week a great one!

► Handbell Choir last practice with Logan Olson. We are grateful that we had Logan this past year. He graduated from Luther in May.

▼ Just a few of our helpers that make worship possible. Thank you!

▲ Confirmation service project at the parsonage.





Meatball Dinner

We served 570 meals! Amazing! Thanks for everyone who helped make this possible and for everyone who purchased meals, too!



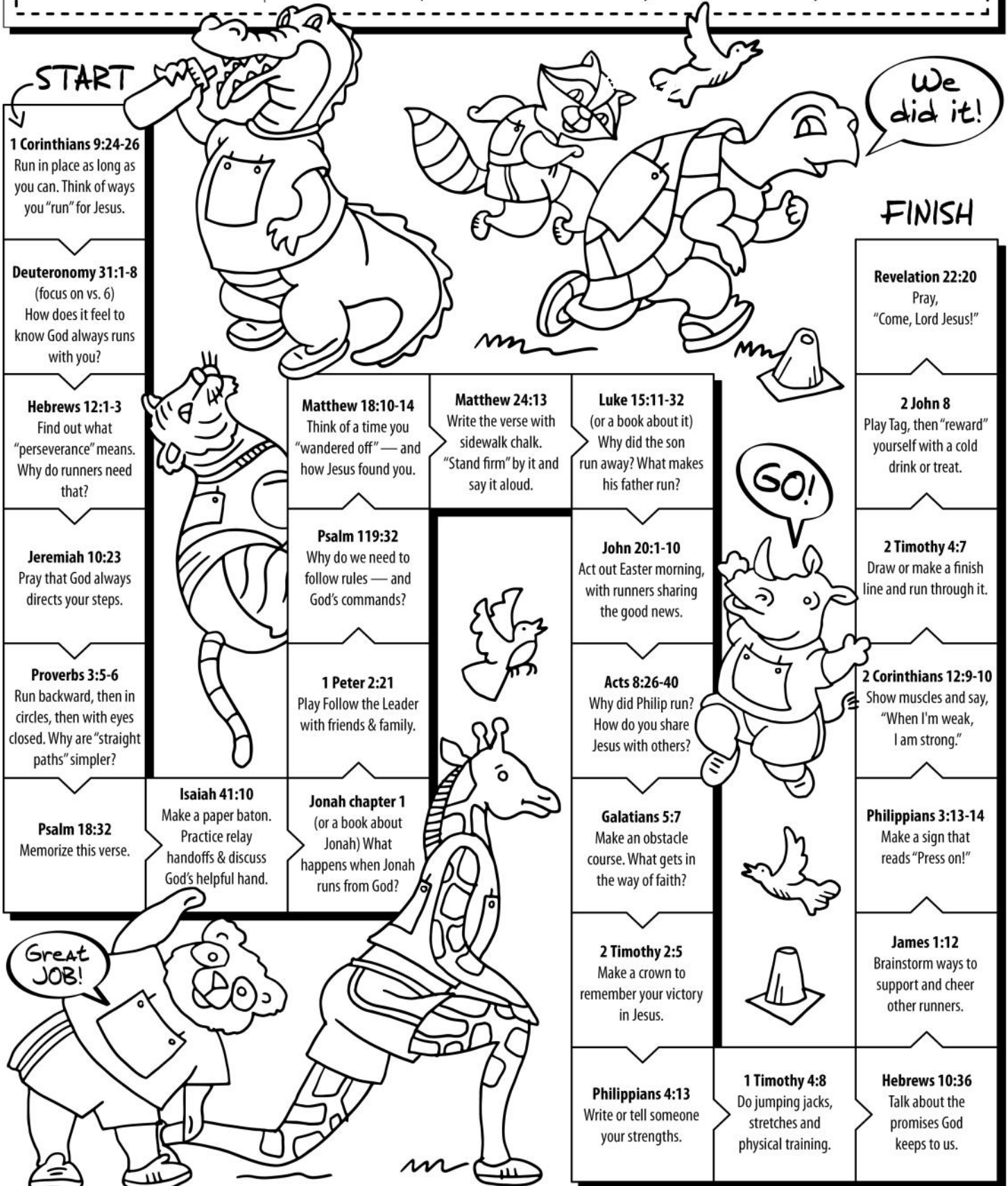
RUNNING THE RACE

Summer Reading Plan


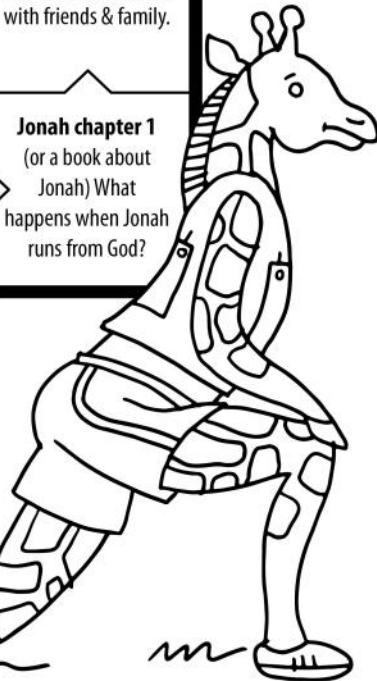


Loving and following Jesus is like being a runner, the Bible says. And a special "prize" waits at the end of the race! When you're tired or your faith feels weak, trust Jesus to give you strength.

With this Summer Reading Plan, you can complete a box every day or every other day. Read the Scripture and complete each activity to grow closer to Jesus. When you reach the finish line, start over for more practice. Invite a friend or family member to "run" with you!



START

<p>1 Corinthians 9:24-26 Run in place as long as you can. Think of ways you "run" for Jesus.</p>				<p>We did it!</p>
<p>Deuteronomy 31:1-8 (focus on vs. 6) How does it feel to know God always runs with you?</p>				<p>FINISH</p>
<p>Hebrews 12:1-3 Find out what "perseverance" means. Why do runners need that?</p>	<p>Matthew 18:10-14 Think of a time you "wandered off" — and how Jesus found you.</p>	<p>Matthew 24:13 Write the verse with sidewalk chalk. "Stand firm" by it and say it aloud.</p>	<p>Luke 15:11-32 (or a book about it) Why did the son run away? What makes his father run?</p>	<p>2 John 8 Play Tag, then "reward" yourself with a cold drink or treat.</p>
<p>Jeremiah 10:23 Pray that God always directs your steps.</p>	<p>Psalms 119:32 Why do we need to follow rules — and God's commands?</p>			<p>2 Timothy 4:7 Draw or make a finish line and run through it.</p>
<p>Proverbs 3:5-6 Run backward, then in circles, then with eyes closed. Why are "straight paths" simpler?</p>	<p>1 Peter 2:21 Play Follow the Leader with friends & family.</p>			<p>John 20:1-10 Act out Easter morning, with runners sharing the good news.</p>
<p>Psalms 18:32 Memorize this verse.</p>	<p>Isaiah 41:10 Make a paper baton. Practice relay handoffs & discuss God's helpful hand.</p>	<p>Jonah chapter 1 (or a book about Jonah) What happens when Jonah runs from God?</p>	<p>Galatians 5:7 Make an obstacle course. What gets in the way of faith?</p>	<p>Philippians 3:13-14 Make a sign that reads "Press on!"</p>
<p>Great JOB!</p>			<p>2 Timothy 2:5 Make a crown to remember your victory in Jesus.</p>	<p>James 1:12 Brainstorm ways to support and cheer other runners.</p>
			<p>Philippians 4:13 Write or tell someone your strengths.</p>	<p>1 Timothy 4:8 Do jumping jacks, stretches and physical training.</p>

Lectors	
July 3	Carolyn Olson
July 10	Janna Myrah
July 17	Roxanne Finnesgard
July 24	Bill Fried
July 31	Sheri Allen
August 7	Michelle Jahnke
August 14	Kim Kapplinger
August 21	Jan Kraabel
August 28	Jess Sherburne

July—August Ushers
Friends and Families needed each week as ushers. Can you help? Call the office and let us know. Thanks!

Fellowship	
July 3	Mary & Howard Deters, Milly Halverson, Bev Nelson
July 10	Carolyn Olson, Kristi & Phil Griffin
July 17	Sam & Dan Neuzil, Steve & Karry Thorson
July 24	Janna & Lenny Myrah, Jerald & Pat Oakes
July 31	Elaine & Dana Kjome, Joyce & Steve Bergrud
August 7	Barb & Dennis Gulbranson and friends
August 14	Joyce & Justin Landsom, Jeff Landsom, Nancy Gulbranson
August 21	Joyce Lee, Bruce & Kathy Anderson
August 28	Carol Rustad, Judy Ruehmann, Mark Engebretson

Communion Bread Makers	
July	Janice Messner
August	Karen Fried

Communion Servers	
July 3	Justin & Joyce Landsom
July 17	Lonnie & Jean Ann Tweeten
August 7	Lee Hoekstra, Judy Bratland
August 21	Dennis & Barb Gulbranson

Acolytes	
July 3	Eliot Bartell Kohl Betcher
July 10	Ezra Griffin
July 17	Sydney Holland Joelle Halverson
July 24	Caleb Eiken
July 31	Emerson Ingvalson
August 7	Brandon Jahnke Ben Udstuen
August 14	Jordis Neeley
August 21	Isaac Vick Karson Betcher
August 28	Claire Solberg

July Altar Guild
Bev Nelson (chair) Jan Lochner Lori Wilhelmson Jan Kraabel Cindy Thorson
August Altar Guild
Danielle Myhre (chair) Linda Pierce Paul Karlsbrotten Lorilyn Dehning


498-AMEN	
June 19-July 2	Bev Nelson
July 3-9	Ruth Johnsrud
July 10-23	Melissa Wold
July 24-August 6	Bethany Bergsgaard
August 7-20	Mary Newgaard
August 21-Sept. 3	Greg Wennes
Christ in our Home devotional booklets and 498-AMEN instructions are located inside the southeast entrance of the church.	

Thank you for volunteering!

Meals on Wheels	
Mon. 8/15 –Tue. 8/16	Elaine VanMinsel, Deb Brumm
Wed. 8/17-Thu. 8/18	Mary & Howard Deters
Fri. 8/19, Mon. 8/22	Elaine & Dana Kjome
Tue. 8/23-Wed. 8/24	Janna & Len Myrah
Thu. 8/25-Fri. 8/26	Nolie & Kim Kapplinger

Prayer Chain	
Chain 1	Chain 2
Joyce Landsom	Karen Gray
Nolie Kapplinger	Bev Nelson
Terry Holland	Janet Wold
Bonnie Solberg	Jan Lochner
Dawn Hewitt	Ruth Johnsrud
Lynn Rostad Anderson	Judy Bratland
Milly Halverson	

JULY HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
3 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship	4  — office closed —	5 5:00pm AA 7-9pm Tennis Tuesday	6 8-10pm High School Bonfire, Trinity lawn	7 5:30pm Education Team 7:30pm Finance Team	8	9 10:30am AA
10 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship, with Holy Baptism 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Worship Team 11:15am Nursing Home service	11 7:00pm Hannah, FH	12 9:00am Deborah 9:30am Anna 5:00pm AA	13 9:30am Adah, Tweeten Apts. 6:00pm All Teams picnic, special guest 7:00pm Council, FH	14	15	16 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
← 7 th —9 th grade Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village →						
17 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship, Worship Team	18 2:30pm Phoebe, GR	19 5:00pm AA	20 1:00pm Eve, Manor	21 9:30am Worship at Manor	22	23 10:30am AA
24 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship	25	26 10:00am Assisted Living service 5:00pm AA	27	28 9:30am Worship at Tweeten Apts 7:00pm Staffing Team	29 9:00am Love Day	30 10:30am AA
← 9 th —12 th grade Service Trip at Sugar Creek Bible Camp →						
31 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship Outdoors at Trollskogen Park 10:15am Stewardship serves meal at the park	<p style="text-align: right;"> FH = Fellowship Hall (large room in basement) MR = Middle Room (upstairs by offices) GR = Gathering Room (in basement near men's bathroom) TC = Trinity Center </p>					

AUGUST HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 5:00pm AA 7-9pm Tennis Tuesday	3 8-10pm High School Bonfire, Trinity lawn	4 5:30pm Education Team, MR 7:30pm Finance Team	5	6 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
7 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship	8 7:00pm Hannah, FH	9 9:00am Deborah 9:30am Anna 5:00pm AA	10 9:30am Adah, Tweeten Apts. 7:00pm Council 8-10pm High School Bonfire, Trinity lawn	11	12	13 10:30am AA
14 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 11:15am Nursing Home service	15 2:30pm Phoebe	16 5:00pm AA	17 1:00pm Eve, Manor 8-10pm High School Bonfire, Trinity lawn	18 9:30am Worship at Manor	19 September newsletter info due!	20 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
21 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship	22	23 5:00pm AA	24 8-10pm High School Bonfire, Trinity lawn	25 9:30am Worship at Tweeten Apts 2:00pm newsletter assembled	26 9:00am Love Day	27 10:30am AA
28 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Outdoor Worship 10:15am Fellowship	29	30 10:00am Assisted Living service 5:00pm AA	31	FH = Fellowship Hall (large room in basement) MR = Middle Room (upstairs by offices) GR = Gathering Room (in basement near men's bathroom) TC = Trinity Center		

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

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

