

TRINITY *news*

OCTOBER 2021

VOLUME 27 ■ 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

[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 - *select weeks*
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Listen live Sundays on KVIK 104.7 FM

www.kvikradio.com

and on Facebook

Saturday Worship 5:00 p.m.

1st and 3rd Saturdays each month

STAFF

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trinitysr@springgrove.coop

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Gary Wilhelmson, Custodian
Rachel Storlie, Organist/Pianist
Scott Solberg, Choir Director
Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist
Mark Udstuen, Praise Band Leader
Rick Sundet, Technology Lead

PROPOSED BUILDING ADDITION

More than 30 years ago, Anna Rosendahl saw a need for a ground level gathering space at Trinity Lutheran Church and she left a bequest to Trinity for this purpose. Her bequest has continued to grow. In 2019, the Visioning & Planning Team was formed to survey the congregation about space needs. This team's work resulted in specific recommendations about the future growth and enhancement for Trinity Lutheran Church. Surveys and/or interviews were completed by 112 members.

The key findings were:

1. the need for additional enhanced space such as a welcome/fellowship area and making all areas accessible
2. storage including improved restrooms and multi-purpose space
3. retain sanctuary, stained-glass windows, and historical beauty of the original structure.

At the 2019 Annual Meeting, the congregation voted to have the Facility Planning Team hire an architect to create a plan to present to the congregation. The first two plans lacked the vision the committee felt the congregation needed and/or wanted. Before a third plan could be created, COVID-19 developed, which paused the entire project. The committee reconvened in Spring 2021 and refined and reduced the two original plans to create an addition that complements the existing structure. This final proposed plan was tweaked slightly to the revision you see on the next page. Some key areas include:

- Pastors, Youth Ministry, and Office Staff on ground level
- Ground level entrance with staircases to Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
- Canopy entrance
- Existing elevator maintained
- Northside stain-glass windows retained inside new structure and viewable with the cathedral ceiling

This proposed plan will need congregation approval once more details are obtained. The Facility Planning Team unanimously agrees that enhancing our space in this way will also enhance and help grow the ministries of the church, the ministries to which God is calling us.

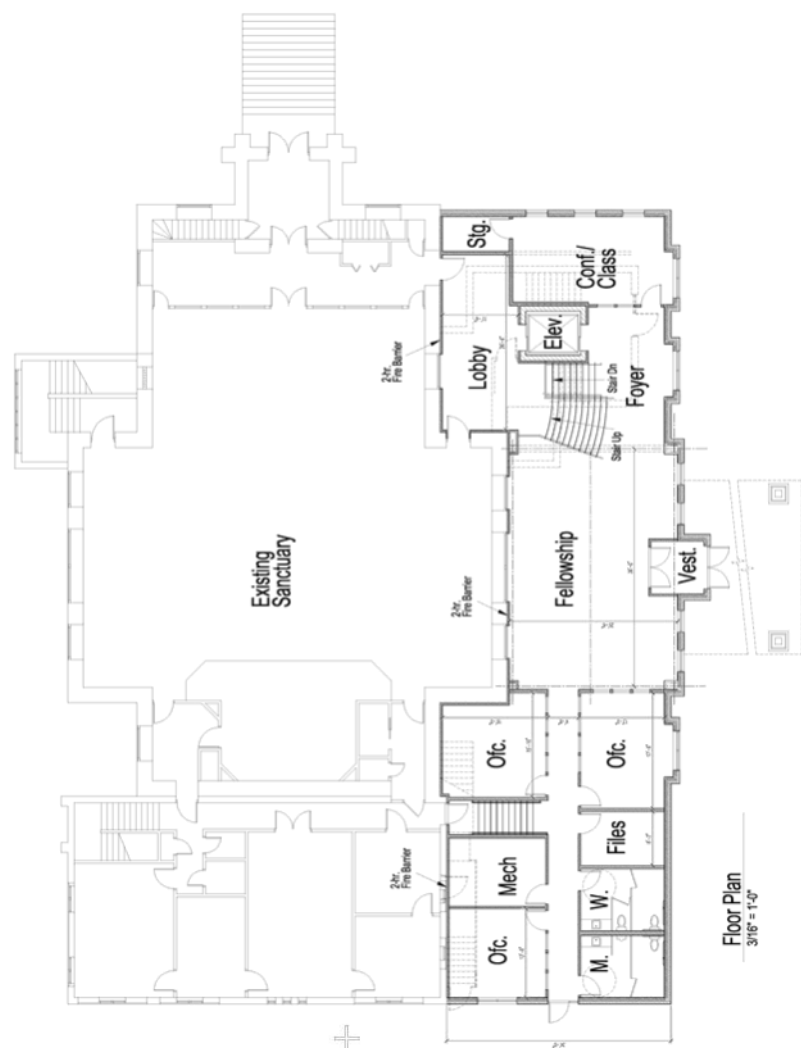
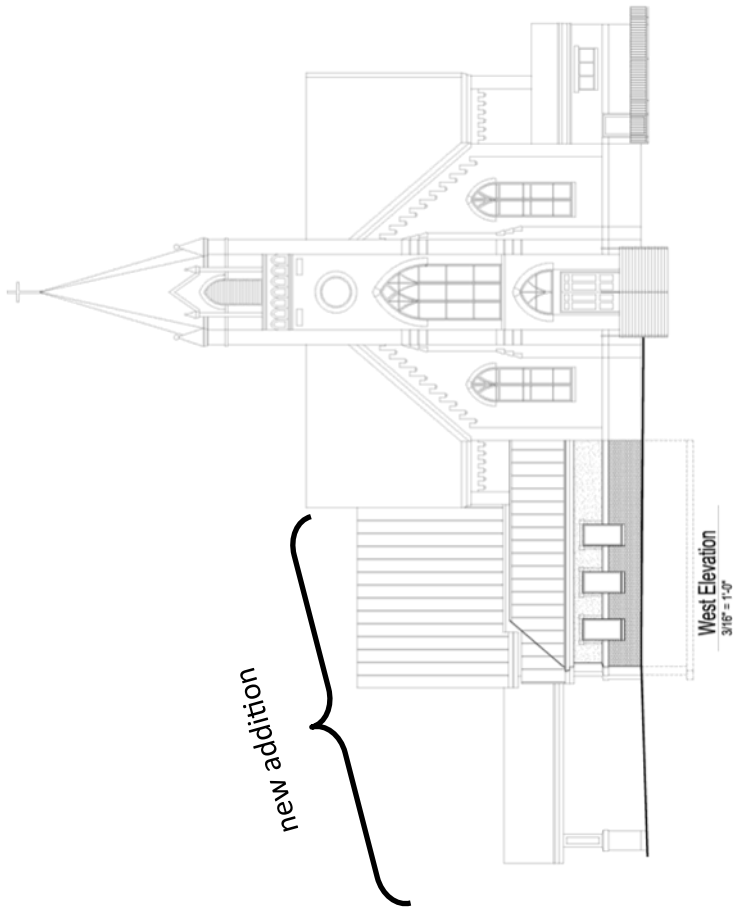
The existing plans are available for viewing in the Middle Room at Trinity and we also plan to mark the proposed structure on the pavement to show size. We will host several detailed information sessions once we have more specifics regarding potential cost.

In 2020, a generous donor gave \$500,000 for this project, in 2021 another donor gave \$90,000, and additional donations continue to be given for this project. To date we have around \$800,000 and this amount continues to grow.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Leonard Myrah (chair of the Facility Planning Team), Sandra Solum (Council President), or Pastor Elizabeth.



Community YOU'RE INVITED! Trinity's Outreach Team is hosting a Community Picnic on Wednesday, September 29 from 4-7 p.m. during Music in the Park and the Farmer's Market. Menu: hot dogs, chips, bars, water. Cost: freewill donation. Funds raised will go to a need in the larger community. See you Wednesday night!



North Elevation
3/16" = 1'-0"

*"I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth."
(The Apostle's Creed)*

FROM OUR PASTORS

Dear people of God,

In the first line of the Apostle's Creed, which we recite together in worship immediately following the sermon on most Sundays, we confess our common Christian belief that everything we have comes from God. "Everything" includes not just our resources, but also our time, skills, talents, and gifts. There are multiple ways to give back to God what we have first been given.

This is the time of year when our Finance Team begins putting together a budget for the next year. They look at where we've allocated our resources in the past, they solicit information from each of the Ministry Teams of the congregation, and then ... they try to get it to balance. There is give and take (literally), and multiple drafts are reviewed before a final budget is ready for the congregation to approve at the Annual Meeting in January.

Recently, I attended an online seminar led by Michael R. Ward, and all our Congregation Council members are now reading his book "Abundance." "Abundance" offers inspirational guidance that can transform the budgeting process. It helps us focus on what God is calling us to do at this time in this place: Vibrant worship. Exciting faith formation. Meaningful fellowship. Neighborhood support.

"As we think about where we want to get involved, we cannot do it all. However, as we financially support our congregation this year, we are involved in all of this. Not all of us are called to be teachers, but offerings support teaching and passing on faith to kids. Not all of us have the gifts to comfort the grieving, but our financial gifts provide for great pastoral care. Not all of us have the time to go out and feed the hungry, but we can all give significantly according to our means so that the hungry can be fed." ("Abundance," Mike Ward, pp. 192-3)

As you consider your gifts to the congregation, dream big. God has blessed this congregation abundantly, and we have been able to bless others as a result. What is God calling us to do as we go forth from here? I'm so excited to find out!

God bless you.
Pr. Elizabeth

Genesis 1:9 Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Lots of events of the Bible happen in Gardens. Who can guess how long God would meet Adam and Eve in the garden and visit and teach them. When Jesus was facing his arrest and crucifixion, he went and prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane. When I am in my garden I talk to God a lot. This year I complained to God about the creation of Racoons! They ate all my chickens and dug up most of what I planted, many times. UGH! But now somehow some of my tomatoes, cabbages, brussels sprouts and potatoes I planted survived the onslaught and I am in harvest mode. One thing I noticed through the summer though was the many volunteer plants that came up that I didn't plant. I have twice the potatoes because so many volunteered! I also had volunteer tomatoes come up. Because I only plant heirloom varieties, they are all good to eat. So when I pick my tomatoes and dig my potatoes this fall I am also planting my potatoes and tomatoes.

In the midst of the frustrating struggle with racoons God was sending me a message of hope and promise. I have friends with chickens who have offered to replace the chickens I lost as soon as I get my hen house racoon proof. God was trying to soothe me and talk to me the whole time, but I couldn't hear for all the shouting I was doing.

~Pastor Lane



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP! Bonfires at church on the north lawn from 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. will begin on September 29! They will continue on Wednesday nights in September - November. **ALL 9th -12th graders invited!** Bring a friend or two, you do not need to be a Trinity member to attend — all are welcome!

TRICK-OR-CANNING– October 27 at 7:00 p.m. Instead of Trick-or-Treating for candy, you will be going around Spring Grove and asking residents for non-perishable food items to donate to the food shelf. Dress up in your favorite (appropriate) costume.

7TH-9TH GRADE RETREAT! We will venture to Baraboo, WI, to

Expeditions Unlimited on November 5th -7th, to spend time with God in nature and in community. At this retreat we will get to do a high ropes course and zipline, play paintball, worship around a campfire, and more! This retreat is for 7th -9th grade youth!

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING: Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. **All 9th -12th Grade youth are invited to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, July 24-28, 2022.**

Cost for Registration is \$500, (with Payment Plan) The total trip cost is \$1,000, but we will fundraise most of that cost! Please contact Kerri if you need to sign up! Invite a friend to go with you on the trip. Wonder what it's all about? Ask a participant from the 2018 Youth Gathering. Registration deadline is November 30th. .



WE NEED YOU AS A SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER! We have a wonderful opportunity for adults to invest in our children's faith formation. We are looking for adults to commit to teaching our younger youth!

- Pre School- K: need 2 teachers, rotate teaching weeks
- 1st-4th grade Rotational Sunday School: 2-week commitment
- 5th-6th grade Connect: a 5-week time frame

A sign-up sheet is in the elevator entrance with dates and times. Or you can also contact Kerri to sign up and for more information! Email: cyf.trinitysg@gmail.com, phone: 498-52891. Thank you for being involved with our youth and sharing your talents this way!



CHEER PACKAGES Trinity's Outreach Team is excited to be sending cheer packages to our young adults! This month they plan to send packages to young adults (ages 18-22)! To make this successful, we need updated mailing addresses. **Do you have one of these young adults in your family? Do you have a neighbor or grandchild in this age range? Recipients do not need to be Trinity members. Please let us know the best mailing address for them.** You can call us or send us an email with the information. Please have the addresses to us by Friday, October 8. Thank you!

To help with the costs of these packages, donations are welcomed. Suggested items: small container of Pringles, ramen noodles, lip balm, gum, hot chocolate packets, microwave popcorn, sunflower seeds, individually wrapped candies (chocolates, gummies), beef sticks, individual sized packages of trail mix, hand sanitizer, travel-size shampoo/conditioner/body wash/lotion, highlighters, pens, face masks, and \$5 gift cards to places such as Kwik Trip, McDonalds, Subway, Burger King, Taco Johns, etc. Items can be brought to our office. Monetary donations of any size are also welcomed or you can sponsor a box for \$25. Please indicate "Cheer Packages" on any of the donations. Please have donations to the office by Sunday, October 17. Thank you for helping us reach out to our young adults letting them know we are thinking of them and praying for them!

GRATITUDE FOR A MEATBALL DINNER And God said, “WOW!” The hands and the hearts of 75 individuals participated in the service of the fall WELCA Meatball Dinner. There were 714 dinners sold in 2 hours and 15 minutes! The youth did a terrific job of hustling the dinners upstairs to be handed to the assembly crew outside. We also received \$1,053.60 of donations towards purchasing product. Red’s Hometown Market was an awesome asset and Peggy in the deli had her “fingers” in much of the product. God’s mission of caring is evident with the unity at Trinity that is willing to serve for a greater good. I want to thank each and every person who did their part in making the Meatball Dinner a wonderful success.

The profits from the Meatball Dinner will be distributed by WELCA prior to the Annual meeting and documented in the Annual Report. WELCA does pay a portion of each youth’s registration to confirmation camp each year.

Thank you, *Jacque Wennes, President of WELCA at Trinity*



A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY! Trinity is looking for someone to schedule the Meals on Wheels delivery people from our congregation. Delivery weeks are shared with other area churches and community groups. We have an established group of volunteers that have been delivering for years. Thank you! Your task would be to send them a schedule every 5-6 months. Training and mentoring is available from Laurie Moen. If interested in helping with this opportunity, please call the office, 498-5291, or Laurie Moen, 498-3327. Also, if you are interested in being a meal delivery person, please let Laurie know. Thank you!

TAKE WHAT YOU NEED, GIVE WHAT YOU CAN Our Little Free Pantry has been a great success. If you’d like to donate non-perishable items, please drop them off by the pantry (southwest door on Main Street, open 24/7) or add the items to the shelves in the appropriate spots placing new food at the back of each grouping. Monetary donations also help us shop for needed items. Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the office, please indicate “Little Free Pantry” on the donation.

Thank you very much! ~ *Care Ministry Team*

RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE

“Go and do likewise.” Luke 10:37

Like the Good Samaritan in Jesus’ most well-known parable, we are called to love our neighbor as ourselves.

The Trinity Response Team* met on Tuesday, September 21, via Zoom and agreed to continue our current protocols to show our love for God, our families, and our community.

- Please wear a mask and maintain several feet of distancing when attending worship or other activities indoors at Trinity.
- We will continue to have Sunday worship outdoors as often as possible, as well as Sunday School and confirmation activities.
- Funeral fellowship will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- The choir will continue to rehearse and record on Wednesday evenings, masked and distanced.
- Check 498-HOPE and the trinitysg.org website for updates.

The Response Team will meet again on October 11 to evaluate current conditions in the surrounding community. Thank you for your continued prayers for all those affected by COVID and for your ongoing support of Trinity’s ministries.

**Congregation President Saundy Solum, Pr. Elizabeth Hermeier, Pr. Lane Zaffke, CYF Director Kerri Jahnke, Marlene Deschler (Office Communications), Jan Kraabel (R.N., Staffing Team Lead), Mary Zaffke (R.N., Communications Team Lead), Rick Sundet (Technology Lead), Rachel Udstuen (SG Superintendent), Kim Kapplinger (Worship Team Lead), and Gary Wilhelmson (R.N., Church Custodian)*



HEARING-LOOP SYSTEM Trinity has a hearing-loop system that allows people with hearing impairment to receive a signal directly from the sanctuary microphones free of reverberation or other ambient noise interference. To use this system, **please sit in a pew that is in the two main sections of pews** (not the side pews). If you have a hearing aid that **has a t-coil** in it, simply turn that switch on in your hearing aid to automatically receive this direct signal in the sanctuary. You may need to adjust the volume.

If your hearing aid **does not have a t-coil** or if you **do not use a hearing aid, but would like an extra hearing boost**, you can use

one of the receivers which are available at each sanctuary entrance (see illustration to the right). **There are two components:** the receiver itself on a lanyard, and a head-set. Put the lanyard around your neck, letting the receiver hang straight down. Plug the head-set into the spot on the top end of the receiver. Turn the power knob on, and adjust the volume. At the end of service, return the receiver and headset making sure the receiver is turned OFF. Instructions cards with this information are available at each of the sanctuary entrances, ask an usher if you have questions.



THANK YOU NOTES WE HAVE RECEIVED....

Thanks for your donation to our Back to School project. Thanks to all those who helped work. Your support is greatly appreciated. We couldn't have done it without you!
 ~Friends of Caledonia Methodist

Thank you so much for your gift of \$500 given to the Lutheran Campus Center. At this point in the pandemic, gifts are slow to come in, so your gift will make a big impact. We want you to know that throughout the years your congregation has given more than \$5,000 to benefit our students, and we are so grateful! It was difficult to get the word out about our activities because events like Move in Day and the Campus Ministry Gathering were switched around to accommodate new COVID processes. We were delighted when a surplus of students found us and enjoyed an enthusiastic dinner and worship together. What we are learning throughout the pandemic is that no matter what the situation, our students need us. Thankyou for ensuring that we can always be there for them.
 ~Kelly Olson, Lutheran Campus Center—Winona

Thank you for being part of the 2021 Synod Assembly offering! Your gift supports the synod's ministry partners: Lutheran Campus Center (Winona), Crossroads Campus Ministry (Mankato), Luther Seminary, Good Earth Village, Lutheran Advocacy-Minnesota and the Minnesota Council of Churches! Your gift also helps to launch the Holy Spirit Fund which will equip congregations and leaders as they explore new ways of bearing witness to God's activity in the world. Thank you!
 ~Southeastern Minnesota Synod



WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED TO TRINITY

- **498-HOPE (4673)**
-short daily messages and updates
- **498-AMEN (2636)**
-daily devotions
- **www.trinitysg.org**
-news, updates, info
- **Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove**
-updates, music, worship, info
- **YouTube:**
Trinity Lutheran: Spring Grove
-video recordings of worship, and more!
- **Instagram**
-photos, updates
- **KVIK 104.7FM**
- Sunday worship service,
- www.kvikradio.com

SEPTEMBER 8, 2021 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTSUpdates:

- We invited Mabel First Lutheran to Join our Confirmation program this year, they have accepted and will be added to our program. We invited Scheie Lutheran as well, and we are waiting to hear back from them.
- Looking for adults to lead ELECTIVE classes for our fall trimester of Confirmation.
- Working with Pastor Len Liptack and Principal Kjelland to plan Release Time. The Program will start October 6 for K-6th grades.
- 4th - 6th grade Youth Group starting this fall, meet once per month, a Wednesday after school 3:30 - 5:30pm
- Prayer Shawl ministry has been on pause. It's been a couple of years since shawls have been given. The Care Ministry Team is currently working on a list of people who need the prayer shawls. Council members asked to let the team know of someone or a family who are in need of the ministry.
- Fridge in kitchen running constantly. Hammes Refrigeration will be coming to look at the fridge and fix the issue.
- Shared that Paul Morken stated that the sidewalks, curb, and gutter are being done next year on the west side of the church.
- Scott Solberg, Choir director, agreed to continue in his temporary contract as choir rehearsals begin in September. His former contract will resume when restrictions on indoor singing are lifted.
- A proposal for 2022 salaries for staff and pastors was sent to the Finance Team. The suggested increases were made based on a wage freeze for pastors and staff in 2021.
- Diversity Conversations update: Group is working on putting together a lending library that has information about inclusion. Looking for resources for an online speaker—Viterbo has some resources for speakers regarding diversity. Next meeting is on September 21 at 6:30pm, at Joe's Coffee House.
- Need to cut \$50,000 to have a balanced budget. Council reviewed the initial budget line by line. Some things were decreased, and some things increased. Barb and Judy will take the revisions back to Lorilyn Dehning to revise.
- Saundy reported a couple of items that need to be looked at by the Property Team: bell tower and bell rope, screen, sacristy doors (Gary will work on shaving off the bottom of the doors so they are easier to open and close.)
- Pr. Elizabeth would like the council members to read the book, *Abundance: Creating a Culture of Generosity* by Michael R. Ward, for our next book study. The book is about mission – God is calling us to a particular mission in this time.

Motions passed:

- Fundraisers: November 7 Bag-A-Buck for Houston County Food Shelf, Thanksgiving offering for Christmas Cheer

Next Meeting: October 13, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. Complete minutes are on Trinity's website.

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.
- ▶ **AT WORSHIP**—bring your offering to worship and drop in the basket by one of the doors.

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, trinity@springgrove.coop.

Thank You
FOR
GIVING
GENEROUSLY

Continued from September newsletter....

MY TAKE: TEAR DOWN MAGICAL WALLS

by Craig L. Nesson

July 9, 2021

A universal neighborhood

In [The Scattering: Imagining a Church That Connects Faith and Life](#) (Wipf and Stock, 2015), Dwight L. DuBois says congregations need to close the gap between what they do when gathered behind church doors and how they live when sent beyond those doors in Christ's name. They need to create a universal neighborhood of all believers.

This means taking our baptismal promises seriously again, found in the Affirmation of Baptism (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*).

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

To live among God's faithful people?

To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper?

We need to affirm that everything we do as the gathered church forms us for a distinctive way of life. Worship practices are life practices. Confessing our sins trains us for the practice of telling the truth. Singing hymns forms us to thank and praise God. Hearing God's word centers us in the gospel for every life circumstance.

Congregations are summoned to form members who can connect faith and life. This requires adaptive change to turn congregations inside-out.

Confessing the creed is our pledge of allegiance. The intercessions both bring our concerns to God and commit us to responsibility in caring about the people and needs for which we pray. Passing the peace prepares us for everyday reconciliation and peacemaking. At the Lord's table, we discover radical mercy and hospitality that become our way of life. When we are sent out into the world, our worship practices will have shaped us for discipleship in daily life.

Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

To proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed?

To serve all people, following the example of Jesus?

To strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

Congregations are summoned to form members who can connect faith and life. This requires adaptive change to turn congregations inside-out. Educational programs for all ages should begin to explore what faith means for daily life. Members should be invited to testify about how their Christian faith makes a difference in the world.

Pastors should develop dialogue sermons in partnership with members to talk about intersections between faith and life. Small groups should bring people together for prayer and conversation based on affinities they share—their family roles, their jobs, their season of life. All these practices transform congregations into incubators where being church means living out our Christian vocation in everything we say and do.

What does this look like in people's lives? It looks like people speaking authentically about the difference Jesus Christ makes in all life circumstances. It looks like people who claim everything they do as a way of living out their baptismal promises in service to others.

For more information on the Life of Faith Initiative, go to lifeoffaith.info.



We are excited to welcome Logan Olson as our new Handbell Choir director! Logan is a senior at Luther College studying Environmental Science/Biology. He has 13 years of handbell experience as well as musical experience in choirs and as a trumpet player. He sings with the Nordic Choir and plays with the Luther Ringers. While at Luther, he founded and leads their Environmental Concerns Organization. He was also a camp counselor and a 4-H leader.



Confirmation kick-off....with games and information for parents and youth.



Rally Sunday was beautiful weather with outdoor worship and activities and ice cream.





October 3	Rachel Udstuen
October 10	Len Myrah
October 17	Ruth Johnsrud
October 24	Julianna Lile
October 31	Judy Bratland

Usher Schedule



October Ushers
Jeff Ellingson, captain
Jeremy Myhre
Dale Buxengard
Stewart Storlie
Chris Deck
Dave Selness



October Altar Guild

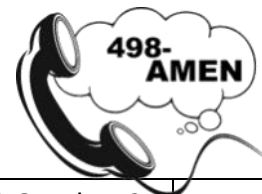
Missy Bratland, chair
 Judy Dahle
 Rachel Olerud
 Peggy Landsom
 Judy Bratland

acolyte

October 3	Eliot Bartell Kohl Betcher
October 10	Ezra Griffin
October 17	Sydney Holland Joelle Halverson
October 24	Caleb Eiken
October 31	Emerson Ingvalson



Phone Prayer Chain 1	Phone Prayer 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	



September 26-October 2	Joyce Landsom
October 3-16	Karen & Bill Fried
October 17-23	Ruth Johnsrud
October 24-30	Judy Bratland
October 31-November 13	Karen Gray
Christ in our Home devotional booklets and 498-AMEN instructions are located right inside the southeast entrance of the church.	

OCTOBER HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:30am AA 12:00pm Ellestad burial 5:00pm Worship, Communion
3 9:15am Worship, Communion & Holy Baptism 10:30am Sunday School	4 5:30pm Facility Planning Team	5 5:00pm AA	6 1:00pm Release Time (2 nd) 2:00pm Release Time (K) 6:00-7:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	7 5:30pm Education Team	8	9 10:30am AA
10 9:15am Worship 10:30am Sunday School, Worship Team 11:15am Nursing Home service	11	12 9:00am Deborah 5:00pm AA	13 9:30am Adah, Tweeten Apts. 12:00pm Release Time (5 th) 1:00pm Release Time (4 th) 2:00pm Release Time (3 rd /4 th) 6:00-7:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Handbells 7:30pm Council 8:00pm Choir	14 9:30am Worship at Manor	15	16 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship
17 9:15am Worship, Communion, Holy Baptism 10:30am Sunday School	18 2:30pm Phoebe, GR 7:00pm Hannah, GR	19 9:30am Anna 5:00pm AA 6:30pm Diversity Conversations, Jo's Coffee House	20 1:00pm Release Time (3 rd) 2:00pm Release Time (1 st) 2:00pm Eve, Manor No Confirmation 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	21 9:30am Worship at Tweeten Apts	22 Newsletter info due in office	23 10:30am AA
24 9:15am Worship 10:30am Sunday School	25	26 10:00am Worship at Assisted Living 5:00pm AA	27 1:00pm Release Time (2 nd) 2:00pm Release Time (K/1 st) 6:00pm Trick-or-Canning, Confirmation practice 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	28 2:00pm newsletter assembled 6:30pm Staffing Team	29 9:00am Love Day	30 10:30am AA
31 9:15am Reformation 10:30am Sunday School	<p>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>					



God made everything in our world, and the Bible is filled with descriptions of God's good creation.

Look up and read each Bible verse. Fill in the blanks with the correct words. Then go outside and try to find each of those items in nature.

He makes _____ grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate—bringing forth food from the earth.

PSALM 104:14

The man of God asked, "Where did it fall?" When he showed him the place, Elisha cut a _____ and threw it there, _____ and made the iron float.

2 KINGS 6:6

... to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a _____ in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7

Produce _____ in keeping with repentance.

LUKE 3:8

"There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no _____ like our God."

1 SAMUEL 2:2

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the _____ of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these."

MATTHEW 6:28-29

But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on _____.

MATTHEW 7:26

If we have sown spiritual _____ among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you?

1 CORINTHIANS 9:11

"As the _____ are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age."

MATTHEW 13:40

"I am the true _____, and my Father is the gardener."

JOHN 15:1

Those who trust in their riches will fall, but the righteous will thrive like a green _____.

PROVERBS 11:28

Nebuchadnezzar ... was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the _____ of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.

DANIEL 4:33

30-DAY ACTS OF KINDNESS

challenge

Doing acts of kindness not only shows our kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, neighbors, friends how to be kind, but also how to help others.

Try this 30-Day Acts of Kindness Challenge. There are more than 50 ideas listed below. For the next 30 days, choose 1 of the items to do each day. When an act of kindness is completed, put a check-mark next to that item. Imagine what an impact on our community this can have!

ACTS OF KINDNESS:

- Compliment someone
- Leave a treat for the mailman
- Buy a gift card for the person behind you in line
- Make baked goods for the neighbors
- Buy the person behind you coffee
- Smile at someone
- Donate unused toys to those in need
- Leave a 50% or more tip
- Babysit a neighbor, friend or family member
- Send a thank-you card to someone
- Give a dog treat to a dog on a walk
- Pay for a stranger's meal
- Plant a flower or tree and watch it grow
- Say thank you and please more
- Volunteer
- Open the door for someone
- Offer to do yard work for a neighbor
- Send a care package to a soldier
- Pick up trash
- Send a handwritten letter
- Leave change in a vending machine
- Let someone go before you in line
- Pay someone a compliment
- Buy groceries for a family in need
- Make breakfast for a family member
- Donate to charity
- Give a teacher a thank-you gift
- Help someone carry groceries
- Leave a bag of candy on a doorstep
- Prepare a meal for your family
- Donate outgrown clothes
- Help someone in need cross the street
- Plan a surprise party for someone
- Volunteer at a retirement home
- Host a free lemonade stand
- Hold the elevator
- Do another family member's chores
- Pay for someone's bus/cab/Uber fare
- Make hot chocolate for your family
- Leave an encouraging note on a car
- Pay the adoption fee for a rescue animal
- Donate your hair to a good cause
- Hide money in a book for people to find
- Be kind to others
- Create inspiring chalk art at the park
- Sponsor a child
- Donate books to the library
- Walk a neighbor's dog
- Return someone's cart for them at the store
- Tape change to a parking meter

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Autumn Prayer

O God of Creation, you have blessed us
with the changing of the seasons.
As we embrace these autumn months,
May the earlier setting of the sun
remind us to take time to rest.
May the crunch of the leaves
beneath our feet remind us
of the brevity of this earthly life.
May the steam of our breath
in the cool air remind us that it is you
who give us your breath of life.
May the scurrying of the squirrels and
the migration of the birds remind us
that you call us to follow your will.
We praise you for your goodness forever and ever.
Amen.

