

# TRINITY *news*

JULY 2018

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## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

507.498.5291  
www.trinitysg.org



Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove



### Office hours:

**Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri:** 10a.m. – 4 p.m.  
**Wed:** Noon – 6:00 p.m.

### Sundays at Trinity

9:00 a.m. Hymn Sing  
9:15 a.m. Worship  
10:15 a.m. Fellowship

Listen live on KVIK 104.7 FM

### STAFF

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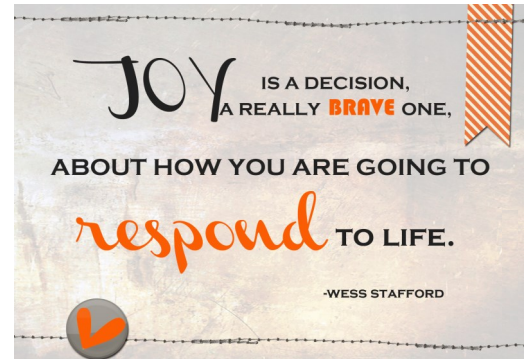
David Myrah, Custodian  
Scott Solberg, Choir Director  
Rachel Storlie, Organist  
Willy Leafblad, Handbell Director  
Jean Ellingson, Pianist  
Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist

I received a book for Father's Day called *The Book of Joy*. As you can imagine, I am pretty happy with my gift. Actually, one of the first things that is addressed in the book is the difference between 'joy' and 'happiness.' Joy is defined as a state of being in the mind and heart; whereas, happiness is the result of an external circumstance. Thus, receiving a book on joy can make me happy. It is written by Douglas Abrams, who is Jewish; he documented a weeklong meeting of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu of the Catholic Church.

The word 'joy' appears in the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible 164 times. I am not sure how many times 'joy' appears in other translations. In John 17:13 Jesus says in his last discourse with his disciples, "but now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves." So, it is that Jesus had a sense of this long ago. Perhaps that is the Lutheran in me that first checks to see how this will square up with Biblical Scripture.

The premise is how a person can have 'joy' in heart and mind in all situations of life. Jesus spoke of 'joy' on the eve of the Crucifixion. He knew what was in store for him wasn't good, but still lived in 'joy.' The book is all about trying to live 'joy' in today's world.

In Christ, Pastor Lane



An evening of inter-generational activity was amazing to witness at Trinity on the evening of May 9. Some ladies from WELCA and students from the Confirmation classes came together to pack school kits and baby care kits (layettes).

## PASTOR'S PEN

Dear friends in Christ,

I'm sitting at my desk watching the Day Campers on the lawn, and I'm very tempted to go out and join them. Every year for many years, I went with my cousins, Kari and Nancy, and my best friend, Susan, to Riverside Bible Camp in Story City, IA. It was the best week of the summer for me. One year, we even went twice! I still have so many of the camp songs memorized, and sometimes when I'm studying a particular part of scripture, one of those songs will come rushing back. As anyone who heard me sing "1 John 4:7 and 8" in worship will recall! I loved Bible Camp growing up, and I'm so excited that we have so many youth participating in summer faith programs at Trinity.

Last week, 12 seventh graders from Trinity attended Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village with Bekah. I spent most of Wednesday with them, starting with chapel, Trinity time, and a trail lunch. I especially enjoyed Trinity time, listening to the students thoughtfully express their questions about faith and science and scripture. These kids are smart and serious, and I can't wait to be with them in Confirmation this fall.

This week, there are 63 younger kids attending Vacation Bible School in the morning and Day Camp in the afternoon. Those of you in worship last Sunday got to hear (and see) our four counselors from Sugar Creek, who are helping out this week, perform "Peace Like a River." Even from my desk here, I can see that the kids have energy and enthusiasm for their faith as these great counselors lead them in song.

And next week we bless and send 26 of our high school youth to Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering. I hope you'll all be at worship early (before the hymn sing) when we have a special blessing for them. I also remember attending a Lutheran Youth Gathering in New Orleans when I was in High School. The kids will sing and learn and pray with tens of thousands of Lutheran youth from all over the country. I know it will be an experience they'll never forget. And thank you to all the pray-ers who signed up for Trinity Prays.

There are more than 100 (101 to be exact!) Trinity youth, from little ones to big ones, the youngest to the oldest, participating in faith programs this summer. That is the sign of a very vibrant congregation. I want to thank Bekah for her hard work to make these programs a success. I want to thank the parents for trusting us with your kids. I want to thank all the Sunday School teachers and Confirmation mentors and Youth Gathering adult leaders and all the volunteers who make all these programs possible. Our youth ministry is STRONG.

God bless you,  
~ Pastor Elizabeth



**SUMMER SURGE BUDGET BOOSTER****FUNDRAISER**

There's good news, and there's bad news. Let's start with the bad news: We're a bit behind in income verses expense. The good news is that it won't take much to get caught up. So rather than leave all the catching up to the end of the year, this year we're launching a special "Summer Surge" fundraiser. How will it work?

**Part 1:** During July, we're asking each family unit to give **an extra dollar a day, plus one dollar.** That's \$32 total for each of you. We think we can raise about \$6,000 EXTRA with just a dollar a day (plus one!). Just return the enclosed envelope with your Summer Surge gift of \$32 anytime during July. (And of course, you can give more if you'd like.)

**Part 2:** We're asking 20 families to **match the \$6,000 in increments** of \$100 (10 of you), \$250 (4 of you), \$500 (4 of you) and \$1000 (2 of you). Look for a special Summer Surge Matching envelope in the back of the church with the amount you'd like to match. That's an additional \$6,000, for a total of \$12,000.

And just to get us started, I (Pastor Elizabeth) will take a \$500 matching envelope off the table. So now we only need 19 matches!

Trinity Lutheran Church has always risen to the occasion, and we have many vibrant ministries – including 101 youth in summer faith programs! – to show for it.

Thank you for your support of Trinity and our missions. And God bless you!

**GIFTS & MEMORIALS COMMITTEE**

A chance for YOU to volunteer! At the May meeting, the Congregation Council approved appointing a Gifts & Memorial Committee. The duties of this committee include reviewing Trinity's current Gifts and Memorials policy, making appropriate updates and changes, and then submitting this revised policy to the Congregation Council for approval. The committee will also begin making a list of appropriate gifts with a general idea of the cost. This list will be given to people who want to make a donation to a specific project at Trinity.

Initially, one member will serve for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Thereafter, each member on this committee will serve a three-year term.

The committee will meet at the convenience of the members and as needed. The committee will also be in charge of updating the Gifts and Memorials Book.

Please consider this opportunity to serve Trinity. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact the church office. Thank you!

**JUNE CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Motions approved:

- To appoint Steve Nelson as Vice President of the Council.
- The forming of a Gifts and Memorials Committee.
- To rent the Trinity Center to Spring Grove School for Lions Academy for four weeks (while the school has a construction project) at \$50/day plus a refundable damage deposit.
- An Alternative Giving Fair between Thanksgiving and Christmas, organized by the Mission Team.
- A Noisy/Crinkly Offering organized by the Mission Team to raise funds and awareness of the needs of people in Puerto Rico and South Sudan.
- To host the Root River Conference joint Reformation Service on October 28, 2018.

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

*thankful  
&  
blessed*

**RING THOSE BELLS!** Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fund for Trinity's new four-octave set of Schulmerich Handbells! We reached our goal by raising \$20,137! The handbells, tables, foam pads, and mallets are on their way! This fundraiser has been a "First Fruits" initiative. The Handbell Choir will donate 10% of these funds. Thank you all very much!

*"Seek the kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need" ~ Matthew 6:33*

**MANGE TUSEN TAKK NORWEGIAN RIDGE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CAMP ATTENDEES**

for putting dugnad into practice at 10:30 a.m. Dugnad is Norwegian for community volunteerism. A group of camp attendees and adults spent time working to restore and clean headstones in the Norwegian Ridge Cemetery (the one just north of the church). They began with a brief training on headstone cleaning and restoration. Materials and tools were provided. Thank you campers and all that helped out with this project!



**SNACKS FOR KIDS** Through H.I.P. (Health Initiative Program), the Care Team packs backpacks at Spring Grove Public School with food for the weekend throughout the school year for students in need. On the last day of school they served their last "lunch" for the school year. Now they are supplying the Spring Grove Library with snacks for the summer for kids in need. One in seven children in Minnesota struggle with hunger. These programs are possible with donations from the congregation — thank you for helping feed children in our community!

**LITTLE FREE PANTRY** Trinity has it's own mini food shelf that is available for anyone to access year round. It is located next to the Gathering Room, directly down the stairs from the Main Street entrance. People have been stopping in and using the food and toiletry supplies from this Little Free Pantry. If you happen to see that the food or toiletries are getting low, feel free to add an item or two. Thank you for your support of this beneficial food supply!

**KITS AND QUILTS** On June 11, Glen Kinneberg, Steve Nelson, Paul Steins, and Jacque Wennes loaded 86 Quilts, 131 School Kits, 96 Baby Care Kits, and 28 Personal Care Kits into Glen's pickup and Jacque's van for a trip to the South St. Paul ELCA Warehouse where they were dropped off to be processed and delivered to the less fortunate around the world. THANK YOU to congregational members who make these items and donate supplies! Our back room is now open for more production! God bless our hands for His service.

Trinity's items at the South St. Paul warehouse.



**BLESSINGS**

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



Through Trinity’s website, you can set up a Direct Debit Giving account to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account, or credit card, to go directly to Trinity’s bank account. You set the schedule as it best fits for you! It’s convenient and easy especially during the summer months when many people are traveling more for vacations. Consider setting up your electronic giving account.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Visit [www.trinitysg.org](http://www.trinitysg.org). On the right-hand side of the home page, click on the link “Contribute” then click on the bar “Contribute Online” and it will bring you to the site to set up your online giving account. Questions? Just let us know! Thank you!

**FLOWER PLANTERS** Have you seen the beautiful flower planters that adorn the entrances at Trinity? The Worship Team is looking for someone to care for the planters during the month of August. Would you be willing to help out with this task? Please let the office know. Thank you!

**DID YOU KNOW THAT THE PHOTOS IN THE NEWSLETTER ARE IN FULL COLOR?**

If you receive the newsletter via email, you get to see the full color photos! If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please let the church office know and we’ll add you to our email list! Send us an email at [trinity@springgrove.coop](mailto:trinity@springgrove.coop) or give us a call!

**WEEKLY EMAIL** Did you know that we send out a weekly email on Fridays with news about the upcoming week at Trinity. Would you like to receive this email to help stay up-to-date with all things Trinity? Just drop us an email, [trinity@springgrove.coop](mailto:trinity@springgrove.coop), or give us a call and we’ll add you to our list!

**FAITH CHESTS** Did you know that we give faith chests to families when their child is baptized? These chests are hand-made. We are looking for someone that is interested in building the chests for future baptisms. If you are interested, contact Milly Halverson, [gmhalv@springgrove.coop](mailto:gmhalv@springgrove.coop) or 498-5339.

Baptized babies also receive a packet that includes a cross necklace, a children’s Bible, a framed Lord’s Prayer, and Luther’s Small Catechism.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOUSE** Did you know that a Habitat for Humanity house is being built in Ridgeway, IA? The Mission Team will be participating and welcomes anyone who would like to join them. Questions, contact Steve Nelson, (563) 546-7677.

**YOUTH COMPLETING GRADES 9-12 JOIN US FOR 3:16S!**



We will have bonfires, s’mores, faith-based discussions and play games (like ping pong and air hockey and more!) Bring a friend (Trinity member or not)— all are invited! See you there! **3:16s dates:** July 8, 15, 29; August 5, 12, 19, 26.

**YOUTH JUST COMPLETING GRADES 6-8 ARE INVITED TO BONFIRES AT BEKAH’S**



Come for the s’mores, stay for the fun fellowship with friends! Bring your friends — you don’t have to be a Trinity member to attend. See you there! **Bonfire dates:** July 5, 12, 26; August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.

Bekah will post reminders on the Trinity Youth Instagram account ([trinityyouth203](https://www.instagram.com/trinityyouth203)). Both groups meet at 8:30 p.m. at Bekah’s house (231 1st Ave. SW).

DID YOU KNOW?  
YOUTH

**WELCA LUNCHEON AND AUCTION** Trinity's WELCA (Women of the ELCA) invite you to their Luncheon and Auction on Saturday, July 14. The day begins with the Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Tag Sale and Bake Sale at 12:00 p.m. and then the Live Auction at 12:30 p.m. All are invited!

If you would like to donate an item, please drop it off at the office. Greg Wennes will be the auctioneer. WELCA members please note if you aren't donating an item, a \$10 donation is appreciated. Thank you! This is a fundraiser for WELCA that they use to support various groups and activities.

**GUEST FROM SOUTH SUDAN** Rev. Mawien Ariik will be at Trinity Lutheran in Owatonna on Tuesday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m. for an evening hearing about the ways the Spirit of God is at work among our siblings in faith in South Sudan. He serves as an evangelist for witness, outreach, and proclamation in South Sudan — one of our synod's global partners. He will also be highlighting ways we can continue to share our support. For more information, <http://semnsynod.org/mawien>.

**IMBA SIFA—SING PRAISE!** Imba Sifa-Sing Praise! Is an opportunity for musically inclined young people to visit Tanzania and link up with young musicians from the Central Diocese. They will learn music here before the trip, and then while they are abroad, they will learn music with Tanzanian young people and visit several communities in the Central Diocese. Minimum age limit is 16. An information session is Sunday, July 8 at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran in Owatonna. For more information and an application to become a part of this team visit, <http://semensynod.org/tanzania>.



Seventh grade students from Trinity attended Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village. They had a great week of fellowship, Bible Study, music, outdoor activities, and making of new friends!



## VISIONING & PLANNING TEAM

In June 2017, several members of the congregation met with a building consultant provided to us by the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA. The consultant, Anne Gerriets, made recommendations about our building concerns. We are now ready to move to the next step and are looking for people to serve on the Visioning & Planning Team.

According to Anne and the MIF, *“There are people in your congregation that are visionaries and can develop a plan for future growth and enhancement of the congregation. This team will consider the congregation’s sacred history and what new ministries and programs you feel God is calling you to do for the members and families of the congregation, your community and throughout the world.”*

The Visioning & Planning Team will make recommendations to the Congregation Council for changes to our Church Facility and for the staff to enhance, strengthen and expand current ministries and new ministries and programs for the future.

The responsibilities of this group will include:

1. Reviewing challenges in current ministries, programs and activities.
2. Discussing growth of current ministries and the addition of new ministries for the next three to five years.
3. Surveying church committees, program supervisors, and activity coordinators for space need ideas and improvements.
4. Reviewing the church use by community groups and organizations.
5. Discussing building space for multi-purpose use and scheduling of programs and events.
6. Reviewing outdoor opportunities for sports fields, picnic areas, playground space, and parking.
7. Developing building space needs based on type of activity, program, and size of group.
8. Reviewing all storage needs for each group and activity
9. Prioritizing the building space needs from your research and information gathering.
10. Listing short-term issues that can be addressed to enhance the current church facility for great curb appeal and a welcoming first impression.
11. Making a presentation of the Team's recommendations for space needs and use to the Congregation Council.

If you feel called to serve in this exciting capacity, please give your name to the church office or to any Congregation Council member.



**Saturday, July 14:** WELCA Luncheon and Auction

**Sunday, July 29:** Game Feed hosted by Stewardship Team, following worship

**Wednesday, August 1:** Music in the Park featuring Thankful Brass and other Trinity musicians

**Sunday, October 7:** Bishop Steve Delzer will be our guest at Trinity!

**Sunday, October 28:** Root River Conference Reformation Service at Trinity

NEW  
TEAM

DATES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Property, Pstr ofc No 3:16s	<b>2</b> Youth Gathering participants return about 9am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Independence Day</b> office closed	<b>5</b> 5:30pm Education, MR 8:30pm Bonfire	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
<b>8</b> 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 11:30am Tweenen Care Ctr Service 8:30pm 3:16s	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:30pm Staffing, GR 6:00pm Stewardship, MR 7:00pm Support Team, GR	<b>11</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts, TC 7:00pm Council	<b>12</b> 5:45pm Worship, MR 8:30pm Bonfire	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> WELCA Luncheon/Auction 11:30am luncheon 12:00pm tag sale and bake sale 12:30pm live auction
<b>15</b> 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship/ Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Outreach, Pstr ofc 8:30pm 3:16s	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 9:30am Communion at SG Manor No Bonfire	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
<b>22</b> 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship No 3:16s	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 7:00pm Boy Scouts, TC	<b>26</b> 9:30am Communion at Tweenen Apartments 10:30am Communion at Assisted Living 8:30pm Bonfire	<b>27</b> 9:00am Love Day	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00am Hymn Sing 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 8:30pm 3:16s	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				



# VOLUNTEERS

	JULY 1	JULY 8	JULY 15	JULY 22	JULY 29
<b>LECTOR</b>	Jen Solberg	Missy Bratland	Mary Deters	Roxanne Finnesgard	Bill Fried
<b>ACOLYTE(S)</b>	Nathan Solberg, Lydia Solum	Kylie Standahl	Jonah Udstuen, Cierra Albrecht	August Allen	Garrett Bergrud
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b>	Carol & Curt Rustad, Glorianne Mulvenna	n/a	Carol & Mike Sherburne, Jackie Parker	n/a	n/a
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Judy Dahle (chair), Rachel Olerud, Joyce Bergrud, Peggy Landsom, Judy Bratland, Missy Bratland				
<b>USHERS</b>	Howard & Mary Deters family	<b>Volunteers needed</b>	Abe & Lara Mendez family, Michelle Jahnke	Chris & Jessi Strinmoen family	Willy & Bekah Leafblad, and _____
<b>COFFEE HOSTS</b>	Rachel & Mark Udstuen, Jen & Scott Solberg	Mary & Howard Deters, Sara Deters, Jean Ellingson	<b>Volunteers needed</b>	Jan & Carlyn Kraabel team	Karen Folstad, Betty Johnson, Kathy Rosendahl
<b>498-AMEN</b>	June 24-July 7: Janna Myrah	July 8-14: Ruth Johnsrud	July 15-28: Melissa Wold	July 29-August 11: Bethany Bergsgaard	

**HAVE YOU...moved?** ...changed phone numbers? ...changed email addresses? Let the office know! Thanks!

**LET US KNOW.....**if you have a loved one ill or hospitalized, have a new baby, would like a pastoral visit, or if any pastoral need arises.

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

*Trinity*  
Lutheran Church

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