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trinity TODAY

Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world.



"If you love me, show it by doing what I've told you. I will talk to the Father, and he'll provide you another Friend so that you will always have someone with you. This Friend is the Spirit of Truth. The godless world can't take him in because it doesn't have eyes to see him, doesn't know what to look for. But you know him already because he has been staying with you, and will even be in you!"—John 14:15-17 (MSG)

PHOTO: First Communion Milestone from Maundy Thursday worship April 14. Please see Page 3 for more information.



SACRED SITES TOUR
with the Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs,
Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nation



Sacred Sites Tour

In our efforts to create understanding, learning and dialogue between Native and non-Native peoples, a small group from Trinity gathered on May 7 to immerse ourselves in Minnesota history from a Native perspective. Our tour explored Indigenous history, culture and sacred sites through storytelling and by being present to one another through silence/meditation/reflection and sharing.

Our facilitator was the Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs, member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nation of central Wisconsin. Jacobs is a cultural facilitator who works to raise the public's awareness of American Indian causes and injustices, founder of Healing Minnesota Stories, and Co-Director of Racial Justice for Minnesota Council of Churches.

It was transformational to be at Bdote (where two waters come together)—the sacred place of creation for the Dakota people, then the concentration camp at Fort Snelling where more than 1,600 Dakota people—mostly elders, women and children—were imprisoned in 1862, and finally Oheyaawahi/Pilot Knob—a hill that for centuries has been a gathering place for Indigenous ceremonies and burials.

The Sacred Sites Tour was organized by Trinity's Racial Justice Ministry Team. We hope to provide additional future opportunities to attend.

Land Acknowledgement

By Marilee Poe Tangen, Racial Justice Ministry Team Member

You may have noticed the short land acknowledgement now found in our worship bulletin: We are on Dakota and Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) land. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Or perhaps the longer version found on our web site: Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Ojéthi Šakówinj Dakhóta people, specifically the Wahpekute Nation. We are on Dakota and Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) land. This land holds spiritual and ongoing importance for its original stewards, the Native nations and all Indigenous peoples of the St. Croix Valley region. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Trinity has begun the practice of land acknowledgement as an important point of awareness to telling the full history of the land which we occupy. This is especially poignant as we have just celebrated 150 years as a congregation and we begin our next 150 years with a journey toward truth and healing.

This practice is also a commitment made by our larger church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). In the document "A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to American Indian and Alaska Native People" the church confesses its sins toward Indigenous peoples and identifies action items for moving forward.

One commitment is to formally acknowledge the original inhabitants of North America. The declaration states, "We commit to begin the practice of land acknowledgments at all expressions of the church."

The resources provided by Vance Blackfox, Director for Indigenous Ministries and Tribal Relations with the ELCA, were instrumental in crafting Trinity's land acknowledgement. Read more

- continued on next page -

PHOTO ON THE COVER (from left to right):
Back row—Pastor Chris, James Bartlett,
Ella Weston-Miller, Clara Gossai,
Sonja Kanewischer, Pastor Peter
Front row—Quinn Olson, Sarah Olson,
Brita Gossai, Audrey Haase, Will Bartlett
Not Pictured—

Zachary Wasmundt, Malcom McAnally,
Trygg Arden-MacGuffie, Claire Wescott,
Rosalie Whitcomb Fossum, Ellie Sebo

In Holy Communion, we remember,
we eat, and we belong. At the evening
Maundy Thursday worship service on
April 14 we formally welcomed to the
table, a group of children who completed
their First Communion Milestone this
past February.

We are fed so we may feed others. Thanks
be to God!



- LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT continued from
previous page -

at: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Ethnic-Specific-and-Multicultural-Ministries/American-Indian-and-Alaska-Native>.

From the Duwamish Tribe: For
non-Indigenous communities, land
acknowledgement is a powerful way
of showing respect and honoring
the Indigenous Peoples of the
land on which we work and live.
Acknowledgement is a simple way of
resisting the erasure of Indigenous
histories and working towards
honoring and inviting the truth.
(<https://www.duwamishtribe.org/land-acknowledgement>)

Stay tuned as the Racial Justice
Ministry Team works to bring greater
awareness through: education on
past and present Native culture and
experiences; stories of the Native
Peoples who lived on this land long
before us; Indigenous land acknowl-
edgement; and inspiration for action
and relationship-building as we go.
Read more at: <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/racial-justice/>.

PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION THE REV. PETER WESTON MILLER



Leadership Lab — Who's Up Next?

The church is a great laboratory for
seeing and cultivating diverse forms
of leadership. Our ancestors in the
faith understood that life holds a
variety of callings to serve and lead
with our gifts.

This “multi-stationed” vocation invites
us to reflect on how God is leveraging
our talents in our households, in a
career or professional role, and in civic
and cultural engagement. In every
moment and every season.

At Trinity, I often marvel at the
plethora of roles that people employ
as entrepreneurs and nurses, teachers
and CFOs, non-profit board members
and neighborhood gatherers. Both
volunteering and championing.

No matter who we are or what stage
of life or where we live, God can equip
us to share Christ's love and care for
our neighbors to make the world a
better place.

In Trinity's organizational structure,
we constantly look for joyful servants
willing to help us lead God's mission
forward together. From Council to
small group leaders, Stewardship to
Sunday step-out, Tuesday Guys and
quilters, we all have a particular place
to plug in.

What makes the church fun, is that we
don't have to do the same thing all the
time or serve forever in a particular
role to grow. We can experiment and
playfully wonder. In fact, it's always
important for folks to prayerfully
discern when to step back or shift
their roles at home, in public service,
and in the life of the church.

We would like to acknowledge and
give special thanks for those who
have served and those who are taking
up these important roles at Trinity.

Stewardship Ministry Chair: thanks
to Claudia Swendseid and welcome to
Noah Schumacher

Funeral Hospitality Chair: thanks to
Jean Groppoli and welcome to Lynae
Olson and Kim Hanson

Outreach Missions Chair: thanks to
Michele Hermansen and welcome to
Marie Liberda.

Please join me in giving in the passing
of these batons and for all the ways
that we share in ministry together!

Pastor Peter

Pastor Chris is on sabbatical. Here's a
reminder of your invitation to create
your own sabbatical experience this
summer. Read more at: <https://trinitylc.org/invitation-to-create-your-own-sabbatical-experience/>

Stewardship & Leadership

By Claudia Swendseid, Stewardship Team

Some of you may already know that Trinity's Stewardship Team is undergoing transitions—in leadership and membership—but not in our purpose and passion for stewardship! After five years as team lead, I have stepped down and Noah Schumacher has assumed this role. Core ministries benefit from fresh ideas and energy, and Noah brings all of that and more. Thank you, Noah!

Team members have also changed. Long time contributors, Tim Gillis, Tami Jensrud, Amy Karlstad and Zach Lee have moved on to other priorities and opportunities to serve (Thank you all for your service to this team!). Melissa Haase and I are remaining on the team; and Mark Nelson and Ted Olson have joined the team. Pastor Chris and Bob Eiselt continue as our staff liaisons and coaches.

Given these changes, including in leadership, this article focuses on the type of leadership that I believe is best aligned with stewardship ministry.

What do you imagine when you think of leadership? A politician declaring victory on election night? A sports coach celebrating a winning season? A chief executive officer proudly announcing quarterly profits and stock dividends?

Jesus speaks of a very different kind of leadership several times in the gospels, usually ending with a surprising summary—"...if anyone wants to be first, they must be the very last and the servant of all." (Mark 9:34). To Jesus, excellence in leadership was not measured by the number of people serving a leader but the extent to which a leader was serving their followers. So, for those of us who follow Jesus, servant leadership seems the right form to adopt.

The publication of "The Servant as Leader," by Robert K. Greenleaf in 1970, started the modern *servant leadership* movement which quickly made its way into classrooms and boardrooms around the world. He

wrote, "The leader-first and the servant-first are two extreme types [of leadership]. Between them, there are shadings and blends that are part of the infinite variety of human nature ... The difference manifests itself in the care taken by the servant-first to make sure that other people's highest priority needs are being served. The best test, and difficult to administer, is: Do those served grow as persons? Do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants?"

Unlike other leadership models, Christian servant-leadership is rooted in God's love and guided by the Holy Spirit. While many people view leadership as a privilege, a position, or the result of hard work, Christians understand leadership as first and foremost a stewardship—something that God has gifted the leader with and entrusted to the leader. There are other important differences between servant-leadership and more traditional "command and control" models. I highlight three below.

God's Goals Versus Our Goals. All Christian leaders and stewards seek to discern and achieve God's goals rather than our own. Each Sunday we leave worship renewed in our commitment to be God's hands and feet, eyes and ears, working together to bring God's kingdom, God's dream, God's goals to our world. To that end, servant-leaders seek to tap into the full, embodied knowing of team members, through prayer, working together to accomplish God's goals for their ministry.

Other-Focus Versus Self-Focus. Christian servant-leaders put their followers (team members) first—before themselves and their agenda. They demonstrate an ability to care beyond their own personal advantage in order to foster the growth (including spiritual growth) and welfare of the team. Servant-leaders value each team member. They recognize their contributions, and regularly say "thanks."

They see God's beloved in each one and seek to engage their God-given gifts to support the team's ministry.

Persuasion Versus Command.

Christian servant-leaders are active listeners—listening to what is being said and noticing what's not. Thus, they seek to identify and clarify the will of the team to determine the best way forward. Servant-leaders also seek to build consensus among team members rather than to direct the course. Even when team members don't share the same view initially, servant-leaders can forge consensus by starting with acceptance and empathy. From this lens they consider each team member's perspective, ask questions, bring up ideas/facts not yet considered, and engage in dialogue.

Self-Awareness and Humility.

Many of us view serving or being served as an indicator of our status in life. You know that you have arrived when somebody else cleans up your mess. Dirty dishes. Dirty clothes. Dirty feet. But when Jesus washed feet, he did so with the confidence of knowing exactly who he was. He came from God and he was on his way back to God—source of life, source of love. Like Jesus, confidence in our God-rooted identity allows servant-leaders to serve others in humility. Servant-leaders understand that leading doesn't make them better than others; it just makes them more responsible.

Christian servant-leaders are servants first and leaders second. They are responding to God's call by using God's gift of leadership to serve God's purposes. In God's kingdom, servant-leaders serve us best by leading us and lead best by serving us.

Trinity Financial Update

April Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2022

	This Year	Last Year	'22 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	808,398	928,358	1,354,800	60%
Other Income	272,596	142,512	388,586	70%
Total Income	<u>\$ 1,080,994</u>	<u>\$ 1,070,870</u>	<u>\$ 1,743,386</u>	
less: Expenses	1,154,501	1,022,298	1,742,006	66%
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>\$ (73,507)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 48,572</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,380</u></u>	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,252,567	3,346,629
Increase (Decrease)	(77,148)	(58,187)
Long-Term Debt - End of April	<u><u>\$ 3,175,419</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,288,442</u></u>
Line of Credit Balance - April	\$ 90,000	\$ -

Financial Highlights April 2022

Contribution Income for the fiscal year through April YTD is \$120K behind last fiscal year. We made positive progress on catching up in the month of April. Total Income YTD is \$4K less than last year at this time. As discussed, we continue to see the timing and form of receipt of Contribution gifts fluctuating greatly v. past years, making it difficult to project expected fiscal year results. Program Registrations, Fees & Payments and Building Rental Income are up a combined \$24K YTD vs. last year, showing an increased level of activity in our building and programming this year. Restricted Income is up \$46K over last year, reflecting use of designated funds for the Worship Technology Upgrade. Overall, YTD Operating Expenses are \$79K higher than YTD April 2021. As we compare the difference in deficit this YTD v. last year, the increase in Staff wages (includes 2% increase) and benefits of \$43K v. last YTD is impactful but, necessary. For the month of April, the overall deficit increased by just \$2K. YTD our Contribution Income continues to lag behind last year and budget. Thus, we continue to carry a balance in our Line of Credit of \$90K, up \$90K over last year, at this time.



The Trinity Scholarship Fund was established through the generosity and foresight of Jeanette Johnson, a dear, departed, long-time member of Trinity Lutheran Church. It was her desire to provide the means by which Trinity could offer assistance to its young people whose achievement and character have indicated that they possess the qualities necessary to achieve excellence in higher education. The scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic status, co-curricular achievement, good citizenship and active involvement at Trinity.

Special thank you to Jeanette's nephew, Bruce Rydeen for his efforts to make Jeanette's wishes continue to be a reality.

The 2022 recipients of the Trinity Lutheran Scholarship from this year's graduating class are:

- Ava Karlstad • Morgan Lysne
- Elise Karlstad • Karley Rydeen



PHOTOS: Chalkboard art by Robin Cain. Carol Carver's last choir rehearsal before passing the baton to Clark Weyrauch. We'll see you on the organ bench, Carol. Soli Deo gloria! Thank you Don Loe for the fun photos.

welcome NEW MEMBERS

EDITOR'S NOTE: In some issues of the May *Trinity Today* the photos and descriptions for the new members below were erroneously reversed. We apologize for the confusion and note the correct information below.



Phil Garrison and Patricia McGee
loves stories, waterfalls, Ireland and photography



Bob and Moe Hendricks
parents of 3, grandparents of 7 • live in N. Wisconsin the other 6 months of the year
• recently discovered E-bikes





summer sunday worship

8:45 am at Trinity
10 am at the Drive-in



May 29 through Sept. 18

Worship Texts

Below are the scripture texts from the Revised Common Lectionary that will be used on the date listed to prepare the message for worship.

June 5 _____ **John 14:8-17, (25-27)**

June 12 _____ **John 16:12-15**

June 19 _____ **Luke 8:26-39**

June 26 _____ **Luke 9:51-62**



Summer Sunday Worship

Summer worship schedule goes from Sunday, May 29 (Memorial Day weekend) through Sunday, Sept. 18.

IN PERSON:

8:45 a.m. — Indoor Worship in our Sanctuary

Indoor worship continues at 8:45 a.m. at Trinity.

10 a.m. — Outdoor Worship at the Drive-in, Houlton, WI

Worship from your car or lawn chair.

Read more about the drive-in at: <https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/drive-in-summer-worship/>

ONLINE:

8:45 a.m. — Livestream Worship from Trinity

Watch on our web site at: <https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/online-worship/>



The *gift of children* in Worship



By Sarah Olson, Children & Family Faith Formation Coordinator

The Goldfish have run out. The crayons have lost their luster. The fidget that was holding my toddler's attention was dropped and has now rolled several pews ahead of where our family is sitting. We're getting closer and closer to the Prayers of the Church. It's at this point in the worship service that my mouth goes dry, I no longer hear anything in the Worship Center but my wiggly toddler and fussy baby, and my entire being goes into panic mode. I say a little prayer of my own: "Lord, please just let us get through the prayers without a total meltdown. Please, please, please."

And then it happens. The toddler goes careening over the pew in front of us, screaming at me as I try to grab her: "No, Mommy, no! Go away!" The baby has decided he's hungry and won't wait another minute to let me know. I share "the look" with my husband and think to myself, why did we think this was a good idea?

As I've been there, I know so many of you have been there, too. Perhaps it was last Sunday, or maybe it's been several years. No matter how long it's been, the pangs of worshipping with small children are feelings not quickly forgotten.

Taking young ones to church is hard. Parents genuinely want to plant the seeds of faith in their children, nurture baptismal promises, while simultaneously not wanting to get screamed at by fellow worshippers. Okay, people probably won't *actually* scream at you, but even the thought that others are annoyed by your presence can be enough to make you feel cringy and want to run.

As a growing parent myself, it often feels like I don't know much. But as your Children & Family Faith Formation Coordinator, here's what I do know (and what I need to hear myself as a parent): Worshipping regularly—at least once a month or more—matters. Showing up, sitting in the pew or gathering around a device at home, going through the motions to the best of your abilities even if we don't catch most of the sermon, matters. Faith is caught, not taught; and just like all things throughout life, our little ones learn best by experiencing. Our children need to see us loving Jesus, interacting with Jesus, and outwardly showing the world that the Gospel has changed our hearts by the decisions and actions we take in our everyday lives.

Trinity does not want church to be a place where kids need to overly behave, are ultra-controlled, or shushed. Talk about a quick way to get your child to dislike church! Trinity wants church to be a place of JOY and grace for your family, for you, and your children.

Movement is normal. Outbursts are normal. Screams are normal. Tears are normal. Audible questions in the middle of the somber moments are normal. For parents, this all translates to feeling cringy and wanting to run but know that your church is behind you.

Here is how Trinity is taking steps to support families and make worshipping together as a family more accessible:

- **Grace Spaces.** Special and inclusive spaces strategically set up around the Worship Center and Narthex for children (and anyone else!) to play, color, and be included in worship comfortably.
- **Worship Bags.** Developmentally friendly bags for children of all ages that include books, activities, crafts, and fidgets to keep little hands busy.



- **Children's Bulletins.** During the program year (September—May), no matter how you worship, Children's Bulletins are prepared each week to use on site at Trinity or remotely. Curated from Spark House Digital resources, Children's Bulletins provide ways to process worship together as a family, summarize the day's message, and provide engaging activities for children.
- **Step Out.** During the program year (September—May), children are invited to briefly "step out" of worship during the sermon to hear the same message as in the Worship Center, but in a way that resonates with children. Think: Interactive children's message.
- **Children's Messages.** During the summer Drive-in months (May—September), children are invited to come forward during Drive-in worship to hear a short message that helps bring the Bible story for the day to life. Lots of helpers are needed to make this happen! Consider sharing your gifts with children by signing up to lead a children's message this summer with the provided QR code.
- **Nursery and a Nursing Room.** Trinity has a unique set of challenges when it comes to providing a space for relief and a break that do not feel isolating to those who need the option of a nursery or nursing room. We are entertaining lots of creative solutions for a future nursery and nursing room and hope to have a plan in place by this fall! Stay tuned!



Parents, if no one has told you recently, let me do the honors of informing you that *you are doing an amazing job!* Your faith community loves you and loves the gift and presence of your child(ren) in worship. If you'd like more resources about worshipping as a family, let's talk—I've got lots more to share. You can reach me at solson@trinitylc.org. And even if you don't need worship resources, I'd love to talk anyway! To know that we're not in this parenting journey alone and to love one another through the ups and downs, I'm here for you and in your corner. With love and gratitude!



VBS this June! Children are invited to come and Splash in God's Living Water this June! We'll dig into incredible Bible stories and learn how God takes ordinary water to make something amazing: God's living water, that fills us up with love. Join us for a week of art, music, games and more!

Monday, June 20—Thursday, June 23 | 6:30—8 p.m.
\$30 per child | For ages 4-9

Scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to register online. Lots of opportunities for older youth to serve as leaders and helpers. Interested in volunteering? Contact Sarah Olson at solson@trinitylc.org.



IMPORTANT *dates*

Milestone Celebrations at Drive-in Worship Sundays, June 12 & Aug. 7

For all children who completed a Milestone this past year, let's celebrate out at the Drive-in! On Sunday, June 12 we will recognize children who completed the Baptism (baptized between August 2021—May 2022), Worship, Blessing Bowls, and Prayer Milestones. On Sunday, Aug. 7 we will recognize children who completed the Care for Creation, Serving in Worship, Bible 101, and 8 Kinds of Smart Milestones.

Blessing of Wapo Seeds Campers Sunday, July 10

Blessing of Wapo Youth & Servant Leadership Campers Sunday, Aug. 14

We look forward to hearing stories from our Trinity children and youth who attend Camp Wapo this summer! But before you head off to camp, we want to bless all our campers. Camp participants are invited to receive a special blessing during worship on Sunday, July 10 for children doing the Seeds Program and Sunday, Aug. 14 for youth doing Youth Camp and the Servant Leadership Program.



Not just for history buffs! Not just for avid readers!

"To learn and know history is both a necessity and a responsibility to the ancestors and descendants of all parties."—Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

I invite and encourage and sincerely hope that you will join ABIDE Readers in the summer reading of *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz for discussion on Monday, Sept. 26. That gives all of us plenty of time to read it slowly and thoughtfully. There is also a Young Readers' edition for middle grade and above so that families can learn together (or maybe you want a simpler version for yourself). We have so much to learn!

The central question pursued in this book is "How might acknowledging the reality of US history work to transform society?" Actually, in the synod grant proposal that Trinity received, the Racial Justice Ministry Team gave hope that when we commit to learning the history of our Indigenous ancestors, our lives and our church will be transformed.

As you undoubtedly know, this book will not be painless, but it will feel good and be uplifting to start acknowledging the pain and replacing the myths and stereotypes with amazing stories of faith, courage, honor, respect, and the compassionate care of all of Creation.

Both versions of the book are available in the Trinity Library's ABIDE Collection in the Narthex, at the public libraries, and at Valley Bookseller. Ask for the ABIDE Readers' discount. For more information contact Ann Wolff at 651-260-3855 or wolff701@msn.com.

Read more about ABIDE at <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/abide-readers/>

CLASS OF 2022

High School Senior Blessing & Recognition

On Sunday, May 22 we joined together as a faith community to celebrate the resilience and achievements of the Class of 2022. God's blessings to our youth for a future full of promise and hope!

Class of 2022 High School Seniors

Abigail Charlie Anderson
Taylor Garnet Anderson
Isabella Ann Appert
William Joseph Barwick
Johnathan Ryan Benson
Savannah Grace Benson
Ella Marin Cadenhead
Zane David Canaday
Allison Marie Carle
Isabella Noelle Chau
Faith Mahala Cichon
Alisa Rose Collyard
Zoe Grace Colombo
Callie Grace Corey
Julia Christine DiMartini
Timothy David Fultz
Soren Joseph Gabor
Colin Brady Glassman
Macy Jean Gonnion
Jada Lynn Hill
Marissa Marie Horwath
William Mason Howell
Eva Melissa Johns
Sydney Taylor Johnson
Ava Grace Karlstad
Elise Christine Karlstad
Kristin Marie Kaufman
Paige Rae Klemenhausen
Olivia Lauren Klepac
Isabel Chrisitine Knowlan
Morgan Grace Lysne

Samantha Anne MacDonald
Sophie Anne MacDonald
Jenna Marie Maddux
Amelia Rose Maroney
Carter Jeffrey Mears
Ivan Lars Nederloe
John Riley O'Neill
Brandon David Pilrain
Carson Davis Potter
Veda Lee Roeske
Karley Ann Rydeen
Lucas Alexander Shelton
Julianna Lynn Silva
Hailey Marie Slachta
Eva Lorraine Stafne
Charles Thomas Stinson
Carter John Stratmann
Maci Lynn Swanson
William Charles Swanson
Caroline Grace Tangen
Analeese Grace Weckwerth
Skyler Thomas Weinzirl
Landon Joseph Weyer
Lauren Michelle Wilk



GLOW/AWE EVENTS:

Bike Ride on Brown's Creek Trail Tuesday, June 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Bike Brown's Creek Trail with fellow GLOW/AWE women. Meet near the trailhead in downtown Stillwater in the Zephyr Theater parking lot at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Please RSVP to Sandy Weber at stillweber@hotmail.com or Jill Longnecker at jnjlony@msn.com. We will notify you of any changes due to weather.

Matinee Showing of Ashland Production's *Company* Saturday, June 25 at 2 p.m.

Theater at Maplewood Community Center

Cost: \$22 for adults and \$20 for seniors (age 60 and up)

Join us for some local theater! We will see *Company*, a play based on the book by George Furth with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. On the night of his 35th birthday, confirmed bachelor, Robert, contemplates his unmarried state. Over the course of a series of dinners, drinks and even a wedding, his friends—"those good and crazy people [his] married friends"—explain the pros and cons of taking on a spouse. The habitually single Robert is forced to question his adamant retention of bachelorhood during a hilarious array of interactions.

Carpool from Trinity at 1:15 p.m. or meet us there. Maplewood Community Center Theater is at 2100 White Bear Ave., Maplewood, MN, 55109.

Reserve your seat and make payment (checks can be made out to Sandy Wendt) by Tuesday, June 7. RSVP to Sandy Wendt at sjwendt46@gmail.com.

SOLO ⁺ 55 PLUS

**Singles Group
for Ages 55 & Up**

Solo 55 Plus is a faith-based fellowship group for those single and over 55.

Frequent activities are planned and announced in a weekly newsletter. To receive the newsletter, become a member, or seek information, please send email to: SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com.



The Light in Me sees and honors the Light in each of You

YogaDevotion Chair/Flow Combo Class Thursdays 9—10 am | In-person and on Zoom June 2—July 21 | \$72 for 8 classes

Come and experience God's presence through the practice of yoga. Meeting in-person in the Garden Room and online through Zoom—choose the option that works for you. Led by a trained yoga instructor, YogaDevotion is a practice of breath, prayer, and movement designed to encourage healthy living and a peaceful presence. For women and men of all skill levels and abilities. Beginners welcome, no experience needed!

Register and pay online at <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/care/yoga/>
Questions? Contact Sue Peterson at toddinsue2@aol.com.



UPDATE: Tanzania

By Mike Johnson, Outreach Missions Tanzania Team

Trinity Lutheran Church has been in relationship with our sisters and brothers in the village of Mwatasi, Tanzania for almost 20 years. Many of you have had a chance to travel to the Iringa Region of Tanzania. For those that haven't, I would like to give you a quick overview of our relationship and for all of you I would like to give you an update on what is happening.

The two primary elements of our Tanzania missions in the Iringa area include: our Companion Congregation Relationship with the Mwatasi Lutheran Church in the rural high country of the Iringa district and providing Secondary School Scholarships for students from Mwatasi. We also maintain involvement with partner organizations in specific projects related to our core missions, such as Iringa Hope (savings and loan, agriculture support), strategic support to the Bomalang'ombe Secondary School, and water projects in Mwatasi through St. Paul Partners.

Mwatasi Lutheran Church is the main church in the village and there are ten other preaching points around the area. It is part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania and the Iringa Diocese. Pastor Erasto Chaula leads the congregation of almost 1,500 members and there are a handful of evangelists that help to cover the needs of the congregation and preaching points.

Pastor Chaula and two other leaders from the church shared thanksgivings and challenges with our Tanzania task force last week.

Thanksgivings:

1. Thank you for secondary school scholarships! This year we have 11 boys and 15 girls in scholarship.
2. Renovating the pastor's house.
3. Support for our new Market Center, of which we have many members. This has been a blessing to our economy.
4. Clean and safe water has been a blessing.
5. Ibrahim's bicycle. (Ibrahim is one of the special needs adult members who received a hand pedal bicycle in 2021 as a result of Trinity's 2018 village travel.)

Challenges:

1. Recent forest fire due to dry conditions burned 40 acres of the church's pine trees.
2. Pump for the village water system was stolen, creating safe water distribution issues.
3. COVID-19 caused health and economic hardships.
4. Pastor Chaula needs to hire or borrow a motorbike to travel to preaching points. The previous bike of 15 years has reached the end of its usefulness in such difficult terrain.
5. A lack of benches in new preaching points.

Our Trinity Mission Committee recently approved to move forward with repairing the water system and replacing the stolen pump. We expect this to be completed in the next couple months. St. Paul Partners will manage the project.

We have much to learn from our friends in Mwatasi, specifically around evangelism and joy. I am grateful for the opportunity that we have as a congregation to continue our relationship with our sisters and brothers in Mwatasi. Stay tuned for more to come.



PHOTOS: Tanzanian subcommittee of Outreach Missions Team (Michele Hermansen, Mike Johnson, Chris Catlin, Marie Liberda) with Mwatasi Parish members, Pastor Erasto Chaula, Rehani Kindole (Parish Secretary), Evangelist Tula (Partnership Chair for Mwatasi Parish) and Pastor Lwila (Bega Kwa Bega Coordinator and Interpreter). From Zoom meeting on May 10, 2022.

Outreach Missions

Team Strategy:

A Member's Perspective

By Michael Karlsrud, Outreach Missions Team

There is no doubt that the work of missions draws out the passions of many people. Each of us has our own personal experiences and beliefs about what mission work is, where it is to be done, how it is to be financed and who is supposed to do the work. Trinity, as an organization is not immune to the same passions or questions.

The mission team has been executing what it has been charged to do: responding to the needs of the community locally and internationally. We are discussing ways to move forward by working on a strategic plan. At times our decisions become reactionary instead of acting in a more planful way to fulfill the mission of our church while helping others. In the future, the mission team hopes to reach out and work with the Church Council as well as all members of the congregation to discuss the overall role of missions, the alignment to the vision and mission of Trinity and how missions continue to be financed.

Each of us has our own definition of missions and we certainly can make an impact individually. However, collectively and equipped with intentionality, we make our resources go farther with a deeper impact on those who need our help.

We will continue to talk. We value your opinions. Talk to us.

I leave you with an adaptation of one of my favorite quotes by Margaret Meade. "Never underestimate the power of a small group of people to change the world. For indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Trinity, and its outreach through missions, has the very same power.

God Bless.

Never underestimate the power of a small group of people to change the world. For indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

– Margaret Meade

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



Sept. 11 2022

SAVE THE DATE! God's work. Our hands.
Trinity will participate in the ELCA's day of service this fall. We need you!



Thank you Outdoor Garden Team!

Outdoor Garden Team Trims up Hosta Gardens and Parking Lot Areas

Led by Sandy Wendt, the Outdoor Garden Team welcomed two newcomers, Patty and Eric Larson. The team trimmed bushes, grasses and picked up trash in the Trinity parking lot areas and cleaned up the Hosta beds around the church building. If you are interested in joining the team, even on an occasional basis, contact Sandy Wendt at sjwendt46gmail.com.

Pictured (left to right): Wendy, Kathy, Sue, Eric, Patty, Sandy, Joanie and Lynne

BAPTISMS

- **Zoey Florence Raye Dixon**, daughter of Donovan Dixon and Kathryn Frenette
- **Anderson John Jablonski**, son of Daniel and Lynsey Jablonski
- **Levi Donald Lehmann**, son of Travis & Karlie Lehmann
- **Aubrey Louise Barta** and **Arrik Edward Barta**, children of Matthew & Leigha Barta
- **Elliott Lauren Moore**, daughter of Nicholas Moore & Kelly Julian

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To family and friends of **Marilyn Schmoeckel**
- To family and friends of **Steve Schmoeckel**



Just a few quilts made by Trinity's Quilting Ministry. These were donated to Bundles of Love where they will be packaged together with a variety of new baby items like booties, sleepers, receiving blankets, etc. These bundles are then distributed through local hospitals to young mothers who might need them.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 24

In-person 8:45 am _____ 141
In-person 11 am _____ 129
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 261
Live online views 11 am _____ 46
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 359
Online views/week 11 am _____ 79

Sunday, May 1

In-person 8:45 am _____ 220
In-person 11 am _____ 143
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 331
Live online views 11 am _____ 62
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 418
Online views/week 11 am _____ 96

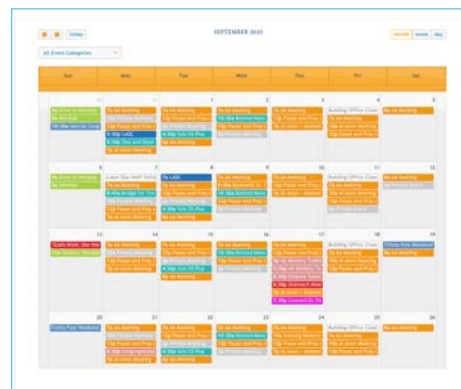
Sunday, May 8

In-person 8:45 am _____ 83
In-person 11 am _____ 66
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 142
Live online views 11 am _____ 46
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 219
Online views/week 11 am _____ 77

Sunday, May 15

In-person 8:45 am _____ 73
In-person 11 am _____ 63
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 145
Live online views 11 am _____ 39
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 190
Online views/week 11 am _____ 64

NOTE: Online views in one week are one-minute or longer views



CALENDAR

Please see the calendar on our web site for events, meetings and other happenings at Trinity. The calendar includes in-person and online events, as well as community events happening at Trinity. View the calendar at: <https://trinitylc.org/calendar/>

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open the following hours or by appointment.

Monday—Thursday
10 a.m.—4 p.m.

trinity
TODAY

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Email: info@trinitylc.org

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www.trinitylc.org (click NEWS)

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TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Stillwater, MN 55082

651-439-7400
www.trinitylc.org

SUMMER SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:45 am at Trinity & Online | 10 am at the Drive-in

Text the word GENERAL to 651-571-5585 to securely give online



Trinity Lutheran
Church in Stillwater, MN



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