



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

115 4th St. N
Stillwater, MN 55082
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www.trinitylc.org

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trinity **TODAY**

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



PHOTO: Trinity Brass
Trombone—Phil Hanson, Haakon Carver
Trumpet—Jane Johns, Steve Strand

"Don't be bluffed into silence by the threats of bullies. There's nothing they can do to your soul, your core being. Save your fear for God, who holds your entire life—body and soul—in God's hands."

— Matthew 10:28 (MSG)



LEAD PASTOR **THE REV. DR. CHRIS BELLEFEUILLE**

Actually, I'm not "fine."

Actually, I'm not "fine."

"Don't be bluffed into silence by the threats of bullies. There's nothing they can do to your soul, your core being. Save your fear for God, who holds your entire life—body and soul—in God's hands." – Matthew 10:28 (MSG)

Those of you who attended or watched online worship on Sunday, May 14 heard my sermon about the man name "Beau" who came into the church office a couple of weeks ago. He told us we had to "take down our crosses, if we approve of gays and lesbians because clearly we don't believe in any part of the Bible." (You can watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F6dPUYszfPk>)

It was a difficult conversation. In my sermon, I mentioned our inclination to want to comfort those who have such conversations and said that I am fine. It's others who aren't fine: like those this man hates.

But in truth. I am not fine. In fact, none of us are fine, if hate is allowed its way in our community, if bullies get to use up all the oxygen in the room.

It would be one thing if this man had come to us truly concerned for the eternal salvation of those he considers at risk. If he had come out of love. We still would disagree on the theology but would be on the level ground of love. But he did not. He came with words of hate. He has approached others in Stillwater with the same message, using derisive and slanderous language.

So, no. I am not fine. My heart is broken. My son is worried. Our neighbors are wounded.

How do we find our courage?

Ted and I were driving through Stillwater when he realized that the pickup truck in front of us was displaying an AR-15 style rifle in the rear window. Within the driver's rights, sure. But there as a statement nonetheless.

How do we find our courage?

Our son insisted that I report Beau to the police. Just in case.

How do we find our courage?

Is it enough to trust that our whole life—body and soul—is held in God's hands? Does that take away the pain of a parent afraid to send their child to school, or a teacher afraid to go to work? Does it take away the worry of retaliation on social media or in person?

In my boldest moments, I think: Heck YES! What are we living FOR if not to speak up even if our voices tremble, speak out even if our words are uncertain, and work for a better life for everyone!

In my most frightened moments, I grow small and silent, hoping it all just goes away.

But we have gay and trans people in our families. We have immigrants tending to necessary services and retail in our community. We have students experiencing chronic homelessness in class with our own kids.

"God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7) God has empowered us to love our neighbors actively and intentionally. Not just with kind thoughts and fervent prayers. But in speech and action, defending them against ALL harm. We dare not grow small and silent.

We continue to advocate for the inclusion of all people in our civic and religious lives. We continue to press for emergency housing in Washington County and Sacred Settlements of Tiny Homes. We continue to safeguard the dignity of those who need the support of food shelves, rental assistance, and state sponsored healthcare. We continue the humbling work of racial reconciliation.

Of course, we take measures to be smart and safe. But smart and safe does not mean small and silent.

It does matter than our bodies and our spirits are held by God, as are the bodies and spirits of each of our neighbors. *We live together IN GOD.* It is in God that we live and move and have our being. It is in God that we find assurance and strength. It is in God that we find our neighbor. It is in God that we find our power and our voice. Because God first loved us. Empowering us to live as Jesus in the world.

In Christ's strength and with trembling voices,

Pastor Chris



UPCOMING EVENT:

Hotdog Roast & Hike | Thursday, June 15 at 5 p.m.

Join us for an evening starting with a hotdog supper at Marine Stuga Firepit followed by a hike to Beaver Pond at William O'Brien State Park. Bring your friends to the hotdog supper gathering at the Marine Stuga Firepit at 18000 Saint Croix Trail N, a half mile north of Marine on the St. Croix on the left. A hike directly from there to the Beaver Pond will begin about 6 p.m. Questions? Please contact Joan Fogelberg at joan@123m.com.

GLOW/AWE (God Loving Outdoor Women) and (Awesome Women's Events) is a partnership committed to providing women of all ages and abilities, opportunities to experience God's creation through adventure, learning, sharing ideas, and developing friendships. All are welcome to share in the joy of community and faith. Read more about GLOW/AWE at: <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/glow-awe/>

Thanks to all who helped make it happen and those who participated in Trinity's annual Women's Talk & Tea on May 13.



TIME FORE GOLF! Retired Men's Golf Thursdays, tee time 10 am at Applewood Golf Course

We have four tee times starting at 10 a.m. which is enough for 16 golfers. All golfers welcome (not for men only and you do not need to be retired)! If interested please contact Gene Kelm at 651-439-1374.



Community Foot Care Clinic Thursday, June 29 9 am-4 pm at Trinity | \$30

Trinity is pleased to be the location for the Community Foot Care Clinic hosted by the St. Croix Valley Faith Community Nurse Program in association with the Lakeview Foundation.

Register for a one-hour appointment with a Certified Foot Care Registered Nurse. Limited appointments available. Click on "Select a time" to schedule. Registration and payment of \$30 must be completed online at: <https://www.healthpartners.com/about/classes-events/> (type "foot" under name of event).

Trinity Financial Update

April Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2023

	This Year	Last Year	'23 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	816,989	808,398	1,361,300	60%
Other Income	622,166	272,596	406,800	153%
Total Income	\$ 1,439,154	\$ 1,080,994	\$ 1,768,100	
less: Expenses	1,541,104	1,154,501	1,767,570	87%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (101,950)	\$ (73,507)	\$ 530	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,136,046	3,252,465
Increase (Decrease)	(414,904)	(77,148)
Long-Term Debt - End of April	\$ 2,721,142	\$ 3,175,316
Line of Credit Balance - April 30	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000

Financial Notes April 2023

Contribution Income for the fiscal year through April YTD is \$9K ahead of last fiscal year. Contribution Income for the month of April was \$112K, \$14K more than April 2022. Total Income YTD is \$12K less than this time last year. 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. A number of our members who pledge did not complete their pledge for CY 2022, representing a contribution income shortfall of over \$75K. Economic and stock market worries continue to be a factor affecting this result. Program Registrations, Fees & Payments and Building Rental Income are up a combined \$28K YTD vs. last year, as we continue to experience increased levels of activity in our building and programming this year. Overall, YTD Operating Expenses are \$65K higher than YTD April 2022 but, are exactly in line with the approved budget for FY2023. Personnel Expense, \$34K higher, and Operations, \$28K higher, (TrinityFEST/Social Justice/History Books, Snow Removal and preventive HVAC maintenance) and Worship, \$7K higher, account for the majority of that increase. Some of these expenses are offset by increases in Restricted Income and/or Fees & Payments. YTD our Contribution Income continues to lag behind last year and budget. Thus, we are carrying a balance in our Line of Credit of \$90K, which is the same balance of \$90K last year at this time.

Your Giving Really Matters

Friends,
With a successful comprehensive campaign underway, it's easy to overlook the most critical part of our shared financial wellbeing: stewardship giving and the general operating fund. This remains our financial priority, even as the comprehensive campaign has given us space to dream.

We continue to be grateful for your ongoing generosity and faithfulness. The staff works hard to control expenses and have stayed successfully within the budget. However, we find ourselves in a deficit this year. The best solution is for us all to stay up to date on our pledges or giving plans! Your giving really matters.

Here is some of what your regular giving has recently accomplished:

- 58 kids registered for Grades 6/7/8 Confirmation
- Professional Instrumentalists and guest soloists for Good Friday, Easter, Christmas Eve, Trinity Christmas Concert, and Reformation Sunday
- Livestream worship is now central to our mission with a large number of members and friends choosing this worship style. You made all this possible: licensing, copyright, and streaming costs.
- Through ongoing AV upgrades, in addition to worship, we can offer high-quality concert events that partner with community, schools and arts groups.
- Countless children and families benefited from Trinity's newest worship space addition. Adjacent to the Worship Center, the Calm Lounge is a welcoming place to nurse, change a diaper, or take a deep breath, while allowing parents to stay connected with worship.
- Over 20 volunteers from the congregation gave of their time and talents to offer a variety of Wednesday evening experiences to our elementary-aged youth (woodworking, book club, creative writing, calligraphy, yoga, cross-stitching, and more)!
- 15 Guest Speakers on a range of relevant and interesting topics for Sunday Faith Forum with average attendance of 50
- 2,000 meals served for all-ages Dinner Church
- 28 new members joined in 2022
- Quilters made and distributed 72 quilts to Lutheran World Relief and Bundles of Love.
- Countless calls made and cards sent from our Caring Friends to senior members. We have 32 Caring Friends serving 283 seniors.
- 96 birthday roses were delivered to our seniors (at age 80, 85 and 90+)

Your giving matters in the life of someone every single day!

If you want to check your statement, switch to automated giving, or add a pledge—please sign into your account online at: <https://www.shelbygiving.com/app/giving/trinitylc>

If you prefer, email Eric Trosdahl, our Financial Secretary at etrosdahl@trinitylc.org.

With deep gratitude,

Noah Schumacher,
Stewardship Team Chair
Pastor Chris Bellefeuille

<https://trinitylc.org/giving/>



Welcome Sarah Kinsman

Hello! My name is Sarah Kinsman. I am excited to join the staff here at Trinity Lutheran as your new Parish Administrator. I have worked in church and parish management for almost 15 years. It is a blessing and privilege to use my gifts and talents to "reach out to others in charity and compassion."

I recently moved to Hudson, Wisconsin from Rochester, Minnesota where I lived for 25 years. I am married to Sam, and a recent empty nester. My four adult children all live in the area. I enjoy gardening, hiking and all things nature! My favorite thing is spending time with my family.

I look forward to this new journey and meeting you all!

Blessings,
Sarah



Update

Pledges to date: **181**
family units have pledged
\$1,889,329

Campaign Goals

We are very close to our
mid-tier goal!

Aspirational Goal

\$4,045,000 Mortgage
paid off! (mortgage debt
savings of \$214,000
annually)

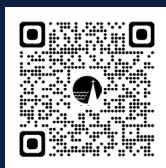
Mid-tier Goal

\$2 million (mortgage
debt savings of \$91,000
annually)

Foundational Goal

\$1.5 million (mortgage
debt savings of \$56,000
annually)

To read more, pledge or
give – scan the QR code with
your smartphone camera or
visit: [https://trinitylc.org/
welcome/comprehensive-
campaign/](https://trinitylc.org/welcome/comprehensive-campaign/)



Three-Year Comprehensive Campaign

Imagine what God can do through us

Friends, our campaign projects are underway! By the time this hits your mailbox, the wood sheathing on the drive-in screen will be down and the concession stand demolished. We are acquiring bids for repairs on the exterior of the Heritage Chapel. And our voting members bore witness at synod assembly as the bishop handed Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota a check for \$1,000,000 to start work on the therapeutic preschool on St. Paul's East Side – 2.5% of our campaign receipts are part of that huge and impactful gift. Thanks be to God!

Trinity's Comprehensive Campaign has generated a strong response from the congregation. As of April 30, 181 pledges have been received, with a total pledged about \$100,000 shy of the \$2 million mid-tier goal. Trinity is blessed to have received this level of support!

The Projected Pledge Allocation Summary below shows how the pledged contributions are to be distributed in accordance with the congregational approval of the campaign.

We are grateful for ALL pledges in ALL amounts, and we look forward to seeing the impact of ALL contributions!

TLC COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN PLEDGE SUMMARY - 4/30/2023

CATEGORY	AMOUNT	PLEDGES
\$100,000 and higher	600,000	2
\$30,000 - \$99,999	395,000	10
\$10,000-\$29,999	498,720	38
\$5,000-\$9,999	228,700	35
Up to \$5,000	166,909	96
<u>TOTALS:</u>	<u>1,889,329</u>	<u>181</u>

PROJECTED PLEDGE ALLOCATION SUMMARY *	AMOUNT	Net of Fees **	% OF TOTAL
A. Mortgage Debt Reduction	1,322,530	1,301,530	70%
B. Deferred Maintenance of Assets (Facilities)	377,866	371,866	20%
C1. Financial Accompaniment: TLC Missions	141,700	139,450	7.5%
C2. Financial Accompaniment: St Paul Area Synod	47,233	46,483	2.5%
<u>TOTALS:</u>	<u>1,889,329</u>	<u>1,859,329</u>	<u>100%</u>

10%

* Assumes all pledges will be received

** Total received to be divided by 70% / 20% / 10% allocations (net of fees)

** Estimated total costs and fees associated with Comprehensive Campaign = \$30,000
(To be applied proportionally to each category)

Racial Justice Ministry Team UPDATE

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."
– John 15:12

With these words, the Saint Paul Area Synod called us into action to be "stewards of justice and beacons of love in a world of hate." Trinity's Racial Justice Ministry Team (whose work began in 2020-2021) responded with a grant application that was accepted and which has been the primary focus of our efforts for this year.

You remember the first phase of our grant work—an educational series entitled: Listen • Understand • Connect. Vance Blackfox, of the Cherokee Nation, led our worship services on Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022. You can watch it again on our YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN3zsLTSVhGI7CNCsZT8OjQPC6sD7TPEk>. He then led two classes, Indian 101 and Indigenous Thought & Theology—both incredibly informative and moving. Finally, Vance led a Blanket Exercise. If you ever see one announced, sign up!

We thought we had invited Vance to come and teach us. He told us that he came to heal us.

At the same time, we hosted *Why Treaties Matter: Self-Government in the Dakota and Ojibwe Nations*, a nationally recognized, award-winning exhibit made in partnership with the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council and the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. Between the information on retractable banners and the videos that could be accessed with a smartphone, there was more information than one could ever get through, let alone absorb. Fortunately, there is a permanent exhibit at the Minnesota State Capital and an even easier way to dig into this wealth of learning. Visit www.treatiesmatter.org to access the online virtual exhibit including all 46 video clips.

For the second part of the grant, we planned to collect stories from Native Americans in the St. Croix Valley and uplift and amplify their voices in a permanent display for the community, but we didn't really know how we were going to do that. Fortunately, the treaty exhibit inspired us to create a similar exhibit of retractable banners that will be available to churches, schools and community groups of all kinds. We're not there yet, there is so much to learn, but the groundwork has been laid and videotaping stories will begin this month. We have many months of work ahead, but we will keep you posted. This is a very exciting project and if you are interested in working with us, please contact team lead Rachel Schmeltzer at rachel.schmeltzer@gmail.com.



Farewell Bob Eiselt

To my friends and members at Trinity, It is with deepest gratitude that I say thank you on behalf of Deb and myself for the wonderful recognition and farewell gestures on Sunday, May 14 at worship and between services. Thank you for all the generous gifts and kind, thoughtful words and messages we received from so many.

It has been both an honor and a privilege to have served as Parish Administrator at Trinity Lutheran Church these past 24 years and I thank all of you for your support, guidance and prayers throughout my time at Trinity. I leave with much gratitude in my heart, and you have my prayers and support as you move forward as the body of Christ.

God's peace to you,

Bob Eiselt
Former Parish Administrator



Thank you to Trinity's voting members Penny Catlin, Kirsten Parker, Scott and Jill Kneeskern, and Doug and Karen Dufty who attended synod assembly in May along with pastors Chris Bellefeuille, Peter Weston Miller and Rich Larson.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

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 4 _____ **Matthew 28:16-20**
 June 11 ____ **Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**
 June 18 _ **Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)**
 June 25 _____ **Matthew 10:24-39**

summer sunday worship

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

Memorial Day weekend
 thru Labor Day weekend



Sundays
 at 8:45 a.m.
 or watch
 the most
 recent
 service now

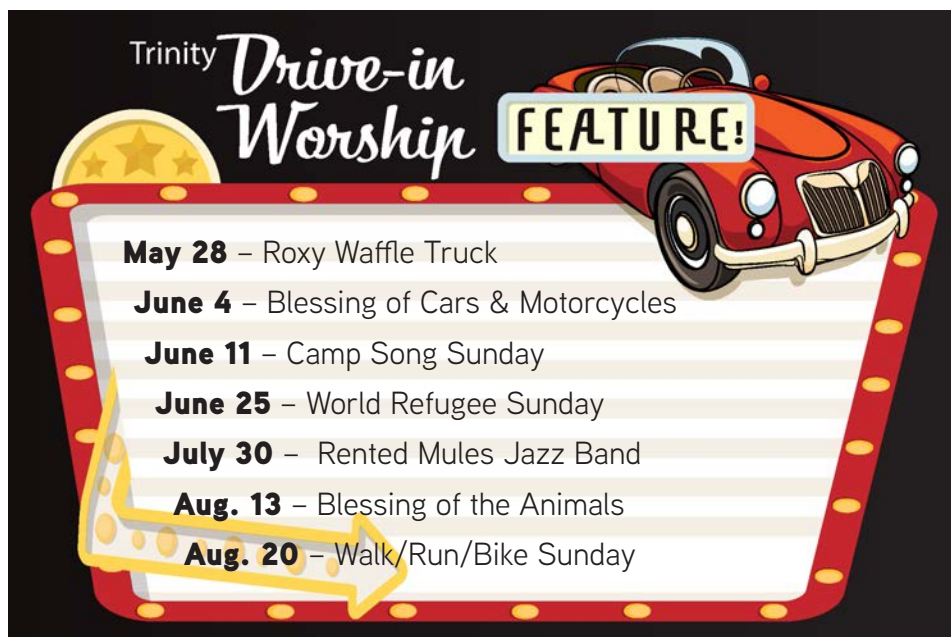
summer sunday worship

Summer schedule goes from Sunday, May 28 (Memorial Day weekend) through Sunday, Sept. 3 (Labor Day weekend).

8:45 a.m. — Indoors in our Worship Center

Indoor worship continues at 8:45 a.m. at Trinity. This service is available online on our website at: <https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/online-worship/> and livestream on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/trinitylcstillwater/>

10 a.m. — Outdoors at the Drive-in, Houlton, WI Worship from your car or lawn chair. Read more at: <https://trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/drive-in-summer-worship/>



Outdoor Sunday Worship

10 a.m. at our Drive-in location in Houlton, WI

Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend

Pile the kids and the family dog into the car and join us for our fun worship service featuring the worship band at the Hilltop Drive-In Theater in Houlton, WI! The Drive-In is east across the Stillwater bridge, less than ten minutes from downtown Stillwater.

Use this address in your map app or GPS: **1433 Main St., Houlton, WI 54082**

You're welcome to stay in your car (the service is broadcast on the radio at 91.9 FM) or you can set up a lawn chair and enjoy the warm sun on your face. Dress is casual (yes, we've even seen some folks in PJs), the service joyful, and the fellowship warm and welcoming.

If drive-in worship is cancelled due to inclement weather, notice is posted on our web site, on Facebook, and email is sent to those who subscribe to our email lists (sign up at: <https://trinitylc.org/e-news/email-subscriptions/>).

Drive-in worship is every Sunday Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend. Please note the following **Special Feature Sundays!**

May 28 – Roxy Waffle Truck

Waffles will be available for purchase before and after the service. Proceeds will go to the High School Puerto Rico Mission Trip.

June 4 – Blessing of Cars & Motorcycles

Whether you've got a mini-van, classic car, convertible, or motorcycle—all modes of transportation will receive a blessing at worship!

June 11 – Camp Song Sunday

June 25 – World Refugee Sunday

Join us in celebrating World Refugee Day which is June 20.

July 30 – Jazz Band Worship with the Rented Mules Jazz Band

Back by popular demand! The Rented Mules Jazz band will have you tapping your toes during worship.

Aug. 13 – Blessing of the Animals

All well-behaved and leashed pets are welcome to receive a special blessing during worship!

Aug. 20 – Walk/Run/Bike Sunday

Walkers, runners, and bikers will meet in the Trinity parking lot and make the 1.5-mile journey over to the drive in. More information to come as we get closer to the date.

Reflections on worship with 29:11 International Exchange on April 30

By Jen Rivera, Trinity Choir

"Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!" – Psalm 66:1

This past fall when members of the Trinity choir received our schedule of upcoming rehearsals and Sunday services, I was particularly interested to see that we would be collaborating with 29:11 International Exchange, a group of musicians visiting from South Africa. Rooted in scripture, specifically the book of Jeremiah chapter 29, verse 11, their message is one of universal humanity and their mission is to facilitate hope and reconciliation through music, cross-cultural relationships, and individual artist development.

Throughout my 62 plus years of singing in choirs, I've experienced many different styles of worship and how fundamental the use of music is in expressing our faith. Music of all types and genres enables us to access deep emotion in profound ways. So, I was excited about the opportunity of worship with 29:11 and suspected we might be in for a real treat. The group arrived at Trinity on April 19 for a pizza lunch with choir members and staff, followed by the Stillwater Junior and Senior High Concert Choirs joining them in the Trinity sanctuary to sing and share time together. To witness and be part of the exuberant energy of these assembled young people was an amazing experience. After rehearsing with 29:11 that evening we left energized and excited for the coming weekend.

In Nehemiah 8:10 we're told that "The joy of the Lord is your strength." I have experienced joy in many different ways throughout my life



and have come to realize that joy is more than just an expression of God's goodness. It is a deep-rooted, inspired happiness that is more than simply an emotional reaction to circumstances. I believe that the purest form of joy comes to us in ordinary moments that can happen any place where gratitude is alive and that joy is a determined choice to praise God in every situation.

Through the grace of God and the witness of this remarkable group of people I experienced a joy deeper and more profound than I could ever have imagined. If you weren't able to participate in these services, both of them are available for viewing on our YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLN3zsLTSVhGI7CNCsZt8OjQPC6sD7TPEk> (look for April 30).

More information about 29:11 is on their Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=29%3A11> or at <https://www.2911intl.org/>

Make a joyful shout to God, all the earth!



Devotional: The Hard Work of Healing

by Kristie Anderson, Trinity Member

"And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands!" – Isaiah 55:12

This favorite Bible verse carries me through all the tree seasons, thankful for the beauty of spring and fall, the abundance of summer, and the sturdy solitude of winter.

Through YogaDevotion recently, I added this second tree verse to my list: and the leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations.
– Revelation 22:2b

This fits me well because I live in view of the St. Croix River and my neighbors across the way are Wisconsinites! The symbolism of the river being a possible dividing line, with Wisconsin being another nation, leads me to think of all the "trees" everywhere working to heal nations. Nations might be different ethnicities or races or states or family members or even political parties. I believe God desires and rejoices over any attempts of reconciliation and restored relationships. And the trees are clapping their hands when we do the hard work of healing.

Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton recently announced, "Knowing and embracing the truth is the first step toward healing for all of us."

We are in the pursuit of historic truth: to be uncovered, to be taught in schools, to be read in books.

Pursuing truth is hard work. To read of our nation's past, to be horrified by actions of many of our ancestors, to accept it as truth, to acknowledge the need to repent, and to change our behavior and our biases, is all hard, essential work.

In the ABIDE Readers book group (everyone is welcome, anytime!), we recently read *White Birch, Red Hawthorn* by Nora Murphy. In this memoir of her journey to uncover truths about her Minnesota and Irish roots, the author titled each chapter with a particular tree or growing plant important to that step in her story.

Revisiting truths such as the need for Indigenous Peoples' Day, a re-thinking about Thanksgiving, and debunking Paul Bunyan and Laura Ingalls Wilder myths. Uncovering truths such as the extreme violation of treaties by our ancestors, the stripping away of resources, the shrinking of sacred space where revered wild rice and sugar maples flourished.

It's hard reading. It's hard to absorb. It's hard to move forward. But think then, of our Indigenous neighbors right here right now who still carry these hardships in their bodies, in their psyche, in their daily lives.

And we can do the hard work of the healing of the nations.

With all of this heavy on my heart, I look for hope. These are healing changes worth celebrating:

1. Renovated Fort Snelling and the Minnesota History Center as agents of truth-telling.
2. Our current Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, a Native American of the Pueblo of Laguna.
3. Our state's Lt. Governor, Peggy Flanagan, a citizen of the White Earth Nation.
4. Sean Sherman known as "the Sioux Chef" is the highly acclaimed chef of Minneapolis restaurant, Owamni, whose mission is to use Indigenous foods as a way of healing from the damaging influence of colonialism.
5. Trinity's own land acknowledgment.
6. An Indigenous Brazilian woman, Alessandra Korap Munduruku, was awarded the Goldman Prize in April 2023 for her grassroots activism. She led the successful protest to protect her people's territory in the Amazon rainforest. She confronted a huge mining company, Anglo American, which then withdrew 27 research mining applications from Indigenous land!
7. The birds are singing, the trees and trails await. Nature welcomes us with its healing power!

All are avenues of hope, truth-telling, and the beginning of reconciliation, while at the same time, we also acknowledge there's so much more to be done.

But we still celebrate! We still clap our hands!

I'm ending with a passage from another ABIDE Readers book selection, *CASTE* by Isabel Wilkerson (page 349). It's a retelling of a time recently in Germany when a historian of Nazi Germany was talking with a group of young adult students from Germany.

He asked the students, "Do you feel guilty?"

After meeting separately to discuss this, the students responded, "Yes, we are Germans, and Germans perpetrated this...it is the older Germans who were here who should feel guilt. We were not here. We ourselves did not do this. But we do feel that, as the younger generation, we should acknowledge and accept the responsibility. And for the generations that come after us, we should be the guardians of the truth."

Back to truth-seeking.

Back to truth-telling.

Back to healing of the nations.

Back to leaves clapping their hands.

And back to a long-desired walk in the woods!

Last
Sunday
Supper



Last Sunday Supper Sunday, June 25 at 5 pm

Last Sunday Supper is back! Please come and join us. Served next door at Ascension Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall, Last Sunday Supper is a FREE, delicious, home-cooked community dinner for people of all ages who live in the St. Croix Valley area. Everyone is invited! Please help this tradition to continue, join in fellowship. Last Sunday Supper is provided as a partnership between three local faith communities: Ascension Episcopal Church, First Presbyterian Church and Trinity Lutheran Church. To volunteer, please contact Josh Longnecker at 651-263-6803.

THE OUTREACH MISSIONS TEAM IS ON **FIRE!**



The Missions Team is fired up.

What lit the fire?

- During a day-long April retreat facilitated by Jodi Thone, the team brainstormed dozens of ideas on how we, and the Trinity community, can make a greater impact locally, nationally and internationally. We are actively working on a road map for moving forward.
- On Imagination Sunday in April, more than 50 suggestions from the congregation gave the team a sense of what's important and where we should put our energies. Every idea is being examined and weighed.
- Knowing we are an integral component of the current capital campaign provides us with the resources to think bigger and reach further.
- And the Outreach Missions Team has an all-star cast, each member ready to roll up his or her sleeves—even further—and go to work.

Looking back over the past year we're able to reflect on new strides, connections and initiatives made, including:

GLOBAL MISSIONS: The groundwork was laid for two upcoming mission trips. Thirty-one Trinity members will be heading to Puerto Rico June 24–July 1 to build structures and relationships. In October, a dozen members of the Trinity community will head to Tanzania for two weeks to reenergize old relationships and forge new ones. If you're interested in going, contact Michele Hermansen at michele2255@gmail.com.

HOUSING: Trinity played an integral part in building and financing one of the Tiny Homes at the Prince of Peace Tiny Home Community in Roseville. The team continues to work alongside the Washington County Emergency Housing Project to establish a permanent emergency shelter in the St. Croix Valley. For more information on this, contact Sandy Wendt at sjwendt46@gmail.com.

REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT: With financial and moral support from the Outreach Missions team and Trinity community, a coalition of Trinity, Ascension, Boutwells' Social Justice team and the Eastern Twin Cities Islamic Center helped the Sadat family and others establish their new homes in Minnesota. For more information, contact Spike Carlsen at carlsen@usinternet.com.

FOOD: The Outreach Missions Team continues to take an active role in donating food and time to Valley Outreach, Community Thread and other organizations. Remember, there are always bins by the front door eagerly awaiting food donations.

LOCAL MISSIONS: In September over two dozen members of Trinity put their time and talents to work, tackling 10 projects during "God's Work. Our Hands." week, helping those in need locally. For more information on future events, contact Glenda Bjorum at bjorumsing@aol.com.

And so much more! The missions team is always open to ideas—big and small—and volunteers from the Trinity Community. Please join us in making the upcoming year (and beyond) one of giving, accompaniment and joy.

MISSIONS *notes*

Jill Longnecker was the winner of the quilt. This fundraiser brought in \$1,000 for the Outreach Missions general fund.



Quilt note cards are now on sale! These beautiful note cards feature quilts made by Trinity's Quilting Ministry Team. Cards come in bundles of 7 for \$10 with 100% of funds raised going to Outreach Missions general fund. To purchase please contact Marie Liberda at mbvgro@gmail.com.



OUTREACH MISSIONS TEAM: Marie Liberda, Arlyce Melheim, Lynae Olson, Michael Johnson, Michelle Hermansen, Mike Karlsrud, Renae Oswald-Anderson, Spike Carlsen and Sandy Wendt



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.

In addition, the scholarship fund also received a gift from the estate of Norma Swanson, a retired teacher and another dear, departed, long-time member.

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

The 2023 recipient of the Trinity Lutheran Scholarship from this year's graduating class is:

• Katelyn Elizabeth Stack

Congratulations, Katelyn!

In addition, ten renewal scholarships will be awarded to active student recipients for the 2023-2024 academic year.

Since its inception in 2000, we have awarded \$312,000 in scholarships to 91 students from Trinity!

CLASS OF 2023

High School Senior Blessing & Recognition

On Sunday, May 7 we joined together as a faith community to celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2023. God's blessings to our youth for a future full of promise and hope!

Class of 2023 High School Seniors

Tomas Anderson
Elizabeth Andrews
Erica Bartkey
Anna Benson
Alix Bertz
Tom Blair
Mario Bredholt
Ellie Burg
Jim Cassell
Johan Cernohous
Nick Chapman
Sophia Chau
Maura Christiansen
Cambrie Cole
Maxwell Cronk
Tommy Dahl
Sarah Doeksen
Alec Elwell
Madeline Fultz
Ellie Gabriel
Heather Gaikowski
Charlie Gleason
Connor Gorman
Lily Goulette
Zach Gray
Abbie Greene
Tayah Halleland
Maya Hanlon
Sam Hoff
Bray Houge

Keira Jelinek
Gretta Kennedy
Maylin Kennedy
Lauren Klancher
Blake Klemenhausen
Anna Kneeskern
Gabby Knowlan
Tori Liljegren
Avery Lorinser
Liam McClellan
Amanda McKellips
Eli Miller
Colin Moosai
Alexandra Mueller
Cadance Nyblom
Elsa Olson
Maya Parkin
Isaac Rowe
Lucy Sainsbury
Evan Schuna
Katelyn Stack
Bronn Stebbins
Ryan Stober
Ruby Suro
Caleb Terwey
Alexa Thompson
Cruz Topper
Jackson Tweed
Mac Wolden
Anika Wright



Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Monday, June 19 – Thursday, June 22

6:30 - 8:00 pm | Ages 4 - 9 | \$40 per child

Trinity's Green Space (Gym as weather backup)

Our theme this year is Operation Restoration: Mending God's World! Join us this summer to explore the Bible and discover new ways to care for God's creation and for one another. Everyone, even the youngest among us, have been given the power to heal, forgive, pray and rest—essential tools to join God in mending what's broken. At Operation Restoration, children learn more about their mending powers and practice being universe menders!

For more information and to register, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or visit: <https://trinitystillwatermn.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/f97f08a4-dace-4d0b-bab1-21039c1b907a>



MEET & PLAY

for families with young children

Wednesday, June 14 | Come anytime between 4-7 pm

Teddy Bear Park in Stillwater | corner of S 2nd St. & Nelson St.

Trinity families with young children, let's get together to meet and play! Join Sarah Olson, Children & Family Faith Formation Coordinator, at Teddy Bear Park. The building on site is reserved for light refreshments and a break from the elements. If you aren't already, please follow "Trinity Stillwater CYF" on Facebook for any last-minute, weather-related updates. See you there!

Sarah Olson

Children & Family Faith Formation Coordinator
solson@trinitylc.org



children & family FAITH FORMATION NOTES

Check out the new pop-up Grace Space at Drive-in Worship!

While weekly Faith Formation might be over for the season, the joy of worshipping as a family continues with our casual and lively drive-in option at 10 a.m. in Houlton, WI. Grace Spaces are inclusive spots during worship for children (and anyone else!) to play and be included in worship comfortably.

Program Year Debrief

Sarah Olson is seeking parents of children birth to Grade 5 to help debrief the 2022-2023 program year. Please contact Sarah at solson@trinitylc.org for the link to sign up for an in-person, 30-minute slot. Thank you!

Summer Camp Update

Though Trinity's Seeds weekend July 14-16 and our Youth week-long Aug. 13-18 camps are full, please register to get on the waitlist in the event space becomes available at camp. And, be sure to join us at drive-in worship on Sundays, July 9 and Aug. 13 for a special sending of the campers prayer during worship!

Thanks to all who participated in making Emergency Kits for families to keep in their cars and distribute to people in need. A great service project on Sunday, May 21 to wrap up our program year with love for our neighbor!



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

CORE VALUES

Engaging Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Faith Formation
Compassionate Action

Read our welcome statement at: <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/mission/>



BAPTISMS

- **Calvin Lewis Weyrauch**, son of Lily Lancaster & Clark Weyrauch
- **Sophia Anne MacSwain**, daughter of Daniel & Kara MacSwain
- **Rosie Elizabeth Neumann**, daughter of Ryan & Emily Neumann

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To family and friends of **Merilyn Cummings-Kirby**
- To family and friends of **Sylvia Berg**

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open the following hours or by appointment.
Monday–Thursday | 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

WORSHIP ON TV

Watch Sunday Worship on local channel 14 through Valley Access
Sunday at 11 a.m. (week delay)
Sunday at 7 p.m.
Monday at 7 a.m. & 1 p.m.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, April 23

In-person 8:45 am _____ 194
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 83
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 148
In-person 11 am _____ 114
Live online views 11 am _____ 40
Online views/week 11 am _____ 70

Sunday, April 30

In-person 8:45 am _____ 185
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 79
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 156
In-person 11 am _____ 165
Live online views 11 am _____ 40
Online views/week 11 am _____ 58

Sunday, May 7

In-person 8:45 am _____ 220
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 85
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 219
In-person 11 am _____ 128
Live online views 11 am _____ 24
Online views/week 11 am _____ 92

Sunday, May 14

In-person 8:45 am _____ 209
Live online views 8:45 am _____ 70
Online views/week 8:45 am _____ 164
In-person 11 am _____ 123
Live online views 11 am _____ 24
Online views/week 11 am _____ 55

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



Anna Circle enjoying dinner out together on a fine evening in May!

trinity TODAY

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Middle School Summer Stretch

A collaboration of all local area churches and presented by the St. Croix Valley Youth Ministerial Association (SCVYMA)

Summer Stretch is back! Let's get out of the house, do some good and have some fun this summer! On the last three Wednesdays in June, middle schoolers from area churches will gather together for a morning service project and an afternoon of fun. This is a great opportunity to invite friends!

Please note that registration closes Friday, June 2. Drop off and pick up for all events are at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater.

June 14 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Service project in morning
Bring a bag lunch
Trollhaugen High Ropes in afternoon

June 21 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Service project in the morning
We're grilling dogs and burgers for lunch
Como Zoo in afternoon

June 28 | 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.

ValleyFair all day (no service project this day—all fun!) | Plan for lunch on your own at ValleyFair

Cost: \$50 each event (\$150 for all). Cost includes any admission fees and bus transportation.

Questions? Contact Monty Lysne at mlysne@trinitylc.org. For more information and to register, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera or visit: <https://trinitystillwatermn.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/19d7ac54-d5b9-4a4c-bf49-256fbfde4d34>

