



TIDINGS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WATERTOWN, MINNESOTA



AUGUST 2024



INSIDE:

- Sunday School Registration
- Duluth Mission Trip Recap
- Pastoral Acts / Memorials
- Council Meeting Highlights
- Missionaries Visit Trinity
- Summer in Pictures

Worship
Sundays 9:00 am
Onsite & Online

STAFF:

Pastor	Jeffrey M. Engholm
Children's Ministry	Chelsea Farniok
Office Manager	Robyn Behrens
Financial Secretary	Gail Cassidy
Financial Administrator	Mary Jech

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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 Watertown, MN 55388
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Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00 am - Noon



The Face of Grace

All summer long we've been looking at the "Face of Grace" during worship. Through our readings, prayers, music, and message, we've been seeing what the face of Jesus looks like when he's healing, when he's preaching, and when he's teaching about the love of God.

Of course, the deeper question is this: What does YOUR "Face of Grace" look like in your

daily interactions? We can certainly see the Face of Grace in Jesus, but since each one of us reflects the face of Christ, people see the Face of Grace in our expressions as well. I know, it seems like a daunting task to think that WE reflect CHRIST in our daily lives, but that's exactly what we do. In fact, that's why we're called "Christians" – we are "Little Christs" that reflect the presence of God to those around us. So with that in mind, with your very own "Face of Grace"... SHINE ON!

~ God's Peace, Pastor Engholm

What's Happening AT TRINITY LUTHERAN?



Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 8

Children ages 3 years old through 5th grade are invited to join us this school year! Sunday School begins at 10:00 am, just after our church service. Children will be placed in a Sunday School classroom by age. (Preschool, Kindergarten-1st Grade, 2nd-3rd Grade, 4th-5th Grade). In each lesson, they'll hear the featured Bible Story, watch a short learning video, explaining the Bible Story in modern, easy-to-understand language, explore the Big Idea with a game or activity, and sing songs of praise.

Register online at
www.trin.org/sundayschool

Interested in Helping with Sunday School?



Our Sunday School lessons are led by a rotation of wonderful parent volunteers. Each group has a lead volunteer and a helper for the week. We can always use more volunteers, so if you're interested in helping out, please reach out to our Children's Ministry Coordinator, Chelsea Farniok at cfarniok@trin.org.



The OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Fellowship Group will begin meeting regularly again in September, but until then, we invite you – and all members of Trinity's congregation – to take part in two special projects:

Share a Trinity Story

Write down a story, memory, or reflection of your experiences at Trinity Lutheran Church over the years. Whether it's a special memory, a meaningful lesson, or a funny story that happened at church, we would love to hear from you! You can share your memories by emailing them to trinityoffice@trin.org or by writing them down on a Trinity Memories note found at the Welcome Center and dropping it off in the church office. We look forward to hearing your stories!

School Supply Drive

We are collecting school supplies to donate to Watertown-Mayer Elementary School teachers. A list of most needed supplies is available at the Trinity Welcome Center. Drop off your donations to the church office anytime before September 18. If you would like to donate financially, please write a check to Trinity Lutheran Church with "School Supplies" in the memo. Thank you for all of your generous support.

Teddy Bear Ministry

The Teddy Bear Ministry's purpose is to show God's love for those who are hurting through the loving gift of a soft, cuddly teddy bear. Trinity has Teddy Bears available for members to share with those who are going through especially difficult, even traumatic, situations. Bears can be given to all ages — to anyone who might be in need of a special "bear hug" during a difficult time. Request a Teddy Bear to give to someone who needs it today by contacting Cindy Essen at 612-816-3823 or email cessen@citlink.net.





Duluth Mission Trip was a Meaningful Experience for Trinity Youth

Rachel Blacketter and Sara Stutsman recently led a mission trip to Duluth with 11 students, organized through Serve Boldly, a ministry of Green Lake Lutheran Ministries. This trip provided the youth with an opportunity to serve their neighbors and deepen their understanding of God’s presence in their lives.

The group stayed at First Lutheran Church with about 50 people from three other church groups. They slept in a large room on sleeping bags, cots, and blow-up mattresses. The daily schedule was packed with activities, beginning with a 6:30 am wake-up. After breakfast and making bag lunches, the group held devotions before heading out for their first service project, followed by lunch and a second service project. Evenings included showers at the YMCA, dinner, a field trip, worship, church group time, and lights out at 10:30 pm.

The students participated in various service projects around Duluth. At Union Gospel Mission, they served food to the homeless, organized pantry items, and distributed donated clothing. They also built raised garden beds for a community garden, packaged rice at Second Harvest, picked up trash at Canal Park, made fleece blankets for Lutheran Social Services, and prepared food for the Rhubarb Festival, which supports CHUM, an organization whose programs serve more than 8,000 low-income, homeless, hungry, isolated, or otherwise marginalized community members in Duluth each year. Their favorite project was serving meals and distributing food and clothing at Union Gospel Mission, where they witnessed the direct impact of their efforts.

In addition to service projects, the group enjoyed trips to local attractions such as a Duluth Huskies game, Enger Tower, Glensheen Mansion, Agate Beach, Gooseberry Falls, and Burlington Bay Beach, where they held a Holden Evening Prayer service on the cliffside.

The trip was a meaningful experience for all involved, with the youth bringing home cherished memories. The leaders are proud of the students for dedicating a week to serving others and plan to continue mission trips in the future. They are grateful for the prayers and support from the Trinity congregation.



Congregational NEWS

PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERAL

Megan (Johnson) Zucaro
July 11, 1970 ~ June 23, 2024
Memorial Service June 11, 2024

WEDDING

Allison (Kuntz) & Ryan Vierling
United in marriage on
June 28, 2024

MEMORIALS

in memory of

Harry Engholm
\$340 ~ A/V Update



Trinity's Heavenly Housekeepers meet on the first Thursday of every month at 9:00 am to complete light housekeeping duties around the church to keep it looking great. You are invited to join us anytime! Because housekeeping with a group is much more fun than doing it on your own!

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

July 16, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Fund summary June 2024

Beginning balance 6/1/2024:
-**\$23,761.96**
Operating Fund income: \$37,559.25
Operating Fund exps: \$31,939.56
Net balance (June): \$ 5,619.69

**Operating Fund balance as of
6/30/2024:** -**\$18,142.27**

**2024 operating fund EXPENSES
exceed INCOME by \$17,630.35.**

Building Fund expenses:
Internal loan payment: \$5,000.00

Mortgage loan balance:
\$40,000.00

Cash Summary:
Bremer: \$65,040.98
(includes \$1,654.40 for June federal withholding)

Citizen's Building Fund: \$104,883.03

- Comments:**
- 6% of operating fund income for benevolence to Minneapolis Area synod amounted to \$2,250.00.
 - Xcel bill for fuel and electricity amounted to \$509.86 (down about \$300 from May and includes a credit of \$73.12).

M/S/C Jason Koets / Dave Kind / carried

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Jeff Engholm reported on two great summer activities including VBS and the Youth Mission

Trip to Duluth! Our Missionaries Andrew and Meredith Ronnevik were welcomed at the Golden Agers/ OWLS picnic and shared about their journey in Papua New Guinea. The Mission Cemetery Project is coming along in order to preserve the cemetery and honor the people buried there. Pastor also shared that the Livestreaming Project is moving forward with installation plans moving forward for next month!

NEW BUSINESS

- **Guests Holly Neaton and Susie Larkin from River City Theatre Company** are requesting the use of TLC facility for rehearsal and performances of "A Hometown Christmas." They have not obtained a Director or other musical leaders for the production yet, but envision including children from TLC and possibly the community, along with other community actors. They anticipate that the rehearsals would be for the week or two leading up to the performances, with the performances being the night of the Lucia Tea and the Sunday following.

Motion to approve RCTC using TLC facilities for rehearsal and performances of "Hometown Christmas" pending final approval of conditions.

M/S/C Jason Koets / Nancy Stello / carried

- The Council is working towards their goals set at their annual retreat.



A Visit from Missionaries Andrew & Meredith Ronnevik

Recently, Andrew and Meredith Ronnevik, ELCA missionaries serving in Papua New Guinea, stopped by Trinity for a visit. They shared pictures and stories about their work and experiences as missionaries and even joined in on a sing-along with Trinity's OWLS fellowship group. Below is a short update about their family's life in Papua New Guinea.

Dear family and friends,

Now that our orientation is finished, we are settling into a routine in Lae. Andrew started teaching Lutheran theology at Martin Luther Seminary in April. Despite challenges like frequent power outages and limited resources, the teaching is going well, and students are engaged.

Bea attends morning preschool and enjoys playing with neighborhood girls in the afternoons. She recently turned five. Hans has some one-on-one time with Meredith each morning and recently had his first hospital visit due to a persistent cough. Meredith is learning local skills, like scraping coconuts, and may teach English at the seminary next year.

God's grace and peace,
Meredith, Andrew, Bea, and Hans

Follow Our ELCA Missionaries

If you would like to be added to the list to receive quarterly email updates from Andrew and Meredith Ronnevik, email your request to Meredith at meredith.ronnevik@elca.org.



Love INC Fresh Start Program

Love INC Heartland aims to promote positive, lasting life transformation. Their Fresh Start Program encourages independence by helping people gain valuable life skills and see their self-worth. Volunteers from the partnership of local churches provide community meals, lead classes, and mentor participants. Love INC relies on donations to sponsor families in the Fresh Start Program.

The Fresh Start Program Impact (as of June 30, 2024)



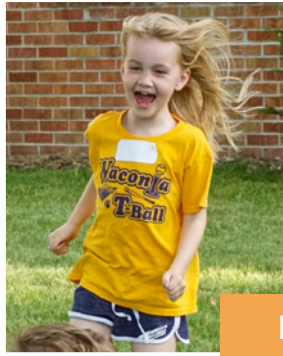
Trinity supports the Fresh Start Program by donating personal care items to be given to families in need. You can also volunteer in other ways. [Learn more about the Love INC Fresh Start Program at loveinheartland.org.](https://loveinheartland.org)

Have You Remembered Trinity in Your Will?

Some people are able to continue to give to Trinity in death, as well as in life. Giving through your will helps to continue the 160-year tradition of ministry and mission at Trinity, continuing the legacy of your witness. With the advice of your attorney or tax adviser, the following language may be added to your will, trust, or codicil:
"I bequeath X% of my estate to Trinity Lutheran Church, 513 Madison Street SE, Watertown, MN 55388."

Thank you for considering a lasting gift to Trinity Lutheran Church!

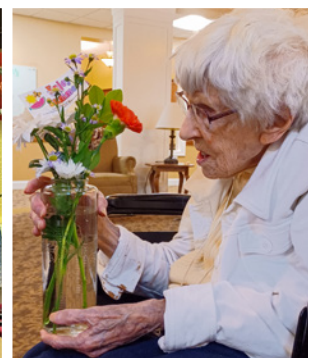
➤➤➤ This Summer in Pictures



Fun was had by all at Vacation Bible School!



Trinity Youth Group at Valleyfair



Trinity's Sunshine Ministry Summer Delivery

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Housekeepers 9 am	2 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kaia Hembroff	3 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Diane Hayes Julie Severson
4 Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Mary Berhow Steve Boylan	5 AA Meeting 8 pm	6 Quilters 9 am	7 Prayer 12:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Karen Rowan Jeana Salzsiedler	8 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jody Christensen Emma Flannery Justin Kind Tim Thompson	9 Stella Halvorson Memorial Service 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Nicole Danielson Tierney Nichols	10 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Gary Alvig Nathan Behrens
11 Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Allison Lague	12 AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kyle Horsman George Huber	13 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Samantha Danielson Emma Hallermann Anna Phearman	14 Prayer 12:30 pm	15 Finance Committee 6:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Chad Matuska	16 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jackson Dalbey Samantha Dalluge Eleanor Mewaldt	17
18 Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Angi Delaney Bob Lohmann Karson Tufte	19 AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Lukas Gilbert Lindsay Guetzkow Lily McMahon Marvin Nelson	20 Quilters 9 am Church Council Mtg. 6:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Nathan Baluski Jim Morrow	21 Prayer 12:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Wesley Gruette Sara Hallermann	22 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kiersten Koets	23 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Finley Erickson Jackson Lague Lorna Lambrecht	24 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kristie Nelson Brittany Olson Kendall Prigge Sara Stutsman
25 Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Chris Behrens Kelly Hirsch	26 AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Colton Bauernfeind Brent Graff Ben Leaf	27 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jack Hallermann Piper Thompson	28 Prayer 12:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Mark Bender Jimmy Gilles Cory Mittness	29 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kylie Jerde Todd Johnson	30	31 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ethan Danielson Carter Erickson

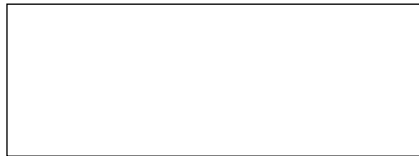


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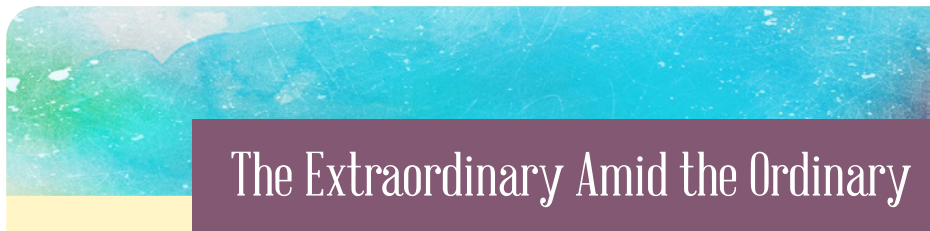


SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES FROM TRINITY

Stay up to date with what's going on at Trinity Lutheran Church. Sign up for email updates to receive eNewsletters and other church-wide announcements. Subscribe to Email Updates on our website www.trin.org.



Facebook/Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) Watertown MN



The Extraordinary Amid the Ordinary

A violinist once performed in the New York City subway, entertaining passersby for 45 minutes. A few tossed him cash, totaling about \$30 by the time he concluded. Little did anyone know, Joshua Bell was one of the world's best violinists. That day, he played one of the most complex musical pieces ever written on an instrument worth \$3.5 million. Indeed, a few days earlier Bell had performed a sold-out concert in Boston, where tickets averaged \$100.

Sometimes God does extraordinary things right in the middle of our ordinary lives, yet we don't notice. You're offered an opportunity you almost pass up, thinking it's not worth your time or effort. But upon taking part, you find it leads to your life's calling. Or someone crosses your path, but overlooking their worth, you brush them aside, missing out on a blessing God had for you through them.

And what about you? Do you undervalue yourself as "nothing special," just an "ordinary" person? Look closer; think again. For an ordinary baby born long ago to an ordinary couple in an ordinary stable in an ordinary town was none other than ... God's Son! And you? Why, you are also an extraordinary child of God!