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Trinity Lutheran Church

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Pastor's Letter

Trinity Staff

Pastor	Rev. Ken Johnson
Outreach Pastor	Rev. Jake Lehman
Organist/Director of Music	Nathan Mattson
Director of Family & Youth Ministry	Heidi Albertson
Office Administrator	Katie Grubaugh
Hospitality Host	Margaret Stevenson
Bookkeeper	Terri Schmidt
Custodian	Bob Koenes

Church Council

President	Julie Peterson
Secretary	Holly Wohlfert
Treasurer	Christina Adams
Financial Secretary	Jerry Molitor
Christian Education	Ashley Wineland & Sally Morris
Congregational Life	Paula Sportel & Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino
Facilities	Max Wineland
Service Ministry	Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace
Stewardship & Finance	Steve Morris & Steve Bittner
Worship & Music	Jennifer Gatz

Trinity's Sunday Schedule:

***Worship with Holy Communion
at 8:30 and 11:00am***

Choir at 9:25 in choir loft

Children's Sunday School classes 9:45

Confirmation 9:45

Youth Sunday School 9:45

Adult Bible Study 9:45

October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>6 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:25 Sunday School classes 9:45 Parent small group 10 Pastries with Pastors 12-1 Middle School Youth 12:15-2 VASA 1-5 EMM Concert 4</p>	<p>7 Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>1 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p>	<p>2 Men's Bible Study 7am</p>	<p>3 P.E.O. 10-3</p>	<p>4 EMM rehearsal 8-12</p>	<p>5 Church Work Day 10am - 2pm</p>
<p>13 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:25 Sunday School classes 9:45 Infant/Toddler small group 10 Church Council 12:15 High School Youth 12:15-2 Sons of Morw ay 2-5</p>	<p>14 C.F.T. 6pm Sacred Harp 7-8:30</p>	<p>15 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p>	<p>16 Men's Bible Study 7am</p>	<p>17 Meetin of the Men 5-6:30</p>	<p>18 Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>	<p>19 Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>
<p>20 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Sunday School classes 9:45 Parent small group 10 Family Ministry 12:30-2 Open Doors 5-8</p>	<p>21 C.F.T. 11am</p>	<p>22 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p>	<p>23 Rebecca Circle 10am</p>	<p>24 Quilters 9am</p>	<p>25 Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>	<p>26 Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>
<p>27 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:25 Sunday School classes 9:45 Reformation Sunday Celebration Infant/Toddler small group 10 Sabatical Presentation 12</p>	<p>28 Sacred Harp 7-8:30</p>	<p>29 Clothes Closet Winter Gear Giveaway 10-2</p>	<p>30 Men's Bible Study 7am Trunk or Treat 6-7:30</p>	<p>31 Please remember that articles for the Newsletters are due by the 16th of each month; articles for the Sunday bulletins are due one week in advance, by end of day Sunday.</p>		

Youth Ministry

For all youth in grades 6th-12th

HAPPY OCTOBER!

October is always a fun time of year. The weather is getting cooler, fall sports and activities are in full swing, and we get free candy at the end of the month!! Plus we have some fun stuff planned for youth group. 😊 ~Heidi

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING

October 6th from 12:15pm-2pm Youth room
Our middle school youth are invited to join us after the 2nd service for lunch and some fun and games. What are we playing, you ask?? You'll just have to come and find out! Sign up if you are able to join us.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MEETING

October 13th from 12:15pm-2pm Youth room
Our high school youth will meet after the 2nd service for some lunch and fun times. Curious what we'll be doing? Come join us to find out. Sign up if you are able to come.

YOUTH GROUP HALLOWEEN AT HARVEST MOON ACRES

Saturday, October 19th from 6pm-9pm



You asked and you shall receive!
Because it's fall and both our middle and high school youth like to have fun, we

are squeezing in an extra event. Join us at Harvest Moon Acres for a hay ride, corn maze, campfire, plus more! The cost is \$10 per person. Friends are welcome to join. Parents are welcome, too. Sign up to join us by Wednesday, Oct. 16th. *Dinner not provided. **Dates are subject to change depending on availability.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

This school year, our middle school youth will have Confirmation classes with Pastor Jake in the Confirmation room on the 3rd floor. Our high schoolers will have Sunday school with Mr. Grubaugh in the Youth room. Both classes will run from 9:45am-10:45am. Be there or be square, dudes! 😊

YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER—T-SHIRTS!!

This past spring, our youth group designed and sold t-shirts and sweatshirts. A bunch of church members ordered and paid for them. Because it was cheaper to order more than the exact amount needed, we have a lot extra. For the **first two Sundays of October**, we will be selling our shirts and sweatshirts to you and other church members. We will make a total profit off of these shirts, so come help us make some money for our youth group!!



CHARGE!!!

Our big youth group retreat for middle and high school youth will be **Friday, Nov. 8th-Sunday, Nov. 10th at Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City**. If you are coming with us, you should have your money turned in by now. However, if you haven't yet, please do so ASAP. Bring in \$50 in cash or check (made out to Trinity, memo: youth fund) 😊



****To sign up for events, please sign up on our event pages on our Facebook**



FAMILY MINISTRY

All families with children infant through 5th grade are welcome to join us!

We Are the Work of Your Hand: Working with Clay

Sunday, October 20th from 12:30pm-2pm

Join us this Sunday afternoon for some yummy lunch and a chance to get your hands dirty! We'll play a couple of games and then get to work making and decorating clay pots. *If you want, plan on bringing a change of clothes or a t-shirt to throw over your church clothes. To sign up, please visit our event page on our Facebook page (TLC Family Ministry) or email me (hmfuerst@aol.com).

Please sign up by Friday, October 18th. See you then!



Sunday Morning opportunities coming in October:

Our Infant & Toddler Small Group and our Parent Small Group sessions will begin again in October. Mark the dates on your calendar. We hope to see you there!

Parent Small Group: All parents are invited to hang out together, discuss the joys & concerns of raising faith-filled children, and how God helps us with the adventure that is parenting.

Dates: Sundays, Oct. 6th and 20th

Time: 10am-10:40am

Place: Family Ministry Rm on the 3rd floor

Infant & Toddler Small Group: All infants and toddlers (along with their parents) are invited to hang out together and enjoy some fun infant/toddler activities, while their parents discuss the craziness of parenting these amazing and unique individuals.

Dates: Sundays, Oct. 13th and 27th

Time: 10am-10:40am

Place: Family Ministry Rm on the 3rd floor



Coming in November...

Family Ministry Service Project: Making Kid Kits for Samaritas

Sunday, November 17th 12:30pm-2pm

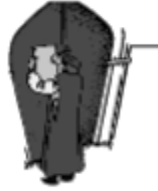
Join us for an afternoon of making special kits for children who are part of Samaritas. This is an organization that works with families to try to keep them together and they also work with foster families. We'll need your help to make 20 Kid Kits, so don't forget to sign up on our Facebook event page. 😊



To get information about Family Ministry activities, please join our Facebook page—TLC Family Ministry. If you're not on Facebook, you can also get info in the weekly church emails (make sure the office has your correct email), Sunday bulletins, the bulletin boards on the 3rd floor and across from the elevator, and Trinity's website. Email Heidi (hmfuerst@aol.com) with any questions.

Worship and Faith Formation

Welcome to another fun, grace-filled year of Sunday School! This past month we've reconnected after summer break and started exploring God's Word together again. If you haven't had a chance to visit the Education Wing, try to find some time to see our newly revamped classrooms and library. The church is growing and we've had to find new spaces to gather! Also, plan to join us as at our annual:



Reformation Sunday Celebration Sunday, October 27 9:45am Second Floor Education Wing

A fun morning celebrating our Lutheran roots with games and crafts. Explore the history of the church and learn about the Reformation—complete with demonstration of a real working printing press!

Please also mark your calendar for all the special days this year. As always, keep our teachers and students in prayer and let us know if you are interested in teaching, subbing, or helping 'shepherd' one of our classes.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 10/27 Reformation Sunday Celebration
- 12/1 No Sunday School – Thanksgiving Break
- 12/22 Christmas Pageant & Luncheon
- 12/29 No Sunday School – Christmas Break

- The Christian Education Team

Sunday School Classes Every Sunday from 9:45-10:45am!

- **Adult Bible Study** will be in the Lounge with Pr. Ken. The class will be based on the writings and teaching of Tyler Staton, "Praying Like Monks, Living Like Fools: A Bible study on learning to pray like Jesus".
- **Confirmation** will begin with Pr. Jake on the second floor of the education wing. Confirmation is for all youth 6th -8th grade!
- **High School Sunday school** will be in the Youth Room with Mr. Grubaugh.
- **Elementary Sunday School** will be for K-5th grade students on the second floor of the Education Wing with Mrs. Wineland.
- **Preschool Sunday School** will be in the nursery with Mrs. Wright.

Choir has started up again at 9:25 a.m. in the choir loft. If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact Nate Mattson (nathan_mattson@hotmail.com)

Men's Bible Study - We will meet on Wed. October 2, 16 and 30. We will be serving a light breakfast each time. We meet @ 7:00 AM and try to finish around 8:00 AM. All are welcome. "No experience necessary". We're just a group of men trying to apply what we read in Scripture to our present lives and to hopefully become a light for others.

New members: If you are interested in becoming a member at Trinity, please contact the church office or speak with one of the pastors. We will be having a New Member Orientation and Reception this autumn!

Rebecca Circle Looking for a chance to participate monthly in a women's small group meeting for Bible study? Rebecca Circle is an excellent chance to make some new acquaintances while studying God's word. The next Circle meeting will be at Trinity on Wednesday, October 23 at 10am.

Worship Assistants

Date	Time	Altar Guild	Welcome Team	Lectors	Acolytes
Oct 6	8:30	Karn Erlandson	Paula Sportel, Janet Gullickson	Carol Knoch	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	11:00	Gary Kent- Bracken	Connie Ruch, Liz Morison	Heidi Albertson	Elyse Albertson, Emma Zimmermann
Oct 13	8:30	Joyce Magerlein	Jeannie and Dave Grubaugh	Steve Bittner	Avery & Nolan Fowler
	11:00	Sheree Sorensen	Carolyn Kana'an, Nancy Diment	Erin Sutherland	Kaitlyn Albertson, Jacob Zimmermann
Oct 20	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Janet and Arlen Gullickson	Teri Koretsky	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	11:00	Julie Peterson	Erin and Mark Sutherland	Laura Woodruff	Miryam Greenman, Evelyn Sutherland
Oct 27	8:30	Joyce Magerlein	Jen and Tim Gatz	Dave Runstrom	Avery & Nolan Fowler
	11:00	Julie Peterson	Tina and John Adams	Julie Peterson	Elyse Albertson, Calico Morris

Service Ministry

Personal Care Item Donations Needed As part of our care for our neighbors in need, the Christ Clothes closet has expanded its offerings to include personal care items. Items needed are:

- Feminine hygiene products
- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Toothpaste

If you have access to Thrivent Grants, please consider using one to help purchase these items too!

Donations can be brought to the church weekdays during office hours or Sunday mornings.

Clothes Closet Coat Giveaway - Winter Coats and Gear Needed immediately!! The Clothes Closet will be collecting all donations of gently used clothing and are looking especially for blankets and winter gear—coats, boots, hats, gloves etc. for a Winter Gear Giveaway on October 29.

Thrivent Grant Request - We are seeking Thrivent Grants! Trinity's Fellowship time needs hosts and people willing to purchase snacks for our Sunday Morning fellowship. With Thrivent Grants, we're able to continue to keep this time welcoming to all. Thank you!

Helping Hands Needed at Quilters!! No sewing required, please come and help with this project if you are looking for a place to volunteer and some conversation and coffee. The next meeting will be October 24 at 9am. For information, contact Teri at tkoretsky44@yahoo.com or at 269-567-4238.

El Sol Elementary Outreach: El Sol Elementary School is just a few blocks away from Trinity and as their partners in serving the neighborhood, we want to show our support for their teachers, students and families! We will be collecting all the items listed below at Trinity and will deliver to El Sol in the fall when school starts back up! Please drop off during the week or on a Sunday! Thanks for your help in building a stronger connection with our neighborhood school!

- **Kids Clothes Needed** - It's time to clean out your kids' closets! El Sol Elementary has asked for help with supplying some of their students with winter clothes and gear, new socks and underwear, sweatpants and leggings. Will you consider helping us spread the word and donating your kids' clothes here?
- **School Supplies** - Backpacks, crayons, standard washable school markers (Crayola) and plastic two pocket folders. These donations will be collected at Trinity. Look for sales this summer!
- **Teachers Breakroom** - non-perishable items like chips, candy, granola bars, microwave popcorn, drinks, ground coffee, and K-cups.

Samaritans Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes: We have received a \$250 grant from Thrivent for shoeboxes! Because the shipping and handling is \$10, that limits the number of boxes we can fill. If we could get donations to cover the handling fee we could do almost twice as many boxes. If you would like to show your generosity in this way, please see Linda Ward at Sunday second service or call 344-8684 or email her at thelaw1944@aol.com.

Trinity's Loaves and Fishes Pantry Requests:

Although basic food needs are being met, our pantry clients are most grateful for extras that are not often included in our Loaves and Fishes orders. Adding any of these items to your grocery cart would be appreciated. They can be dropped off in the church office.

- Granola bars or similar items
- Pop tarts
- Peanut butter or cheese crackers in wrapped packages
- Snacks (in small bags).
- Baked beans (pork and beans)
- Plastic grocery bags
- **URGENT NEED** for empty egg cartons at Pantry - Due to the high price of eggs, the pantry is currently purchasing eggs in bulk quantities. As a result, we have an urgent need for egg cartons so that we can subdivide the eggs into individual cartons for distribution to our customers. Thanks.

The TLC Prayer Shawl Ministry meets October 7 at 10am We gather the first Monday of each month in the lounge at 10:00 to receive and pray over completed shawls, encourage one another as we work on new shawls, reflect on the gratitude of prayer shawl recipients, and, yes, socialize! Don't know how to knit or crochet? Here's your chance to learn—instruction will be provided! If you would like more information, please call Sidney Mueller at (269)806-0023.

Congregational Life would like to thank Donna Gardner and her wonderful team of cooks and servers, Heidi and the youth who helped set up, Harry Jachym for the beverages, Sally Morrison for the tasty pretzel bites, the Kalamazoo Concert Band, cleanup crew and everyone who showed up for another exceptional Trinity Oktoberfest!



Volunteer Opportunities

Facilities workday: Saturday Oct 12th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Come for all or part of this time. Lunch will be provided. A list of tasks to be accomplished will be posted ahead of time in the fellowship hall and gathering area. Feel free to bring your own tools if you're able. Signup sheets will be posted with the task lists so Max knows who to expect.

Sign up for Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers! Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community! Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to provide flowers or host fellowship time for the coming months. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events. *(And if you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a fellowship host!)* *Altar flowers are \$ 20 per bouquet and should be ordered one week in advance. **Call or email the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to put altar flowers on for a Sunday.**

Fellowship Events

Ladies Lunch will be October 9 at 11:30am at Long Island Café (5222 Portage St.).

We hope to have a large group of old friends and new for some fun and fellowship. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Carol Knoch with questions: 312-450-4130.

EMM Concert October 6 at 4pm: To inaugurate their new Chamber Series, Early Music Michigan presents a program of eighteenth-century music celebrating autumn on October 6 at 4 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran! The program will include a period arrangement of the beloved "L'Autunno" from Antonio Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* paired with Scottish composer Andreas Oswald's musical celebration of autumnal flowers, a cantata reveling in the season by French composer Joseph Bodin de Boismortier, and a suite from *Les Saisons* by Jean-Baptiste Lully. See accomplished musicians from around Michigan play these timeless pieces on historical instruments. Tickets are available now at earlymusicmichigan.org, and you can choose what you would like to pay for tickets!

Pastries with the Pastors - Both pastors will be available on October 6th after the 11am worship for a simple meet and greet designed for newer congregants or those looking to get more involved. They will be in the lounge (near the church office) from 12-1pm with donuts and coffee for questions and conversation. We will be holding a new member class later this fall, but for now this is a great chance to stop by for a chat...and a donut!

Sabbatical Presentation - On October 27th Pr. Jake will be sharing his thoughts, reflections, and lots of pictures from his time of Sabbatical with the congregation! The presentation will take place after the 11:00 worship service and will include lunch.

Pet Blessing October 6 - St. Francis was a faithful man who among many things is remembered as one who cared deeply for all God's creatures as he recognized Christ in all God's creation. He is commemorated at the start of October and as a way to continue in his way of experiencing God in creation, on Sunday October 6th at 9:45 we will be holding a special Pet Blessing service in the courtyard (or fellowship hall in case of rain). All are invited to bring their furry, feathery, or scaly friends for a blessing! Also, new this year: both worship services will be live streamed into the fellowship hall, so those with pets are invited to join in worship with their pets in the fellowship hall. If you choose to worship in the fellowship hall, please keep pets on a leash and use appropriate discretion.

Trinity Lutheran Church

TRUNK OR TREAT

30 OCTOBER

FROM 6- 7:30

THE KIDS AND FAMILIES OF TRINITY AND THE COMMUNITY ARE INVITED TO JOIN US! WE'RE HOPING TO MAKE THIS A GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD EVENT, SO BRING YOUR TRUNKS, YOUR KIDS AND YOUR FRIENDS!

WE'LL NEED LOTS OF TRUNKS, SO PLAN TO BE THERE BY 5:45 WITH A TRUNK AND SOME CANDY. PIZZA AND DRINKS WILL BE PROVIDED!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH PARKING LOT
504 SOUTH WESTNEDGE,
KALAMAZOO

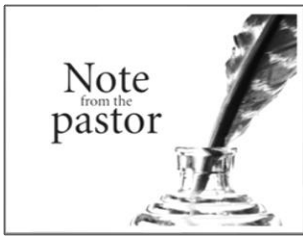
Meeting of the Men! - Meeting of the men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation and a great opportunity to get to know one other guys who call Trinity home! We'll plan to gather at Hopcat on Thursday October 17th from 5:00-6:30pm for a relaxed time of fellowship and conversation. As a bonus incentive, the Thursday special is \$9 for a burger and beer until 6pm! Hope to see you there!

Matrix Campus Ministry Interns at Trinity - We are very glad to have Three Matrix Campus Ministry interns returning to us at Trinity this semester! These interns are all college students who have a desire to be a connected to the church and community and Matrix, our campus ministry, provides a unique opportunity for them to do that! Our students for this spring are Lydia Saylor, a senior majoring in Psychology at WMU; Grace

Newman, a second year student majoring in Social work at WMU; and Cedric May, a second year student majoring in Environmental Biology at Kalamazoo College. Please take the time to say hello to these three wonderful students as we welcome them into our community!

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Ruth Krueger, Beth Latshaw, Sandy Eschelbach, Vicky Phillips, Linda Ward, David Mason, Judy Morison.



“For six years you shall sow your land and gather in its yield; but the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow...” -**Exodus 23:10**

As you likely know, at the end of August I returned from Sabbatical. While having three kids and visiting more than my share of airports I can't exactly say that it was a time for me to “rest and lie fallow”, it was a time of refreshing and renewal. My family and I were blessed with the time and resources to reconnect with one another and build memories together while exploring our faith, history, and the beauty of God's creation.

The word *Sabbatical* comes from our biblical word *Sabbath* meaning “to rest” and it is a consistent theme and command throughout scripture. The above verse refers to giving the land a time of rest one year out of every seven, and by default giving everyone else a rest from planting, tending, harvesting, and selling during that year. The following verses tell God's people to do work on six days, but to rest on the seventh. And elsewhere (Leviticus 26:34), the people are warned that if they do not keep the commands of God, they will be exiled and the land will get it's sabbath without them...which it did, and they are even told that whoever does any work on the sabbath shall be put to death! (Seems a bit harsh, right!?)

Thankfully, we have a new understanding of the Law through Jesus, who reinterpreted what the Sabbath means through his actions and taught that we were not made to serve the sabbath, but the sabbath was made to serve us (Mark 2:27). So, needless to say, I am grateful to say that we do not need to get the gallows out for anyone who works on Saturday. However, even without the threat of capital punishment, we ought to still take God's command to heart as we recognize the truth that this command is for our good.

We all know the value of a good rest. As individuals, rest can bring peace and clarity, it can renew relationships and improve our health. But God's command to sabbath isn't only aimed at individuals, instead it includes the entire community and all creation, especially those outsiders or strangers in our midst. Exodus 23:12 commands a day of sabbath “so *that* your ox and donkey may have relief and your homeborn slave and the resident alien may be refreshed”, and Exodus 23:10 commands a year of sabbath, “so *that* the poor of your people may eat; and what they leave, the wild animals may eat”. So God's command to sabbath is a command to take care of ourselves, but more than that it's a command to care for all people and all creation.

Throughout my sabbatical, I was a stranger in many places and was blessed to experience both rest for myself and the incredible hospitality and care of others. It is my hope that we can all find ways to make time for Sabbath rest in our lives and in doing so, we might experience *and* share hospitality, care, and renewal with all God's people.

In peace,
Pr. Jake



Trinity Lutheran Church sends out weekly emails to update our congregation on upcoming events, ongoing projects, volunteer opportunities, changes to our schedule, and links to our online services. Sign up with our QR code for the most up to date information available!