

NOVEMBER 2023

TRINITY CONNECTION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MASON CITY, IOWA



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WELCOME!

We are a servant church in the ♥ of Mason City, Iowa.

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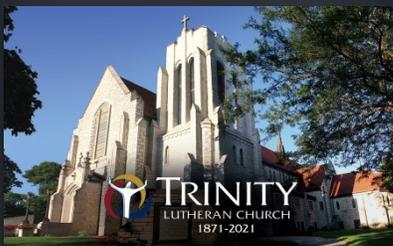
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The Trinity Connection informs the members of Trinity Lutheran Church about the church’s mission, and people, helping them to grow in faith and commitment to Jesus Christ.



FRONT PAGE: Confirmands and Prayer Mentors gather to celebrate.

Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion for the crowd because they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat, and I do not want to send them away hungry, for they might faint on the way.” The disciples said to him, “Where are we to get enough bread in the desert to feed so great a crowd?” Jesus asked them, “How many loaves have you?”

- Matthew 15:31-34a



PASTOR DAN GERRIETTS
SENIOR PASTOR

Few stories are more important in the New Testament than the feeding of the multitude. It’s so important, in fact, that it shows up six times in the four Gospels. Each time, Jesus takes something small and insignificant and uses it to work a miracle. To feed thousands. With leftovers.

Did you catch the question that Jesus asks the disciples in this story from Matthew? “How many loaves have you?” They are standing in a desert. They have nothing close to what they need to feed a crowd. Still, Jesus wants to know what they have. The miracle starts with an assessment of the gifts around them – not what they are missing or what they still need.

This is God’s abundance at work. Sometimes, when we look at our lives or the situations we are in, we can be quickly overwhelmed by the lack of resources at our disposal. Not enough workers. Not enough time. Not enough money or patience or energy or cooperation. Scarcity is easy to spot. Realizing what you already have and trusting God will use it? That takes faith.

Last month, we said goodbye to some wonderful staff members at Trinity, including Pastor Dan Dahl and Dr. Matt Gender. Their departures have required changes to how certain ministries happen. Nine different musicians are sharing our worship and ensemble directing roles over the next few months. Some of our pastoral care work will be covered with additional hours from Becky Elsbernd, the pastors, and our wonderful lay visitors. We continue to search for a Pastor of Spiritual Care, but candidates are very few due to an extreme clergy shortage in the ELCA.

Through it all, God seems to be asking, “How many loaves have you?” We have an abundance of gifts for ministry together. We are a priesthood of believers! And often, these moments of need can be energizing for congregations.

In these coming months, we will have particular needs for building hosts, sound/video techs, home communion visitors, singers and ringers, and ushers, to name a few. Can you help? Are you ready to see how God can use your gifts in a new way?

Gratefully,

Why Wait?!

MEETING JESUS
RIGHT NOW

SEASON OF ADVENT

The season of Advent is known for haunting melodies, apocalyptic imaginations, longing for change, and a whole lot of waiting. But what if Advent is more about a demand, an urgent call for something different? What if part of Advent waiting is looking for Jesus already in our midst? Experience the power of Advent this year through unique worship services, the Advent Wreath lighting, devotional readings and Video Based At-Home Faith Practices. Discover Jesus here and now, even as we long for God to act in our lives. "Why Wait?"

WEEK 1

November 25-26

COME NOW

Mark 14:24-37

WEEK 2

December 2-3

COMFORT NOW

Mark 1:1-8

WEEK 3

December 9-10

LAMENT NOW

John 1:6-8, 19-28

WEEK 4

December 16-17

PEACE NOW

Luke 1:26-38

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Wednesday, November 29 6:30 PM / Trinity Meet Up

Please help us share the holiday spirit with our community! We will practice a few well-known Christmas songs before heading out in teams to Christmas carol at local homes and facilities. A geographically coordinated route with names and addresses will be provided to each team. All ages and musical abilities are welcome!

HOLDEN EVENING ADVENT SERVICES

Wednesdays in December

December 6, 13, and 20

6:30 PM / Trinity Sanctuary

A beautiful service of music, light, and prayer celebrating the wonder of Advent.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 10,

10:30 AM / Trinity Sanctuary

Mark your calendar and come to this very special service as Trinity young people share "The Greatest Gift is for You."

CRAFT + CREATIONS at THE BAZAAR

BY MICHELLE MURRAY

Come to the Scandinavian Bazaar for food, fun, fellowship...and crafts!! Kris Latham has been working with the Classy Crafters (now called Craft Creations) since 2017. Originally started as a group to provide fellowship and the opportunity to create items for the Bazaar, Latham said, "Volunteering with Craft Creations gives me a creative outlet and "therapy" plus a way to feel like I can contribute."



After retiring, Latham has made crafts for the Bazaar for about six years. "I have made a variety of crafts. I enjoy paper crafting, and the Bazaar is a great excuse for me to try new things," she explained. "This year, I have made several paper craft items that would make great co-worker/teacher gifts, greeting cards, the usual embroidered dish towels, scrubbies, and several fall and Christmas decorations and tree ornaments. I love the challenge of repurposing items, so several items have been repurposed to make decorations." This year, Cathy Gomez and Patty Flatness are in charge of the Craft Creations at the Bazaar due to Latham's cancer diagnosis. Gomez pointed out, "Classy Crafters was [Kris's] brainchild and so successful because of her ideas, skill, and patience...with a crazy gift of detail. Cancer had really slowed her down, and Patty and I struggled all year

without her talents..." Latham explained, "Since my diagnosis, I haven't been in charge but try to help when I can. I look forward to being able to help more with set-up and working the Bazaar this year. I'm so thankful for all that Patty and Cathy have done."

Flatness has been involved with the group for three years now and made sure to mention how it began... with Latham! Flatness said, "The women we have involved varies each time. It's posted in the Connection and the weekly bulletin."

What will people see at this year's Bazaar? Latham gave a teaser: "Greeting cards, paper crafts, fall and Christmas decorations, tree ornaments, embroidered dish towels, scrubbies, repurposed items (the Jenga block pumpkins and salt shaker snowmen are two of my favorites)!" She continued, "I am blessed to have a crafty friend. We have made a number of things together. She is also a very talented quilter and machine embroiderer and has donated a number of stitched Christmas cards, framed stitched Christmas pictures, stitched Nordic ornaments, and a quilted checkerboard."

It's never too late to be a part of Craft Creations! Latham advises contacting either Patty Flatness or Cathy Gomez if you would like to be a part of this crafty group. "I know that there are a lot of very crafty and talented people at Trinity. The variety of talent and creations is a huge part of what makes Craft Creations interesting and a success," she said.

Latham also mentioned that anyone



can share their creations with Craft Creations. "You can bring your items to the church by the Tuesday before the Bazaar. It helps if people price their items and also let us know what they would like done with unsold items," she said. "We're excited to see what items Trinity members donate!"†

VISIT THE SCANDINAVIAN BOUTIQUE

BY MICHELLE MURRAY

Ya, vi elsker the Scandinavian Boutique at Trinity's Scandinavian Bazaar each November! Cynthia Zach is in her second year as the primary team member for the Bazaar, and she estimates she's helped with the Boutique for about a decade now. This ability of hers may just be genetic. "I really don't know when the Scandinavian Boutique was started, but I think it was formed by my mother, Marge Manning, Wendy Keen, and Rita Laaveg. I remember going to the Minneapolis Mart with the group to buy items for the Boutique! They would have me make bows, decorate wreaths, and help set up the tables. I chose to take a day of vacation each year to work in the Boutique! It's a hard job to be a retail store, choosing items to purchase and pricing things right. It's also challenging to find Scandinavian gifts!" she said.

Zach's job as primary team member involves quite a few things. She explained, "Each year, we choose one of the show dates at the Minneapolis Mart that works for all of us to visit certain vendors and



LEFT TO RIGHT: CYNTHIA ZACH,
MARY BURGMEIER, RONDA SMITH, KAREN SQUIER

items that we feel will be a good choice for the Boutique. In between the market trips, I have my eyes out for gift items at sales, antique stores, and auctions. I also keep track of our inventory after the end of the Bazaar sales and the items I've picked up throughout the year."

It's not all lighthearted shopping that is required for this position. "Finding reasonably-priced items at the Minneapolis Mart is challenging for us.

There are only 3-4 distributors that carry Scandinavian products. We also cannot compete with local stores that discount Christmas items all season," Zach explained. "We also appreciate Trinity members who have donated wonderful things for our gently used 'Ole and Lena' table!"

This year, Bazaar patrons will see so many Scandinavian treasures. "We have a wide variety of Scandinavian items, from dishes, linens, tree decorations, and Norwegian pewter. We have a lot of great gift items as well as items on our "Ole and Lena" table!" according to Zach.

If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry, Zach offers some advice: "Serving in this ministry takes some time to learn the 'ins and outs' of our process. At some point, our team will no doubt be ready to turn the duties over to a new team! Otherwise, we are always happy to accept volunteers to help us set up the tables and be in the room to help... and especially help as cashiers during the day of the Bazaar."

Zach also noted that her teammates are Ronda Smith and Mary Burgmeier. "We all have Scandinavian roots and are delightful to work with!" she said.

Make the Scandinavian Boutique a must-see when you come to the Bazaar in November. Tell them Ole and Lena sent you.†

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Wednesday, November 1, 2023
NO PROGRAMMING DUE TO THE BAZAAR

Wednesday, November 8, 2023
Learn About Legacy

The Gathering Space / 6:30 PM

Mike Kleinfelder, Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation, will be here to share about the opportunity to make gifts that benefit ourselves now and ministry later. Learn how you can benefit now, benefit a charity later, create a lifetime income stream, and save on taxes. Join Mike in the Gathering Space at 6:30 PM.

Faith in the Home

Trinity Room 208 / 6:30 PM

Pastor Daniel & Parents

God goes with us as we leave worship each week. Join Pastor Daniel for a time to consider spiritual practices for children that you can do as a family at home, in the car, and on the go! Together, we will consider how we can invite God into activities we are already doing.

Wednesday, November 15, 2023
Finding the New in Life

The Gathering Space / 6:30 PM

Finding the New in Life: Dennis Wilson, who is always searching for the New in life, will assist you in answering the question, "What are you going to do with the rest of your life?" Are you still working? Retired? Approaching retirement? No matter your age, you can find the *New* in life.

Wednesdays - November 8 & 15, 2023
Managing Loss Through the Holidays

Trinity Room 300 / 6:30 PM

Getting through the holidays can be incredibly challenging when experiencing loss, whether it be due to the death of a loved one, the end of a significant relationship, or job loss. This two-session class allows you to share your loss with a supportive group and gain ideas on how to help manage these feelings through the holidays. This class is facilitated by Linda Vold, a retired therapist, and Becky Elsbernd, Trinity's Parish Nurse.

Wednesday, November 22, 2023
NO PROGRAMMING
HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
Christmas Caroling

Meet at Trinity / 6:30 PM

See Page 3

Young Women's Group continues to meet in the Library at 6:30 PM.
WNA Kids meet on the 2nd floor and will paint their way into Thanksgiving, plus have their own Advent Fair in November!



CONFIRMATION MENTORS:

Assisting in a Faith Journey

Confirmation students learn not only from the pastors and youth directors at Trinity but also from an adult mentor. What happens in the mentor program, and why should YOU consider being a mentor in the future? Three mentors from Trinity weighed in on this ministry: Kathy Dobrzynski, Tom Kirby, and Liz Fitzgerald.

KATHY DOBRZYNSKI (AND MENTEE, JAXON)



Why be a mentor? "I have known the Dutcher family for many years since Jaxon's grandparents live across the street from me. I have been watching Jaxon grow up into a fine young man!" She explained it was her first time being a mentor. "Some of it is what I expected, but there were more surprises. I found out we need to give our youth more credit for what they know, and they do enjoy servant projects!"

The servant project that she and Jaxon did involved collecting school supplies to donate to Jefferson and Harding Elementary Schools. Dobrzynski said, "I had posted on our Eastbrooke Facebook page, and on a certain day, Jaxon and I drove around Eastbrooke picking up the supplies. Then we took it back to my house and divided it into two groups and took the donations to the schools, where the staff thanked us for our contribution. With the initial response to my posting, I had thought more people would donate. We still collected 274 items! That is

still a lot to be thankful for! Jaxon and I are talking about doing this again in the fall. Jaxon loves to do service work!"

She continued, "Jaxon surprised me on how much he knows about the Bible! I don't think we give the young people the credit they deserve! I will continue to watch Jaxon mature, and I am anxious to see what he does with his life!"

Thinking about being a mentor? Dobrzynski offers her advice: "God comes to us in many different forms, so we need to keep alert! You never know when God will put someone in your path to help you on your journey. Show kindness and thank God frequently! Go into the mentor program with an open heart and mind! You would be surprised at what you will learn from your student, and hopefully, they will learn from you also!"

Dobrzynski stressed the importance of a mentor sharing the rough parts of life with their mentee: "We all know that things don't always go perfectly!" She said, "I shared with Jaxon that I wandered away from the church when I graduated from high school. A lady who became a very good friend took me under her wings and encouraged me to come to church with her." Another "defining moment" in Dobrzynski's faith was also shared with Jaxon. She explained, "After the birth of my twins, I became very sick and was in the ICU. I was not expected to live. With the power of prayer through the church, I recovered and am here today to watch my kids grow up!"

"Having a mentor has helped me by knowing to do the right thing in a bad situation! My advice for future confirmation students is getting your things done early."

- Jaxon

TOM KIRBY (AND MENTEE, HENRY)

Why be a mentor? "I chose to become a mentor for Henry because I believe that fostering a strong faith in our adolescents is vital to the growth of our faith community as a whole. This period of life is all about changes, and having a strong faith helps immensely with some of those tougher times." Kirby continued, "The process went

very much as I expected. The experiences and discussions during this timeframe were enlightening and helped build a stronger relationship between Henry and me."

The service project that Kirby and Henry chose was volunteering at the Humane Society. Kirby said, "I had never been to the Humane Society before, and this experience led Henry and me to volunteering to walk dogs at the shelter this past summer. It is always a great feeling to give back!" Kirby hopes for several "takeaways" for Henry through this mentoring process. "I hope that Henry remembers that no matter where you are when you start your faith journey, there is always room for growth. I also hope that he can look to me for any needs moving forward as well. I will remember Henry's quick wit and humor that makes some of the deeper discussions a little easier to handle along the way."

Thinking about being a mentor? Kirby advises to "meet your mentee wherever they are and keep an open mind! Everyone is different and has had a different upbringing when it comes to faith. Join them in their faith journey wherever that may be and then work with them to make their faith stronger."

"Tom helped me with my faith journey because he told me about his faith life, and that helped me have a stronger faith with God. I recommend going to the Humane Society with your mentor. It's really fun." - Henry





**LIZ FITZGERALD
(AND MENTEE, ABBY)**

Why be a mentor? Fitzgerald summed it up perfectly: "I decided to be a mentor because I learn so much from the students at Trinity." She added, "It can be challenging to coordinate schedules and find time to meet. The time we spent together went so fast!"

A favorite moment was tough to define "because the experience is so rewarding!"

Fitzgerald said. "I appreciate the relationship building that happens during mentoring most of all."

Among other things, Fitzgerald includes this hope for her mentee, Abby: "I hope

Abby remembers that she is part of an amazing community of faith, and there are so many people that care about her, pray for her, and wish her the best." What will Fitzgerald remember most about this process? "I will remember Abby's spunky personality and her inspiring dedication!" Thinking about being a mentor? Fitzgerald's advice is this: "I would share that having an open mind and letting the student lead are amazing opportunities for you both to learn so much while affirming your faith together."

"I would say that my favorite part about having a mentor was that I got to see a different point of view than my own. Some advice I would give future Confirmation students is that you should choose someone that you don't fully know so that you can get to know them better through God."

- Abby

Thank you, Kathy, Tom, and Liz, for playing a special role in the faith journeys of three Confirmation students.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

9TH GRADE CLASS | CELEBRATED OCTOBER 22, 2023 | 10:30 AM



Row Three: Jaxson Rattay, Henry Hansen, Sophia Fitzgerald, Grant Weaver, Brady Amble, Connor Beck, Jaxon Dutcher, William Blanchard
Row Two: Pastor Daniel Hanson, Abby Wingle, Olivia Gansen, Journie Edwards, Caylee Kincade, Carson Beck, Anders Lief, Kristian Carlson
Row One: Carol Dettmer, Peyton Zilge, Leah Gerriets, Ella Als, Emma Meyer, Anna Latham, Macy Meyer, Carter Rockwell, Pastor Dan Dahl, Pastor Dan Gerriets

NOISY OFFERING

November 12 & 19, 2023

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Worship Services

Bring your spare change and dollar bills to worship on Sundays, November 12 and 19. During the children's sermon, kids will come around collecting a noisy offering to support **ELCA World Hunger**. Sunday School students age 3 - Grade 4 will sing at the 9:00 AM service and take a noisy offering.



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

FUNDRAISERS!

Please help support our high school youth on their trip to New Orleans in July! We will have a series of fundraisers throughout the year to raise \$10,000! Save the date for the kick-off Advent Brunch Fundraiser on Sunday, December 3, from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM! Come and eat!

Sunday School NOVEMBER STUDIES

Students will prepare for Thanksgiving in November as they study Ten Men Healed, Luke 17: 11-19. **No Sunday School on November 26.**

FLAME

Students in 9th-12th grade are GREAT at playing games, snacking, learning and teaching lessons, and studying scripture... Here is the place to do it! Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 7:45 PM, high schoolers are welcome here together! "You don't have to go here to go here."

CHRISTMAS BAND OPEN CALL

We're getting the band together for Christmas Eve! I have chosen music and am excited to present it as a part of the 10:30 PM Christmas Eve service. Rehearsals will be on Saturday, December 16th and 23rd at 10:00 AM.

Contact the church or Kim Reisinger for more details and music. Pass this on to anyone you think might want to join us!
Kim Reisinger / 319-404-2474
kim.reisinger1@gmail.com

SCANDINAVIAN NEEDLEWORK

by Donna Baalson
November-December

Trinity's Rotating Art Gallery
Donna is a master at the art of needlework. Walking into their home, one sees handmade pieces of needlework displayed elegantly on the walls of their home. The Norwegian influence is evident in these elaborate pieces. Donna also has an extensive collection of rosemaled pieces.

LADIES' CHRISTMAS TEA

Save the date!

Thursday, December 7, 2023

1:30 PM / Fellowship Hall

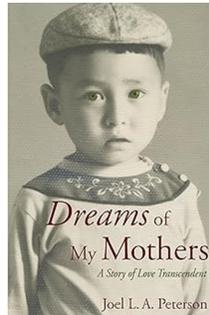
Trinity's Christmas Tea will be held on Thursday, December 7, in the Fellowship Hall. The Bazaar proceeds will be shared along with "High Tea" refreshments. We'll learn about women's suffrage from guest speaker Amy Caucutt, and a new sanctuary Bible will be presented to the church. Bring a friend to this holiday tradition!

SUNDAY AFTERNOON BIKE RIDE

Sunday, November 5, 2023

3:00 PM / Trinity Parking Lot

Our last group bike ride for the year is on Sunday, November 5. We will meet in the parking lot at Trinity Lutheran Church at 3:00 PM. **Weather permitting**



BOOK DISCUSSION

Monday, November 13, 2023

1:00 PM / The Gathering Space

Our next book is **Dreams of My Mothers** by Joel L.A. Peterson. "Dreams of My Mothers is based on the true story of two mothers' transcendent love for the same boy." Multiple copies are available to check out from the Trinity Lutheran Church office.

BEYOND MASHED POTATOES

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

1:00 - 3:00 PM | Trinity Kitchen

Mashed potatoes are a family favorite, but so much more can be done with potatoes! Come and learn the difference between a potato and a sweet potato and new ways to prepare them. This workshop offers hands-on participation in every step of the process, from cooking to eating. **Supply fee is \$5.00. Limited to ten participants.** Sign up by contacting the church office or becky.elsbernd@trinity-mc.org.



REJOICING SPIRITS

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

5:00 PM / Trinity Fellowship Hall

Rejoicing Spirits is inclusive of all ages and abilities as we connect with God and one another. This casual worship service offers camp-style music, an interactive skit, and participatory prayer. Join us as we review all the fruits of the spirit we have learned about throughout the year. Following the worship service, enjoy pizza and root beer floats for a free-will donation.

WALKING TO BETTER HEALTH

Wednesdays in November

November 8, 15, and 29

10:30 AM / Fellowship Hall

Are you ready to start walking to better health? This class is the easy way to do it! We will walk in place with easy-to-follow moves to shape the waistline, flatten the tummy, and strengthen the back. This Leslie Sansone DVD workout is high energy and loads of fun!





COOKING WITH SQUASH RECAP

On October 10, the *Cooking with Squash* class participants left with a new appreciation for the diversity and functionality of squash! After sampling six different squash varieties, the butternut squash was voted the favorite. Together, the class prepared and sampled (from left to right) Sausage and Squash Penne, Butternut Squash Soup with Coconut Milk and Ginger, and Roasted Squash Salad with Orange Dressing. The group chose to share the salad recipe with you because it is flavorful and a unique way to add squash to a meal!



ROASTED SQUASH SALAD WITH ORANGE DRESSING

INGREDIENTS

- 1 medium butternut squash (about 3 pounds)
- 1/4 cup plus 6 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons honey, divided
- 3/4 teaspoon salt, divided
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper, divided
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
- 1 tablespoon chopped shallot
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 2 teaspoons grated orange zest
- 1 pound baby spinach
- 1 cup dried apricots, thinly sliced
- 1 cup dried cranberries
- 1 package (5.3 ounces) crumbled feta cheese, crumbled

DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Peel and cut squash into 1-in. cubes, reserving the seeds. Place squash cubes in a large bowl. Toss with 1/4 cup oil, 1/4 cup honey, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon pepper. Place squash in a greased 15x10x1-in. baking pan; bake until tender, 30-35 minutes.
2. Place orange juice, vinegar, shallot, garlic, orange zest and the remaining 2 tablespoons honey in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil; cook until liquid is reduced by half, 15-20 minutes. Strain into a small bowl. Gradually whisk in remaining 6 tablespoons oil, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/8 teaspoon pepper until blended.
3. In a large bowl, combine spinach, apricots, cranberries and roasted squash. Sprinkle with feta cheese. Drizzle with dressing before serving

SOURCE ADAPTED FROM

<https://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/roasted-pumpkin-salad-with-orange-dressing/>

POP CAN TABS

We are still collecting beverage tabs for the Shriners Hospital and, more specifically, for purchasing children's wheelchairs. Please save your tabs and drop them off at the church office. Greta and Margo Miller are helping and will pick them up weekly. They appreciate your help with this great cause!

SPONSORING COLORED BULLETINS

We still have some dates open to sponsor colored bulletins. This sponsorship is a great way to remember a loved one, honor someone, or for a special event. See the sign-up sheet posted by the office.



WORSHIP

TRANSPORTATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Worship Transportation Ministry began on April 17, 2011, with four riders, and now, twelve years later, we are up to eleven regular riders! Our ministry contracts with Region Two Transit and allows us to serve people who use wheelchairs and those who cannot climb stairs. The Worship Transportation Ministry has been a blessing to many people. **But we need a few more volunteers.** The requirements for volunteers are simple – have a smile and greet riders, assist them into the church building, and accompany them on the ride home! No driving involved! It's easy and a fantastic way to serve. Single adults and families can apply! Interested? Please get in touch with the church office at 641-423-0536. Thank you!

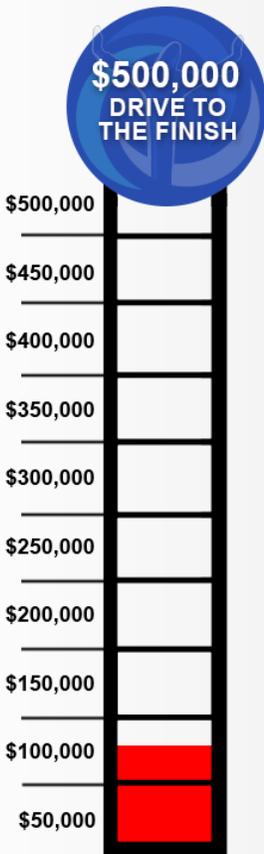


BABY HANSON
COMING SOON!

Sunday, November 12, 2023

10:00 AM / Fellowship Hall

It's a boy! Join Pastor Daniel and Aimee for coffee and treats from 10-11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, November 12, as we celebrate Baby Hanson, whose due date is New Year's Eve. Suggest a name, guess the delivery date, and offer a word of advice to the parents-to-be!



Total Dollars Received - \$3,855,523
T150 Loan Balance - \$423,297
Loan Interest Paid To Date - \$142,675

GOOD SHEPHERD INC.
ANNUAL MEETING

Friday, November 17, 2023

12:00 PM / The Manor

Trinity is a member church of Good Shepherd Inc. Good Shepherd holds an annual board meeting with delegates from its member churches each year. This year's meeting will be at The Manor (4 3rd St NW in Mason City) on Fri, November 17 at noon. Lunch will be served. Interested in attending? Contact the office by Sunday, November 12.



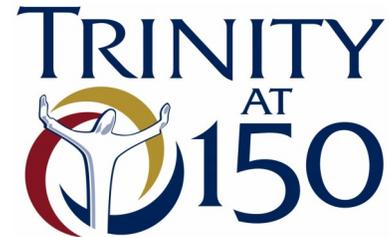
T150 MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE SUCCESSFUL!

The special summer drive to reduce the remaining loan on our T150 Capital Appeal was a huge success! The goal was to raise \$50,000 to match the gifts of two generous Trinity families made in June. Our congregation responded with gifts of \$111,442, raising the total for the challenge to over \$161,000! Thank you to both our lead gift families and to the 115 households who gave in response! These gifts enable us to continue paying on the remaining loan without using general offering funds.

T150 CONSTRUCTION LOAN

Trinity continues to pay on the remaining construction loan for the T150 building renovations, technology upgrades, and our mission project. Thanks to the ongoing generosity of many, we have been able to make loan payments from special gifts alone and not the general budget.

Trinity's mission and outreach continue to be blessed by this \$4.5 million project. To make a gift, go to trinity-mc.org/trinity-at-150 or write "T150" on your check or envelope.



FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Jan-Oct 2023

Income under budget - \$37,079

Expenses under budget - \$21,892

Net Income YTD - <\$123,198>

Please continue your contributions as we move toward winter. Historically, summer income declines, and expenses continue as usual. Thank you for your support of Trinity's Ministries.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

UPCOMING CHILDREN'S SCHEDULE

Fall Wednesday Night Alive (WNA) Nursery and Grades K-6 will have their last activity night on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, with a staffed nursery and a *Children's Advent Fair!* Families can celebrate Advent together starting November 29 with caroling and continuing with Holden Evening Advent services on Wednesdays following our community meal. **Winter WNA** for kids will begin on Wednesday, January 10, 2024, along with new adult classes. Mark your calendar and watch for details in the January newsletter.



NOVEMBER CALENDAR



Wednesday, November 1, 2023

4:30 PM Bazaar Preview TLC

Thursday, November 2, 2023

8:00AM - 1:30PM Scandinavian Bazaar TLC

Saturday, November 4, 2023

5:00 PM Worship** TS

Sunday, November 5, 2023

9:00 & 10:30 AM Worship** TS

9:15 AM Sunday School TEW

3:00 PM Sunday Afternoon Bike Ride TPL

Monday, November 6, 2023

9:00 AM Centering Prayer TR322/Zoom

9:00 AM Trinity at Community Kitchen CK

5:30 PM Trinity Bronze Bell Choir TS

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

ALL DAY Elections Held at Trinity TGS

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TFH

Wednesday, November 8, 2023

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study FH

8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL

9:30 AM Lydia Circle TR208

10:30 AM Walk to Better Health TFH

6:00 PM WNA Community Meal TFH

6:30 PM WNA/Confirmation/Choir TLC

Thursday, November 9, 2023

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS

9:30 AM WELCA Bible Study TR208

10:30 AM Clappers & Coffee TS

Saturday, November 11, 2023

5:00 PM Worship TS

Sunday, November 12, 2023

9:00 & 10:30 AM Worship TC

9:15 AM Sunday School TEW

10:00 AM Baby Hanson Fellowship Time TFH

Monday, November 13, 2023

9:00 AM Lectio Divina TR322/Zoom

9:30 AM Altar Guild TR300

1:00 PM Book Discussion TGS

5:30 PM Bronze Bell Choir TS

Tuesday, November 14, 2023

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS

1:00 PM Beyond Mashed Potatoes TK

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study FH

8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL

10:30 AM Walk to Better Health TFH

2:00 PM Cancer Support Group TR300/Zoom

5:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits TFH

6:00 PM WNA Community Meal TFH

6:30 PM WNA/Confirmation/Choir TLC

Thursday, November 16, 2023

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS

10:30 AM Clappers & Coffee TS

Saturday, November 18, 2023

9:30 AM Coffee with the Pastors FB/YT

5:00 PM Worship** TS

Sunday, November 19, 2023

9:00 & 10:30 AM Worship** TC

9:15 AM Sunday School TEW

10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks TGS

Monday, November 20, 2023

9:00 AM Trinity Quilters TFH

9:00 AM Centering Prayer TR322/Zoom

5:30 PM Bronze Bell Choir TS

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS

10:45 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry TR307

Wednesday, November 22, 2023

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study FH

8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL

4:00 PM Trinity at Community Kitchen CK

Thursday, November 23, 2023

ALL DAY CHURCH CLOSED -Thanksgiving TLC

Friday, November 24, 2023

ALL DAY CHURCH CLOSED -Thanksgiving TLC

Saturday, November 25, 2023

5:00 PM Worship TS

Sunday, November 26, 2023

9:00 AM Worship *First Sunday of Advent* TC

10:30 AM Worship *First Sunday of Advent* TS

Monday, November 27, 2023

9:00 AM Lectio Divina TR322/Zoom

9:00 AM Trinity Quilters TFH

5:30 PM Bronze Bell Choir TS

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS

9:30 AM Caregivers Support Group TR300/Zoom

6:30 PM Centering Prayer STJ

6:30 PM Trinity Council Meeting TR300

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

7:00 AM Men's Bible Study FH

8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL

10:30 AM Walk to Better Health TFH

6:00 PM WNA Community Meal TFH

6:30 PM WNA Christmas Caroling TLC

6:30 PM Choir TCR

Thursday, November 30, 2023

8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS

10:30 AM Clappers & Coffee TS

CALENDAR KEY

TLC - Trinity Lutheran Church (Various locations in the building) / **TFH** - Trinity Fellowship Hall / **TK** - Trinity Kitchen

TR - Trinity Room (Number) / **TGS** - Trinity Gathering Space / **TS** - Trinity Sanctuary / **TPL** - Trinity Parking Lot

TYR - Trinity Youth Room / **MCA** - Mason City Arena / **CK** - Community Kitchen

STJ - St. Joseph Chapel MC / **YTFB** - YouTube & Facebook

**Holy Communion Served ++Rite of Healing



WORSHIP

Saturdays 5:00 PM | Sanctuary
Traditional

Sundays 9:00 AM | Sanctuary
Livestreamed on Trinity's Facebook Page and YouTube Channel
or listen live on KCMR 97.9 FM or kcmrfm.com
Traditional

Sundays 10:30 AM | Sanctuary
Contemporary

PASTORS

Senior Pastor:
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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Mon-Fri

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