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SEPT. 2025

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH CONNECTION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MASON CITY, IOWA



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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
213 N PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE | MASON CITY, IA 50401 | TRINITY-MC.ORG



WELCOME!

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

EDITORIAL

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Trinity Lutheran Church

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



Front Page: Adult Ministries Cabinet helping prepare and serve food at the Senior Summer Luncheon, August 7

In early 2024, Trinity launched a new Care Ministry to support and stay connected with members who, for a variety of reasons, are no longer able to attend church events. Our congregation has done this type of work in many ways over the years. TLC Care Ministry was launched to strengthen and expand these ministries through volunteer training, recruitment and mutual support.

Last month, we held a TLC Care Ministry celebration. Over ice cream sundaes, volunteers shared their experiences and took part in additional training led by TLC Parish Nurse Becky



CARE MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

and friends. That's about 95 per month – care visits, home communion visits, phone calls and notes. This is in addition to all the visits made by Trinity's staff.

Would you like to join this growing ministry? Contact Becky or Pastor Beverly – they would love to get you involved! And if you know someone who could benefit from a visit, call or note – please let us know. Thank you to our amazing Care Ministry volunteers for 'sharing God's healing love' with so many!

- Pastor Dan Gerriettes

Staff Transitions at Trinity

It was with sadness that we received Marty Greder's resignation this week from her position as Director of Christian Education at Trinity, effective September 8, 2025. She has served on our staff for over 25 years and has been an enormous blessing to our ministry.

Marty would like to thank all of the parents, teachers, shepherds, adults, and young people who have given so much to our outstanding Sunday School and Wednesday Night Alive programs over the years.

Marty helped create our rotation Sunday School model and Wednesday Night Alive, and she has blessed countless youth, families and adults through her leadership in faith formation. She will be greatly missed.

Marty and Fred plan to remain a part of our congregation. Marty insists that we not throw any parties or receptions. But I hope you will help me in thanking Marty for her wonderful ministry!

- Pastor Dan Gerriettes



Pastor Dan Gerriettes
SENIOR PASTOR

Elsbernd and Pastor Beverly Butler. It was such a fun event!

We currently have 54 care ministry volunteers who, over the past year, made 1,139 contacts with Trinity members



LEADERS SPEAKING TO THE GROUP: BECKY ELSBERND AND BEVERLY BUTLER

New Member Class

Thursday, September 4 at 6:30 PM **OR**

Sunday, September 14 at 1:30 PM (Choose One)

Looking for a church home? A place to belong?

Interested in learning more about Trinity's life and mission, or whether this might be the place to connect and grow? Pastor Dan Gerriets leads an inter-

active class for those exploring membership or wondering if Trinity Lutheran Church is right for them. This is the only session one attends to prepare for membership.

Learn about our mission commitments and the faith expressions that ground us.

Take a tour of the building. Meet other people! Please call the church office to register for the class, or visit trinity-mc.org/membership/ to register online!



SAVE THE DATE

Thurs., November 6, 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

Lefse Making Begins!

Mon., September 8, 2025

Trinity Kitchen

Mark your calendars... it's time to make lefse for the Bazaar! September 8 is the first lefse-making session. Potato peeling begins at 6:00 AM, with rolling beginning at 8:30 AM and packaging at 11:30 AM. We will meet Mondays through October 27. We are looking for volunteers for lefse-making, or newbies that would like to learn the process. Join the fellowship!

Potato Donations

We'll take donations of one-step potatoes from Hy-Vee starting in September. Drop off any donations at the church office.

Book Nook Donations Books and Beyond

We are expanding the Book Nook for this year's Bazaar! We will take your hard cover novels, puzzles with all the pieces, and board and card games like Monopoly, Chutes & Ladders, Clue, Scrabble, Yahtzee, Sorry, Uno, Crazy 8's, Chess etc. Bring them to the church office on or before November 3.

Craft Creations

Calling all crafters!! Have any projects you would like to provide for the Craft Creations area for the upcoming Bazaar? We need you! Any questions can contact Kris Latham, Patty Flatness or Cathy Gomez!



Ministry Fair

Sunday, September 7, 2025

8:30 - 10:30 AM

The Gathering Space

Mark your calendars for an inspiring morning of connection and community at our Annual Ministry Fair! This is your chance to discover the incredible work being done by various internal and external ministries. Come and learn

about their unique purposes, activities, and how they serve others. Whether you're a member of Trinity or a member of the North Iowa community, you'll have the opportunity to connect with groups and discover ways to get involved. We hope to see you there!

WELCA Study

Second Thursday of Each Month

Beginning September 11, 2025

9:30 AM | Trinity Room 208

Rev. Dr. Norma Cook will lead a deeper study of The Ten Commandments, using Luther's Large Catechism, exploring their meaning for today. September's topic: What Does it Mean to have a God, and Relationships & Commitment, using 1st, 4th and 6th Commandments. Women, bring your friends for engaging conversation!



T150 Matching Challenge - Thru Sept. 30!

Thanks to another Matching Gift Challenge, we have the opportunity to double all new gifts made to the T150 Capital Campaign through the end of September 2025! That's right – if we receive \$50,000 in new cash gifts before September 30, 2025 – that amount will be matched dollar for dollar! If you haven't yet donated or if you are

considering an additional gift, now is the perfect time to double your contribution and help us pay down the remaining \$145,000 on the T150 loan. Every gift helps! If you'd like to give online, please visit trinity-mc.org/give.

Prayer Mentors Needed

Trinity adult members are needed to pray for our 5th-6th graders. Carol Dettmer will match each mentor with one student. The adult mentor will pray for their assigned student and then write a quick note to the student once a month to let the student know they prayed for them. Monthly notes should be sent from October to May 2026. If you are a Trinity adult member who could pray for an intermediate student, please contact Carol Dettmer at carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org or by calling the church office at 423-0536 by September 21. Thank you!



Middle School Fall Fest

Sun., September 14, 2025

1:00 PM | Trinity Kitchen
All students grades 5-8th are invited to Trinity to make homemade apple pies and enjoy some ruckus fall fun! Friends are always welcome. Please RSVP to carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org by September 13 to ensure we have enough supplies.

Backpack Blessing

Sun., September 7, 2025

9:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Trinity Sanctuary
Trinity invites all students, and school staff to join us on September 7 for a Backpack Blessing during our Sunday worship services. Please bring whatever bag you take to school, a backpack, lunchbox, etc!



Rally Sunday Kick Off!

Sunday, September 7, 2025

9:15 AM | Trinity Sanctuary & Ed. Wing
Sunday School starts with a shortened Get-Acquainted Day for students on September 7. Students head to homerooms at 9:15 AM. Class lists are by grade and are posted at each room. Age 3 – Grade 6 will decorate classroom doors

and get to know their Shepherds and each other. **PARENTS: PICK UP STUDENTS AT 10:00 AM SO FAMILIES CAN GO TO THE MINISTRY FAIR IN THE GATHERING SPACE.** Sunday School Students will get ice cream cone coupons in their homeroom to use! Rotation classes begin on September 14 and will last the full hour, 9:15 - 10:15 AM.

Sunday School Registration

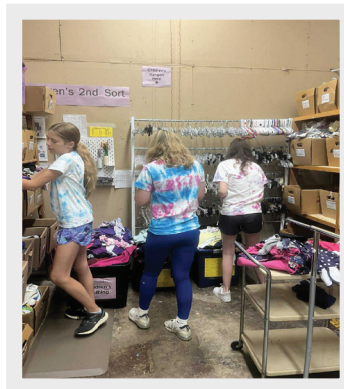
If your child was in Sunday School last year, he/she will automatically be registered for the next year. If your child turns three by September 15, 2025, or is new to Trinity, please pick up a registration form in the church office or you can register for Sunday School online at www.trinity-mc.org. If you have registration questions, email marty.greder@trinity-mc.org or call 423-0536.

Youth Service Trip Recap

Trinity youth and friends from churches in Rock Creek and Osage embarked on a service trip journey to "The Greatest City in the World" (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) this summer. We spent a week doing a variety of service projects in the Milwaukee area. We were hosted by Mt. Zion Lutheran Church for our time in Milwaukee, who graciously fed our new addiction to dance games on the Wii, endless hunts for tiny Jesus figures, and a newfound love of the New Berlin Walmart.



YOUTH TRIP GROUP PHOTO



YOUTH SORTING

We served a total of 5 organizations over the week, including working with Franciscan Peacemakers, Pathways, Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church, Father Gene's Help Center, and the Milwaukee Rescue Mission school. Our projects included doing a garden clean out, assisting with kids activities, sorting donations, and pack-

aging soap for the Franciscan Peacemaker's storefront. Each of our students had a favorite service project during the week. Our evenings included a trip to Lake Michigan, fun games around the church, dinner roulette, and on a suggestion from Liz Fitzgerald, a meal at Don's TV Repair, where we were seated in the Star Wars room. We returned to Trinity following a day spent in the Dells, where we were able to hand deliver our students back to their homes. We are grateful for all of your support for our trip!

- Dani Vogel, Youth Director



YOUTH HAVING FUN IN THE SAND... LITERALLY



**WEDNESDAY NIGHT
ALIVE**
Fall Programming
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 10, 2025

Meal / 6:00 PM
Adult Programming / 6:30 PM

Body as Temple: Caring for God's Image

Come to the Gathering Space and hear how North Iowa medical professionals spend their days, practice their health care specialties, and integrate their medical vocations with their faith journeys as members of Trinity Lutheran Church. Q & A will follow each presentation.

SEPTEMBER 10

Grace in the Hard Places: Faith at the Frontlines of Oncology, presented by Kevin Orcutt, MD, Radiation Oncologist and the Medical Director of the MercyOne North Iowa Cancer Center

SEPTEMBER 17

Stigma, Silence, and the Spirit of Solidarity: How can people of faith respond to people with mental health and substance use disorders in our communities? In this talk, Shea will reflect on the intersection of vocation and faith, exploring how the church can become a place of connection, compassion, and belonging. Together, we'll consider how to move beyond stigma and silence—and into a spirit of solidarity with those who are struggling, presented by Shea Jorgensen MD, Chief Medical Officer at Prairie Ridge

SEPTEMBER 24

When God's plan for your life is different than what you ever thought you wanted, presented by Beth Shaw, LPN, Surgical Tech

Prayer Walking

SEPTEMBER 10 & 17

Prayer Walking is a powerful practice of walking and praying in specific locations, seeking God's guidance, protection, and blessings upon the people and places you encounter. Prayer Walking is not just a physical activity, but a spiritual discipline that allows us to partner with God in interceding for our community. Pastor Beverly will lead us as we begin by praying together as a group. Then we will walk through neighborhoods in groups of two or more praying silently for the people and places we encounter on our walk. We will conclude our time back at the church by reflecting on our experiences and praying together.

Choir

Trinity's choir is open to all vocalists, high school age & older. Choir practice is held in the Choir Room.

Youth Programming / 6:30 PM

NURSERY is UNSTAFFED but is available for preschoolers and their parents from 6:30-7:30 PM each week.

CAMPFIRE KIDS

We're kicking off our Wednesday Night Alive programming in some new fun and exciting ways! New this year is our *Campfire Kids* program for students in Grades 1-6 on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM in the Education Wing. Join us for energetic and creative explorations of faith. Collect a badge for each adventure. This fall, Nate Ruge will be our fearless guide as we embark into the unknown.

CONFIRMATION - GRADES 7 & 8

Confirmation students will gather 6:30 – 7:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall and experience small group and large group learning as they study for their Confirmation.



WHO'S WHO

In Trinity's Music Ministry

BY MICHELLE MURRAY



Trinity has a longstanding tradition of music excellence, thanks to many musicians who are responsible for leading this ministry. This month, we'll focus on four behind-the-scenes musicians who are passionate about music as well as sharing it to enhance worship every week.

Colby Gochanour



Trinity's Director of Music Ministries, Colby Gochanour, shares that most of his work is behind the scenes. "I step in to play organ or direct the choir as a

fill-in when needed. My goal is to let others' talents shine through and to support them as they lead worship." Music has been his lifelong passion. Gochanour says, "I studied music formally and have directed choirs in various settings. I've also worked as a pianist and accompanist for events and services, and I'm starting to teach middle school choir this August." He continues, "I believe music is one of the most powerful ways we encounter God. It has a unique ability to carry scripture, prayer, and praise directly into our hearts. Music can give voice to emotions we don't always have words for, whether joy, grief, or wonder, and it unites us as a community when we sing together." Gochanour's goals for Trinity's music ministry include helping "prop others up and give them a space to share their musical talents, whether that's service playing, cantoring, choral, or even small ensemble opportunities." He is "always happy to talk with anyone interested! If you love to sing, we would love to have you in the choir! No formal training is required.

You can also share instrumental gifts or help with special music opportunities." In fact, his greatest joy is helping others discover their voice and offer it in worship. "Music at Trinity is not just performance—it's participation. Whether you sing from the pews, the choir loft, or play an instrument, you're part of something that lifts us all closer to God."

For someone who grew up in Iowa and has always been rooted in both music and community, Gochanour immerses music in his everyday life. He shares, "I'm also a middle school choir teacher, so music fills both my weekday and Sunday worlds. Outside of work, I enjoy reading, exploring bookstores, and finding good coffee."

Dennis Lee

Adult choir director, Dennis Lee, says directing the adult choir "involves working with other staff members to coordinate themes and scriptures for each Sunday



the choir is going to sing, finding music that will enhance the theme/scriptures, preparing the choir to sing, and then leading the choir in a Sunday morning service."

Lee has a music degree from Iowa State University and has led church choirs and community choirs for 35 years. He is also the artistic director for Una Vocis Choral Ensemble, which just completed its 20th season. He feels that "music is an expression of emotion and an act of service."

When preparing and presenting music for worship, Lee stresses a couple of significant facets. The first is fellowship of the choir members. "We grow to love and care for one another as

we work toward the common goal of preparing our minds and bodies for sharing our musical talents with God and the congregation." Next is a facet that seems to also be a core belief: "I'm a firm believer that words put to music and sung can be more impactful and memorable than spoken words alone."

Plans for the choir include singing in church services on the first and third Sundays of each month, as well as special services. December will certainly be special with a cantata. Lee said, "Anyone who is high school age and above can join in the adult choir ministry by coming to 6:30 PM Wednesday rehearsals. Everyone is welcome!"

Besides his love of music, Lee's "day job" includes working from home as a software consultant. He is also an active bicyclist, and rides the mountain bike trails in our area several times a week all year.

Camille Lee

Trinity's choir accompanist, Camille



Lee, works extremely well with choir director, Dennis Lee, as they are married. Camille says music has "always been a part of my life."

Her grandmother and aunts were all music teachers and choir directors, and her parents were also musicians. Her love of the piano began at the age of seven when she started piano lessons, continued when she accompanied choirs and solos through high school and college, and church choirs since 1991. It only follows that Camille has been teaching piano for many years and currently has 28 students.

Camille also feels strongly about the use of music in worship. "Music, in my opinion, should be an integral part of a service, helping to weave the liturgy and sermons together. It helps set the tone." Besides enjoying the collaborative aspects of playing for choirs, she is "always up for a challenge with the time to prepare it."

Camille's background includes growing up in Spirit Lake, and graduating from Iowa State University with a BFA in studio art, "all the while being very involved in the music department in Iowa State Singers and piano." In fact, she began as a piano major for her first year of college.

Following her love of music led her to finding her love in life. She shared: "Dennis and I met in choir at ISU and were married in 1990, moved to Seattle for five years and then came back to Iowa." She and Dennis began the Una Vocis Choral ensemble in 2005. Camille owns Prairie Aromatics/Soyphisticated Candles in Mason City and is about to open again for the fall with 23 years in business. And those piano skills come in handy as she also teaches piano from their home in the afternoons.

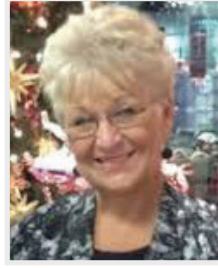
Marta Eenhuis

Trinity's hand bell choir director, Marta Eenhuis, says, "I have truly enjoyed meeting and working with the very dedicated and talented groups of ringers!"

Eenhuis grew up in Britt, and was very active in the music program through high school. She was also very active in the Hancock County Little Theatre, "with some very fun lead roles!" Eenhuis attended Waldorf College, sang with the "New World Singers," and received a degree in Music there. Her enthusiasm about music is evident. "I have sung with various choral groups for over 50 years. While we lived in western Nebraska, I directed all ages of handbell choirs for 25 years, and introduced handbells to various schools. I have also directed all ages of vocal choirs for 50 years."

How does she feel about using handbells in worship? She shared: "I feel handbells are great for learning unity, cooperation and musicality. They are definitely a very valuable addition to the music worship of the Trinity services. I am super excited to begin rehearsals in September, so we ringers can share our gifts with the congregation."

The next time you hear the choir sing or listen to the melodious handbells, make sure to notice the people who make it possible...the members of Trinity's Music Ministry. †



Kylie Hansen,
Soprano
Nathan Elsbernd,
Organ/Piano Recital

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, October 5, 2025
4:00 PM | Trinity Sanctuary
A recital open to all, which explores themes of hoping and dreaming. Including music spanning various genres!



Legacy Appreciation Dinner

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday, October 16, 2025
12:00 PM | North Iowa Regional Commerce Center
Have you named Trinity in your will or estate plans? Have you made a gift to the TLC Legacy Fund, or want to learn more about this opportunity? Join us for this special luncheon and presentation on how the Legacy Fund and other memorial gifts are helping Trinity live out its mission in 2025. Meal catered by Cynthia Lewerke.

IT'S TIME TO SING! IT'S TIME TO RING!

It's time to sing!

Trinity's choir is open to all vocalists, high school age and older. Choir practice will be held in the Choir Room each Wednesday at 6:30 PM. If you've thought about singing in the choir, now is the time to come and check us out. Bring a friend and raise your voice in song this fall! Choir will begin Wednesday, September 3.



It's time to ring!

Have you ever wanted to play handbells? We offer two groups: Trinity Bronze meets Monday nights at 6:00 PM, rings intermediate/advanced music, play at various worship services through the year. Bronze Bell Choir will begin September 8. Clapper Bell Choir meets Thursday mornings at 10:30 AM (coffee first!), rings beginner music and play at various worship services through the year. Clappers will begin on September 4. Whatever your level of music skill, Trinity has a place for you!

JAMS Backpack FOOD DRIVE

The John Adams Middle School (JAMS) Backpack Food Drive will begin September 21 and end on October 5. There will be two drop sites, one by the church office and one by the stairway to the Sanctuary. Lists of foods that are needed will be located in the front of the box. If you prefer, you can make out a check, put JAMS in the memo line, and drop it off at the office or in the collection plate. Thanks in advance to all who donate to this much-needed program.

BASES Exercise Returns

Tue., September 2, 2025

8:00 AM | Gathering Space
BASES (Balance-Agility-Strength-Endurance-Socialization) Exercise Classes begin again for the Fall Season. This is a free program for Adults, ages 55 or older and coordinated by the former Retired Senior Volunteer Program and led by Trinity volunteers. We meet every Tuesday and Thursday morning from 8:00-9:00 AM. Please join us and kick off a new Fall health habit!

Labyrinth Walk for Peace

Sun., September 21, 2025

Trinity Courtyard
Celebrate International Day of Peace on September 21st by walking the Labyrinth in Trinity's Courtyard. A facilitator will be there between 10:00 AM and 10:30 AM to guide you if needed. Join us as we walk with the intention of peace for ourselves, our community and our world.

Weather Permitting

Prayer Shawl Jamboree

Thur., September 25, 2025

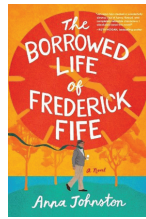
1:00 PM | Fellowship Hall
Do you knit or crochet? If you have made Prayer Shawls, Prayer Squares, or Prayer Bears or are if you interested in learning, then this event is for you! We will join with groups and individuals from area churches to enjoy games, win prizes, share ideas, and enjoy delicious ice cream. Invite a friend! Please call the church office 641-423-0536 by September 18 to reserve your spot.

Lectio Divina

Monday, September 8 & 22, 2025

9:00 AM | Trinity 300 & Zoom

Lectio Divina returns on Monday, September 8! It is the second and fourth Mondays of the month in room 322 in the Trinity Education Wing and on Zoom. Lectio Divina is reading, reflecting, responding and resting in the word of God that helps one grow in relationship with God. Come and check it out!



Book Discussion

Monday, September 8, 2025

1:00 PM | Trinity Gathering Space

Our next book, *The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife* by Anna Johnston, tells the story of an 82-year-old named Fred, who is down on his luck and facing homelessness after a series of unfortunate events. A case of mistaken identity at a nursing home offers him a chance at a new life when he's mistaken for a resident named Bernard Greer. Fred embraces this second chance, bringing his natural kindness and positive outlook to the nursing home, transforming the lives of those around him while also uncovering the secrets of Bernard's past. Multiple copies are available to check out from Trinity's Church Office.



Memory Cafe

Thursday, September 11, 2025

10:00 AM | Trinity Fellowship Hall

Memory Café is for individuals living with various forms of dementia or memory impairment and their caregivers. It supports leisure, fun and fellowship. In September, our topic is school days with Sharon Heimbuch sharing highlights from her teaching career. You are invited to bring an item, picture or story from your school days to share. Refreshments provided.

Rejoicing Spirits

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

5:00 PM | Trinity Fellowship Hall

Rejoicing Spirits is inclusive of all ages and abilities as we connect with God and one another. Join us on Wednesday, September 17, as we learn about the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard through camp-style music, interactive skit, and prayer. Following the worship service, enjoy pizza and root beer floats for a free-will donation.



Bike Ride Around Clear Lake

Thursday, September 18, 2025

9:00 AM | Clear Lake Sea Wall

Join us for a leisurely bike ride around Clear Lake on Thursday, September 18 at 9:00 AM. Meet at the sea wall in Clear Lake. Please contact the church if you have any questions at 641-423-0536. ***Weather Permitting***

Step A Way

November 11-13, 2025
New Melleray Abbey
in Peosta, IA

An inner pilgrimage experience to step away from your routines into a way of being that supports listening and letting go. Designed to be intentional time to connect with God through silence, prayer and scripture. We will explore spiritual practices, participate in the prayer rhythm of the monastic monks, and allow for quiet alone time. Three days and two nights at New Melleray Abbey, November 11-13. Facilitators are The Reverend Stephen Benitz, Regional Missioner of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa and Becky Elsbernd, Parish Nurse of Trinity Lutheran Church, Mason City. Cost \$300 which includes single room with private bathroom, transportation and meals. Partial scholarships available. Register and pay a \$150 deposit to save your spot. **Spots are limited. Registration deadline is October 7.**



Calling All Quilters

The **October-December** Rotating Art Gallery will feature quilted wall hangings. If you have created a quilted wall hanging that you would like the committee to consider for the exhibit, send pictures by September 14 to becky.elsbernd@trinity-mc.org. Chosen pieces will need to be delivered to Trinity the week of September 22.

Gathering for People with Diminished Vision

Monday, September 29, 2025

2:00 PM | Trinity Library

You are invited to attend a gathering for people who are living with diminished vision. Come to support and learn from each other! We will meet in the Library on Monday, September 29 at 2:00 PM.



Visio Divina

Tuesday, September 30, 2025

10:00 AM | MacNider Art Museum

303 2nd St. SE, Mason City

Visio Divina or "sacred seeing" is an ancient form of Christian prayer in which we allow our hearts and imaginations to enter into an image, in silence, to see what God might have

to say to us. Come and encounter the Divine through visual art.

Fellowship Coffee

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

9:30 AM | Trinity Fellowship Hall

Join us for Fellowship Hall and enjoy a time of coffee and treats, and to hear our new Administrative Assistant to Congregational Life, Denise Lind, share highlights from her life story!

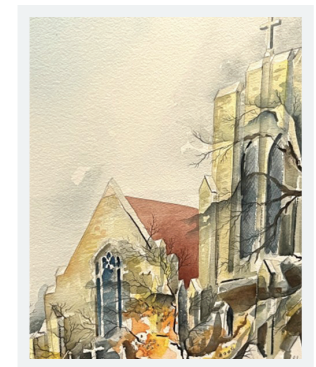


Trinity in Ethnic Lunch by Central Park

Friday, September 19, 2025

11:00 AM | Mason City Central Park

Join us at Trinity Lutheran Church's booth for meatballs and almond bars at the Mason City Ethnic Lunch by Central Park!

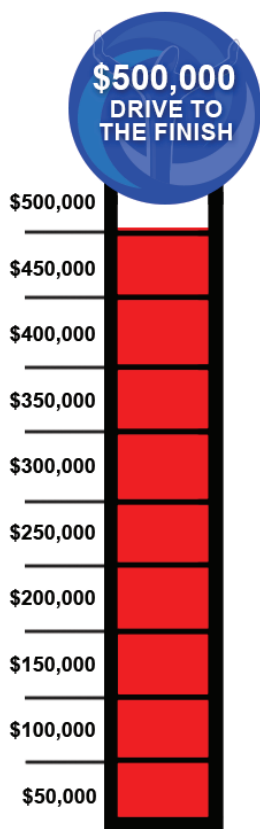


Rotating Art Exhibit July-September

features the work of the late Richard Leet. Richard was a founding director of the Charles H. MacNider Art Museum and taught high school art in Oelwein. His artwork was exhibited in numerous museums or venues, especially across Iowa. Leet's main passion was his artwork. From early cartoons and sketches to oil paintings, pastels, and especially watercolors, Leet loved to look at life with brush in hand.

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.



TOTAL \$ RECEIVED TO DATE

\$4,194,009

LOAN BALANCE

\$41,140

LOAN INTEREST PAID TO DATE

\$166,562

Seeing Old Friends at the Senior Summer Luncheon

BY MICHELLE MURRAY

The Senior Summer Luncheon happens once a year, and the smiles are certainly worth all of the background work. Why do people keep coming year after year? The consensus seems to be seeing old friends.

Marlene Freudenberg "likes the sociability and seeing everyone who doesn't normally get to be here." Mary Lou Britven "comes to see her neighbors" and relishes seeing a lot of people she hasn't seen for a while. Elaine Braun threw another answer into the mix: "I love the chicken salad!"

Besides the pretty yellow sunflower decorations at each table, the food was the star of the show. Lunch included chicken salad croissants, strawberry/blueberry salad, potato chips and tri-color sherbet with an ice cream wafer. And conver-

sations flowed like the coffee that Lutherans are so famous for loving. Pastor Dan Gerrietts, Pastor Daniel Hanson and



PASTOR DANIEL HANSON SERVING COMMUNION

Pastor Beverly Butler served in worship with Becky Elsbernd and Colby Gochanour also participating in lead roles. Kris Latham and Sharon Lindgren led the Adult Ministries Cabinet in food prep, decorating and kitchen duties.



GUESTS ENJOYING THE LUNCHEON

Two important messages imparted by Pastor Gerrietts included telling the crowd of around 100 guests that it was "fun to stand at the door and watch you all come in!" He also stressed that "God has and continues to bless Trinity through you."

All were welcome, and all sang "Amazing Grace" together. And after the meal, communion and worship service, people hung around to chat. Gaye Scott sat by Judy Brunsvold, and the two women "have been friends since they were 3 or 4 years old." Scott said she loved to "reconnect with people and to be back in my home church."

Rosie Alsbury smiled as she waited for assistance leaving the Fellowship Hall. "It gives me such a warm feeling being here," she said. Her tablemate, Rhonda Genzler agreed. "It's the first time I've been here! I enjoyed it and I'm going to start coming to all of these!"

Judging by the smiles and people sticking around to chat just a little bit more before leaving the church, this is one important ministry at Trinity. Nancy Nelson, who isn't on the Adult Ministries committee...but found herself helping anyway...shared, "We're not just church people...we're friends!"

Thanks to everyone who made this possible yet another year! †

CALENDAR KEY

TLC - Trinity Lutheran Church (Various Locations in the Building)

TFH - Trinity Fellowship Hall / **TR** - Trinity Room (Number)

TGS - Trinity Gathering Space / **TS** - Trinity Sanctuary / **TPL** - Trinity Parking Lot

TEW - Trinity Education Wing / **CK** - Community Kitchen / **YTFB** - YouTube & Facebook

TC - Trinity Courtyard / **BS** - Old Borealis Station / **CLSW** - Clear Lake Sea Wall

MCCP - Mason City Central Park / **MAM** - MacNider Art Museum

******Holy Communion Served **++**Rite of Healing

**Monday, September 1, 2025****ALL DAY Labor Day - Offices Closed TLC****Tuesday, September 2, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****Wednesday, September 3, 2025****7:00 AM Men's Bible Study TFH****8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL****Thursday, September 4, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****6:30 PM Belong & Grow Class TGS****Saturday, September 6, 2025****5:00 PM Worship** TS****Sunday, September 7, 2025 (Rally Sunday)****8:30 AM Ministry Fair TGS****9:00 A & 10:30 A Worship** TS****9:15 AM Sunday School TEW****11:45 AM Flame Youth Group TYR****Monday, September 8, 2025****6:00 AM Lefse-Making TK****9:00 AM Lectio Divina TR322/Zoom****9:00 AM Rolling Bandages for GH TFH****9:30 AM Altar Guild TLC****1:00 PM Book Discussion TGS****Tuesday, September 9, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****Wednesday, September 10, 2025****7:00 AM Men's Bible Study TFH****8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL****9:30 AM Lydia Bible Study TR208****6:00 PM Community Meal TFH****6:30 PM Wednesday Night Alive TLC****6:30 PM Confirmation Class TFH****Thursday, September 11, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****9:30 AM WELCA Bible Study TR208****10:00 AM Memory Cafe TLC****Saturday, September 13, 2025****5:00 PM Worship TS****Sunday, September 14, 2025****9:00 A & 10:30 A Worship TS****9:15 AM Sunday School TEW****11:45 AM Flame Youth Group TYR****1:00 PM Middle School Fall Fest TK****1:30 PM Belong & Grow Class TGS****Monday, September 15, 2025****6:00 AM Lefse-Making TK****9:00 AM Centering Prayer TR322/Zoom****9:00 AM Trinity Quilters TFH****10:00 AM Healing Touch Exchange TR321****Tuesday, September 16, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****9:30 AM Fellowship Coffee TFH****10:45 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry TR307****Wednesday, September 17, 2025****7:00 AM Men's Bible Study TFH****8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL****2:00 PM Cancer Support Group TR300/Zoom****5:00 PM Rejoicing Spirits TFH****6:00 PM Community Meal TFH****6:30 PM Wednesday Night Alive TLC****6:30 PM Confirmation Class TFH****Thursday, September 18, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****9:00 AM Bike Ride around Clear Lake CLSW****Friday, September 19, 2025****11:00 AM Ethnic Lunch by Central Park MCCC****Saturday, September 20, 2025****5:00 PM Worship** TS****Sunday, September 21, 2025****All Day Labyrinth Walk for Peace TC****9:00 A & 10:30 A Worship** TS****9:15 AM Sunday School TEW****10:00 AM Colby Gochanour Reception TGS****10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks TGS****11:45 AM Flame Youth Group TYR****Monday, September 22, 2025****6:00 AM Lefse-Making TK****9:00 AM Lectio Divina TR322/Zoom****9:00 AM Trinity Quilters TFH****Tuesday, September 23, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****9:30 AM Caregivers Support Group BS/Zoom****6:30 PM Trinity Council Meeting TR300****Wednesday, September 24, 2025****7:00 AM Men's Bible Study TFH****8:30 AM Women's Bible Study TL****4:00 PM Trinity at Community Kitchen CK****6:00 PM Community Meal TFH****6:30 PM Wednesday Night Alive TLC****6:30 PM Confirmation Class TFH****Thursday, September 25, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Jamboree TFH****Saturday, September 27, 2025****5:00 PM Worship TS****Sunday, September 28, 2025****9:00 A & 10:30 A Worship TS****9:15 AM Sunday School TEW****11:45 AM Flame Youth Group TYR****Monday, September 29, 2025****6:00 AM Lefse-Making TK****2:00 PM Diminished Vision Gathering TL****Tuesday, September 30, 2025****8:00 AM BASES Exercise Class TGS****10:00 AM Visio Divina MAM**

September 2025

TRINITY CONNECTION

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We are called to share God's healing love through Christ's forgiveness and our personal servanthood.

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- Faith & Wellness Outreach
- Trinity Connection
- Youth News

Office Hours

9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM M-Th
8:00 AM TO 4:00 PM F

Worship

Saturdays at 5:00 PM
Sanctuary
Traditional Service

Sundays at 9:00 AM
Sanctuary & Online-
Livestreamed on Facebook
and YouTube, or listen live on
KCMR 97.9 FM or kcmrfm.com
Traditional Service

Sundays at 10:30 AM
Sanctuary
Contemporary Service

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