



TIDINGS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WATERTOWN, MINNESOTA



God is Reforming Us

Every year at the end of October we celebrate the Lutheran Festival of the Reformation, or the Re-formation of God's church. This dates back to October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed 95 theses (challenges) to the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany. He was raising questions about the current practices of the church, many of which were backward, dated, and even harmful. One of the biggest challenges Luther faced was about the nature of the church itself. Many of the church leaders of his day wanted to keep things exactly as they were, without ever changing a thing – even if what they were doing didn't make any sense! But Martin Luther challenged this thinking, and reminded the church that God is always doing a new thing, reshaping, refining, and REFORMING us as God's precious people. He used Scripture passages like this one to make his point:

***Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth,
do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the
wilderness and streams in the desert.***

Isaiah 43:19

We are living in a time of sweeping change. Our communities, our nation, and our world are all changing at an astonishing rate. This means that the church also has to change in order to meet the demands of a new day. Doing things like we've always done them before simply won't work anymore. But there's good news! God is doing a new thing! God is reshaping, refining, and REFORMING the church for this new day! God is making a way in the wilderness and bringing streams in the desert! God is bringing new life to us all!

~ God's Peace, Pastor Engholm



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

OCTOBER 2021

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Worship Onsite
Sundays 9:00 & 10:30 am

Worship Online
Sundays 9:00 am
Wednesdays 7:00 pm

STAFF:

Pastor	Jeffrey M. Engholm
Minister of Music	Joyce Harding
Children's Ministry	Hannah Rosholt
Office Manager	Robyn Behrens
Financial Secretary	Gail Cassidy
Financial Administrator	Mary Jech
Intern	Jacob Ulland

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What's Happening AT TRINITY LUTHERAN?



Onsite

Sundays at 9:00 & 10:30 am
9:45 am Sunday School and Fellowship

Online

Sundays at 9:00 am
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm



Find Trinity's online services on
Facebook, YouTube and on our website

Jacob's Journal



As many of you know my wife and I welcomed our daughter Sadie into our family in August. She has been a great joy in our lives and we are so in love with her, even though we get a lot less sleep these days. We just want to extend our gratitude to all of you at Trinity for your kind words and support. Special thanks to the quilters for the beautiful quilt that we received on September 26 and for the nice card we received from the church council. Sadie made a brief appearance at the 10:30 service and was so excited about her gift that she filled her pants while we were standing up front. We are grateful for the Trinity community and all the ways they continue to support us. Hope you all have a good fall!

Thanks ~ Jacob Ulland



Trinity Lutheran Church is embarking on an initiative this year called "Why Church". Through this partnership with the ELCA Minneapolis Area Synod, we will be offering several opportunities for the congregation to come together in discussion, learning, and faithful support of one another as we continue to seek the ways God is at work in our daily lives.

Why Church: "God's Story and My Story"

Wednesday, October 27 | 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Join us for our first "Why Church" opportunity as we talk about how far we have come and how much we have grown in the midst of the global pandemic. During this event, we will re-connect with each other, re-discover our roots in the faith, and be re-minded of our rich history in faith through the Bible. And we will do all of this right before we celebrate our Lutheran Re-formation on the last Sunday of October. God is always re-forming the church – let's get together and see how God is re-forming each one of us!

To learn more or to sign up to attend this event, visit www.trin.org/whychurch.



Sunday School Blasts Off to a Great Start!

On September 12, we “blasted off” our 2021-2022 year of Sunday School. It has been a joy to connect in-person and online with so many families. Our theme for September and October (Blast Off) teaches children four important spiritual habits. If you’re a grown-up and you’ve been following Jesus for a while, you’ve probably figured out a few ways to grow spiritually. Kids, on the other hand, aren’t grown-ups, so they might need a little help to figure out how, exactly, to grow spiritually. So what should spiritual growth look like for a kid? We like to think about it in terms of four spiritual habits: Spend time with God, spend time with others, use their gifts, and share their story. Do the first few sound familiar? You might have heard Pastor Jeff or Hannah Rosholt reference the “Big Idea” and “Question of the Week” during worship these past few weeks. We’re loving our new curriculum (Grow Curriculum) that focuses our attention each week on an easy-to-digest idea as well as a challenge. Remember, you don’t have to be a kid to tune into these weekly themes!

We’re looking for volunteers!

If you’re willing to volunteer to help with Sunday School this year (even if you can’t make it every week or can only help occasionally), please reach out to Hannah Rosholt at hrosholt@trin.org.



Online Giving Update

Trinity’s online giving partner, Vanco, is making some changes. Keep an eye out for a new online giving page on Trinity’s website and more information on how to give in the new Vanco Mobile app coming soon. Online giving to Trinity will still be available during this transition.

Confirmation



Rite of Confirmation

Celebrate with the following students as they affirm their baptisms at their Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, October 10 at the 10:30 am worship service.

Syliva Becker

Lonne Gilbert

Ella Hunkins

Parker Jackson

Natalie Johnson

McKenzie Mitteness

Nathan Ragner

Eleanor Rundell

Julia Salzsiedler

Owen Utendorfer



Thursday, October 21 | 10:00 am

Join Trinity’s OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Fellowship Group to hear from Dave & Pat Niermann about their trip to Tanzania in 2020, where they went on a safari and climbed Kilimanjaro. All “older” and/or “wiser” Lutherans and friends are invited to attend.



Glen Sandquist’s 90th Birthday

Saturday, October 16 | 2:00 - 4:00 pm

You are invited to celebrate with Trinity member Glen Sandquist on his 90th birthday in Trinity’s Fellowship Hall. If you are unable to attend this open house, feel free to send him well wishes: Glen Sandquist, c/o Westwood Place, 209 Jefferson Avenue SW, Room 210, Watertown, MN 55388. No gifts please.

Congregational NEWS

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISMS

Emmarie June Hirsch

Daughter of David & Shiree Hirsch

Born March 24, 2021

Baptized September 19, 2021

Jeffrey James Saatzer

Son of Jake & Mackenzie Saatzer

Born March 14, 2021

Baptized September 26, 2021

MEMORIALS

In memory of

Barbara Lee Meyer

General Fund ~ \$25



There are not enough words to describe how precious pastors are. God has given us pastors to see to it that we are taken care of spiritually and He has blessed Trinity with Pastor Jeff Engholm. We want to express our sincere appreciation for all that he does for our congregation.

Take a moment this month to reflect on Trinity's blessings and to say thank you to Pastor Jeff for his part in them.

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

September 21, 2021

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund summary August 2021

Beginning balance 8/1/2021:

\$ 16,033.57

General Fund income:	\$ 34,848.21
General Fund expenses:	\$34,698.66
Net balance (August):	\$ 149.55

General Fund balance as of 8/30/2021:

\$ 16,183.12

Year-to date general fund EXPENSES exceed INCOME by \$20,501.18.

Building Fund expenses:

Loan interest payment:	\$ 883.16
Loan principal payment:	\$ 1,453.84
Add'l principal payment:	\$ 4,238.00

Mortgage loan balance:

\$ 273,197.29

Cash Summary

Bremer: \$ 62,115.44
(includes \$2,726.32 for Aug. federal withholding and \$11,955.78 in hail damage receipts)

Citizen's Building Fund: \$135,465.61

M/S/C Diane Holmes / Nancy Stello / carried

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Jeff is watching the COVID numbers to see if we need to make adjustments at church, but there are no changes needed right now. He is also encouraging everyone to continue to make decisions that will keep our members safe. Moving ahead during these time will also mean continuing to experiment with online and in person services, as well as re-imagine roles within the church. One change that has happened is the former "COVID Crusaders" is now known as "Sunshine Ministry" and has been delivering flowers.

OLD BUSINESS

Team updates:

- **Sunshine Ministry** - Looking for more members to help with deliveries once a month. Recently delivered 41 vases of flowers to community members.
- **Internship Committee** - Committee discussed the importance of outreach and the definition of evangelism.
- **Property Improvement Projects** - The Apostles have been cleaning up the church house garage and basement.

Teller Duties Update: Procedure changes were discussed and agreed upon.

"Why Church" - The first session will be October 27, 2021, 6:30-8:30 pm. A suggestion was made to video record future sessions so members who cannot attend can participate.

NEW BUSINESS


Gift for Jacob - A motion was made to purchase a gift card for Jacob on behalf of the congregation.

M/S/C Corky Ibeling / Nancy Pickering / carried

Pastor's Pension/Health Plan - The finance committee is recommending to continue with the same Gold Plus health plan for Pastor Jeff

M/S/C Jodi Boylan / Nancy Stello / carried

Budget Presentation - Mary Jech presented an overview of General Fund balance, income, expenses, budget, cash in bank, and the mortgage balance for the years 2017-2021 with a look forward to 2022. Recommendation: Since the average expenses for 2019, 2020 and 2021 have been about 9% less than the total budget number, it is the consensus of the finance committee that we should continue to keep our total spending around \$455,000 for the coming year.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>October 2021</h1>					1 Happy Birthday Lydia Fails Audrey Neaton	2 Happy Birthday Chrissy Johnson, Amanda Kohls, Julia Salzsiedler
3 Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:30 am (Onsite)	4 Book Club 6:30 pm AA Meeting 8 pm Happy Birthday David Olson Addison Paschke Jeff Tronnes	5 Quilters 9 am Kitchen Rsvd. 6 pm Handbells 6:45 pm Happy Birthday Emily Hecksel Anita Huber Hal Pysick	6 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Worship 7 pm (Online) Youth Ministry 7 pm Worship Choir 7 pm Praise Band 8 pm Happy Birthday Kristine Erickson, Jackson Jones, Alden Sandquist Cathy Vanderbilt	7 Happy Birthday Tracie Hill Matt Williams	8 Happy Birthday Ryan Hallermann Ethan McCleary	9 Happy Birthday Gary Harding Ed Rundell
10 CONFIRMATION Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:30 am (Onsite) Happy Birthday Patrick Essen, Ronna Ritter, Allison Skeie	11 Apostles 8:30 am Priscilla Circle 2 pm AA Meeting 8 pm Happy Birthday Morgan Tatge	12 Quilters 9 am Handbells 6:45 pm Happy Birthday Hannah Bjurstrom Steven Markgraf	13 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Worship 7 pm (Online) Youth Ministry 7 pm Worship Choir 7 pm Praise Band 8 pm Happy Birthday Hannah Bjurstrom Steven Markgraf	14 Finance Committee 6:30 pm Happy Birthday Anna Barfknecht Joshua Guetzkow	15 Happy Birthday Rachel Vargo	16 Glen Sandquist 90th Birthday Party 2-4 pm Happy Birthday Eliot Fautsch Glen Sandquist
17 Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:30 am (Onsite) Happy Birthday Isabela Christensen, Jason Emmons, Mary Paschke	18 AA Meeting 8 pm Happy Birthday Rob Lohmann Valerie McCain	19 Quilters 9 am Church Council Mtg. 6:30 pm Handbells 6:45 pm Happy Birthday Austin Barfknecht, Elaine Beckstrom, Jack Forcier, Stacy Guetzkow	20 No Confirmation Worship 7 pm (Online) Youth Ministry 7 pm Worship Choir 7 pm Praise Band 8 pm Happy Birthday Emmett Danielson Sawyer Ritter	21 OWLS 10 am Happy Birthday Zackary Eliason	22 Happy Birthday Sarah Barfknecht, Nick Neaton, Joy Rundell	23 Happy Birthday Jill Matson Nancy Stello
24 Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 9:45 am No Sunday School Worship 10:30 am (Onsite) Happy Birthday Vivian Stenson	25 Apostles 8:30 am AA Meeting 8 pm Happy Birthday Paul Christensen Jordyn Prigge	26 Quilters 9 am Handbells 6:45 pm Happy Birthday Daniel Gjertson, Matt Scanlon, Leif Schmidt	27 Why Church 6:30 pm 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Worship 7 pm (Online) Youth Ministry 7 pm Worship Choir 7 pm Praise Band 8 pm Happy Birthday Dru Illies, Dale Loehrs, Marilyn Weiland	28 Heavenly Housekeepers 9 am Happy Birthday Allison Neaton Mary Sloan	29 	30 Happy Birthday Scott Phearman Stephanie Semeja
31 REFORMATION Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 9:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Worship 10:30 am (Onsite)	Happy Birthday Matthew Gallus					



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What God is Like

Before her death in 2019, Christian author Rachel Held Evans started writing a book with her young children in mind. The goal was to help them explore images for God, who is love.

What Is God Like? (co-authored by Matthew Turner) acknowledges, "That's a very big question, one that people from places all around the world have wondered about since the beginning of time." The book highlights such biblical images for God as an eagle, a shepherd, a fort, wind, an artist, a "strong and safe" mother, and a "gentle and safe" father.

Just as Evans remained open to questions as a means to grow in faith, her book concludes: "Keep searching. Keep wondering. ... But whenever you aren't sure what God is like, think about what makes you feel safe ... brave ... loved. That's what God is like." What images for God come to your mind? Indeed, what is God like — for you?

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