



*Be strong and
courageous.*

*Do not fear...
for it is the Lord your God
who goes with you.
He will not leave you
or forsake you.*

Deuteronomy 31:6

FROM THE PASTOR...

Grace, mercy and peace to you from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

I don't know if you have noticed but Halloween decorations are already out for sale and some houses have already been decorated. You all know what this means; Reformation Sunday is coming up fast! Reformation is a wonderful time of the year, because it makes us take a moment and remember all the great things God has done throughout the history of the Church. From Christ, to Martin Luther, to us, the Lord is faithful and always makes sure that the Gospel can and will be proclaimed throughout the world. This is both the why and the what of Reformation.

Therefore, I believe it is only appropriate that in my last newsletter article to you, I remind you that God is always faithful. The Prophet Jeremiah writes in Lamentations 3, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord was faithful when he sent Christ. The Lord was faithful to Martin Luther, and the Lord is faithful to us still today. In God, and God alone is our hope, our trust, and our faith, for he alone is faithful.

I will miss you all, and I thank God that he graced me with the honor to serve as your pastor for a time. It was a pleasure and an honor, but it was always only going to be for a time. God alone is with us from beginning until the end, and he alone is faithful. So this Reformation season, look to Christ, hope in him, for he is your portion. Farewell.

In Christ,

Rev. Timothy D. Smith



Farewell, Pastor & Heidi Smith!

Pastor & Heidi Smith's final day at Trinity will be Sunday, October 8, 2023 before Pastor Smith begins his ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church in Rochester, MN. There will be a Special Congregational Assembly for the Peaceful Release of his Call at 10:15am in the Sanctuary, followed by a Farewell Reception in the Parlors.

Join us for delicious dessert refreshments as we express our deepest gratitude for their service, reminisce about their time at Trinity, and bid them a heartfelt farewell!





Happy Birthday!

To our members who are celebrating their 80th or more birthday in October! Surprise them with a card or visit.

October 1	Joan Seehafer 510 S 18th Ave. 54401
October 3	Bill Zastrow 1508 Merrill Ave., Apt. 319 54401
October 8	Darlene Wiesneski 1740 Cherry St. 54401
October 16	Claire Baehman 4602 Barbican Ave. Weston, WI 54476
October 16	Roger Goetsch 1426 N 1st Ave. 54401
October 18	Iris Lind 1509 Woodland Ridge Rd. 54403
October 19	Dave Johnson 4702 County Rd. K 54401
October 22	Phyllis Bevers 1508 Merrill Ave., Apt. 411 54401
October 24	Geraldine Radke 1231 S 50th Ave. Apt. 12
October 26	Beverly Goetsch 1426 N 1st Ave. 54401
October 30	Charles Luedtke 710 S 5th Ave. 54401
October 31	Beverly Erdmann 1601 Cherry St. 54401

Our Sympathy.

We extend our sympathy to the families of those who have passed away.

- Roger Lutz September 3
- Sue Thiel September 17

Holy Baptism!

We welcome the following into the Lord's family through Baptism.

† Amelia Bentley	September 10
† Clara Erdman	September 10
† Jolene Erdman	September 10
† Megan Erdman	September 10
† Reba Erdman	September 10

Anniversaries!

Congratulations to the following who will be celebrating their 50th or more Wedding Anniversary!

♥ Ralph & Linda Nass	October 2
♥ Joseph & Sally Sigmund	October 4
♥ Dennis & Patricia Hoffmann	October 6
♥ William & Elizabeth Zerneck	October 7
♥ Donald & Gladys Beese	October 17
♥ Martin & Joyce Zernicke	October 22
♥ Earl & Carol Raduechel	October 27

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL CONTACTS

Phone: 715-842-0769 or 715-848-0166

Website: trinitywausau.org

Email Address: trinity@trinitynet.org

Rev. James L. Mayland, Senior Pastor.	ext. 360
Rev. Timothy D. Smith, Associate Pastor.	ext. 302
Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Pegorsch, Pastor Emeritus.	715-675-4074
Rev. Steven Vaudt, Pastor Emeritus.	715-610-2920
Matthew Hoehne, Director of Music.	ext. 303
Bill Zuelsdorff, School Principal.	ext. 308
Rick Stengl, Director of Christian Education.	715-843-7023
Tina Dickens, Church Administrator.	ext. 304
*Emergency On-Call Pastor.	715-842-0769, press "0"
	1-715-506-2807

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS are 7:30am-4:00pm. Door #1 (the main door entering the lobby) will be open during office hours—anything else will need to be scheduled through the church or school offices. Childcare families will need their badges all day every day to access the secure areas of the building and door #1 outside of office hours.

Openings For New Students

As a result of our staff growth over the last several months we are pleased to announce that our 2 and 3 year old classrooms currently have room for new students. We invite families to call us at 715.848.0166 for more information, for a tour, and to reserve a spot for your 2 - 4 year old! These spaces are limited and we expect these high-demand spots to fill up fast!

UPDATES

The School Board, in collaboration with the Board of Elders, chose to rewrite the position description of Childcare Director. That change was made with prayerful consideration of the future direction and needs of Trinity Lutheran Church & School. The new position will be ministry-driven with a focus on education, which is a shift of thought from a Childcare Director with a goal to push families towards the church. This was presented to the congregation in an Assembly of the Voters on Tuesday, September 12. The congregation, at that meeting, voted to issue a Call to Shelly McMullen.

Shelly received the Call papers on Thursday, September 14 and is prayerfully deliberating the Call as DCE - Family Ministry/Childcare Director. This is a 40%/60% split in theory. In practice, the director will be available throughout the week to Childcare staff, with a focus on staff needs, development, tools and equipment needed in the department, and overall direction of the department, in addition to a heavy children's ministry presence. Please pray for Shelly during this deliberation period as she contemplates a move from Texas. Her decision will be announced in church following receipt - this could take a few weeks. We will then update staff via email of that decision.

The School Board has asked School Board member Marie Traska to serve as a point-person for the Childcare Staff so that they have a sounding board for major concerns. Tina/Jen will continue to manage day-to-day operations in the childcare. This will, however, allow Marie (as a Board member) to hear the concerns and delegate as appropriate. **Marie has not taken on an Interim Director role, but rather will serve as a Board resource to the childcare staff.**

In May, we had 7 Childcare staff...we currently have 21 Childcare staff! It has been a busy Summer on-boarding and training new staff - that is a LOT of work for our staff who were here before. That doesn't count the people we have on-boarded who didn't work out (of which there is a healthy handful).

Please continue to pray for our Childcare staff...many are still training, we have people with medical concerns and family struggles, and it still feels like a period of chaos. Any support or encouragement you can offer them would be appreciated.

Thank you to all of our Childcare Teachers

You see their smiles, you wipe their tears.
You are the one that's always near.
You hold their hands, you help them grow.
They learn so much from you, you know.
You keep them safe while they explore.
You are the one that they adore.
You know they need the time to play.
You keep them busy everyday.
So here is a great big "THANKS" to you,
For all the amazing things you do!



CHURCH & SCHOOL
TRINITY CHILDCARE
501 Stewart Avenue
Wausau, Wisconsin 54401
Phone: 715-848-0166

Here's What's Happening An Eventful Fall

We are back into the swing of things here at school and already having some fun mixed in with the learning we do.



Grade 4K and 5K took a trip to the Apple farm.



Grades 3-8 all had a turn taking a trip to the School Forest. Here some 5th graders are taking a look at what they found in the pond.



And our Fall Sports, volleyball and soccer, are also in full swing. Plenty of action

happening as we get back into the flow of a new school year. The Good News is that we can bring Jesus with us no matter where we are or what we are doing.

Dates to Remember

- **October 25**—Picture Re-take Day
- **October 26**—End of Quarter 1
- **October 27**—Teacher Conference (No School)

Substitute Teachers / Teacher Aides Needed!

If you or anyone you know of is interested and able to serve our school as a substitute teacher (need to have a teaching degree and current license), please contact the school office at (715)848-0166. If you are interested in working with students as a teacher aide, please contact Gina Maroszek at (715)848-0166 or maroszekg@trinitynet.org for more information.

New Look Playground

We were blessed through funds from the Legacy Auction and Alumni to give our playground a facelift. The wood chips that had been there (and occasionally found in school hallways after they hitched a ride in an unsuspecting shoe or other article of clothing) have been replaced with a rubberized floor. Here are a couple of pictures of that new look.



BIBLE STUDIES & MINISTRIES

*We have a place for you at Trinity:
Get Involved in a Ministry or Bible Study!*

Questions? Call (715) 842-0769.



The Book of Revelation

Sundays, 10:15am, Sanctuary

Wednesdays at 9:00am & 5:30pm in the Parlors

Revelation is one of the most mysterious books in the Bible, and we are going to break it down to find the wonderful message of hope that Christ has for us.



LWML Women's Fellowship

2nd Tuesday of the month, 1:00pm, Parlors

A short Bible study and fellowship are always part of our meetings. Mites for all the North Wisconsin District and National Mission Grants are collected monthly. You are welcome to contribute by using the large Mite Box on the table in the narthex. More information on individual mission projects will start in next month's Connection. Please come when you can even if it's not every month.

Our *Fall Women's Gathering* will be Saturday, October 7th at St. Peter's Lutheran (out in the country) at 238537 Del Rio Rd. It starts with a light breakfast at 8:30am and is done by noon. Our guest speaker is Penny Selle, who went on a M.O.S.T. Ministries Eyeglass mission trip to Tanzania last fall.

Please put *Advent by Candlelight* on your calendars for Sunday, December 10th at 3:00pm.



Goetsch/Wadzinski Group

2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, 1:00pm, Parlors

Bruss Group

Wednesdays, 1:00pm, Lounge



Men's Basketball

Mondays, 7:00-8:30pm, Gymnasium

Men Age 18+ are invited to join us for an opening prayer followed by Open Gym for basketball. Please contact Troy with any questions: 715-370-6399.

Band of Brothers

Saturdays, 8:00-8:45am, Parlors

Join us for fellowship that builds one another up and Bible study on the Book of Job. If you have any questions about this ministry or would like more information, please call Terry Page at 715-845-8732.



Sunday School

Sundays, 10:15-11:15am

Parents may drop off their children in the Library and pick them up in their classrooms

Library: 4K-1st Grade

ECC Rm: 2nd-3rd Grade

Room 212: 4th-6th Grade

YAT (Youth at Trinity)

(for Grades 7th-12th, divided into Sr. & Jr. YAT)

Various Sundays, 6:00pm, Youth House

Grades 7-12 are invited to join us for devotions, games, snacks, and fellowship! This month, the Corn Maze and Hayride at Wilke's will be held Sun., Oct. 15th at 6pm. There will be no YAT events on Sun., Oct. 29th.

BIBLE STUDIES & MINISTRIES (CONT.)

Confirmation

Sundays, 10:15-11:15am, Parlors

We are looking forward to a great year of sharing and growing our faith in Jesus Christ with this year's 7th & 8th graders, as well as learning about the privileges and responsibilities of an adult Christian life in Christ.

The Rite of Confirmation for our Jr. Confirmands will happen on Sunday, October 29th during the 9:00am Divine Service. Our students' Capstone Projects will also be on display in the lounge that morning. In September we had our annual Confirmation Retreat where time was spent reviewing all that had been learned about the Christian faith over the past years as well as a time of examination. Confirmation is a custom of the Church and not a sacrament. It links the catechumens to their Baptism, celebrates the hearing of the Lord's Word among them and affirms their continued reception to the Lord's Table. Confirmation declares of a catechumen that he or she is a Christian who has been baptized, confesses the faith, and is in communion with Christ and His Church. Confirmation assumes that ongoing catechesis is the way of life for the faithful Christian. This rite emphasizes God's work in Baptism, the gift of faith, and the benefits of the Lord's Supper for all who believe in Christ and the words of His testament. Our congregational family is asked to be vigilant in prayer for these students that God would continue to keep them in the one true faith and that they would continue to be faithful in attending the Divine Service where God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation are freely given through His Word and Sacraments.



Sanctuary Choir

Thursdays, 6:30-7:30pm (new time!)

Come and join us as we lift our voices in song!

JuBellation Handbell Choir

Mondays, 6:00-7:00pm

We are looking for a couple of ringers to make our ensemble complete—contact Matt Hoehne (715-842-0769, ext. 303 or hoehnem@trinitynet.org) for more information.

Praise Team

Mondays, 5:45-6:45pm

Spiritual Life Center

Join us as we sing praise to the Lord!



GriefShare

Tuesdays through December 5th, 3:00-4:30pm, Parlors

This Christ-centered program helps people apply Biblical principles as they deal with the emotions and life stresses following the death of a loved one.

Trinity Quilters

1st, 2nd, 4th & 5th Tuesdays of the month, 8am, Parlors

As you replace your cotton sheets, mattress pads and blankets please consider donating them to the quilters as we can use them for fillers for our quilts. We can also use new cotton material and partial or full spools of thread. We are very grateful to Thrivent Action Team to offset expenses but material has gone up considerably in the past few years. New workers are always welcome. We quilt throughout the year but take off for Christmas and summer, meeting 8:00-11:00am in the Parlors and are very flexible.

From last September through the middle of June we made 75 quilts for local organizations and our church plus 3 personal orders. Our quilts are larger as many have larger beds, so we aren't able to make as many per year as in the past. Please call Gladys Beese (715-842-2942) with questions.

JOY (Just Older Youth) 55+ Group

3rd Tuesday of the month, 1:00pm, Parlors

JOY Group is CANCELED IN OCTOBER due to the NWD Adult Gathering on Oct. 17th (*see page 14 for more info*).

Ramsey+ (Financial Peace University)

It's not too late to get your FREE 12-month membership if you sign up before December 31, 2023:

<https://www.ramseysolutions.com/ramseyplus/hosts/trinitylutheranwi?pc=29518150>

While you can explore the content of Ramsey+ on your own, we will also host an in-person class for Financial Peace University set to begin Sunday, October 15th. Register for the class today through your Ramsey+ account or at <https://www.fpu.com/28026A>.

LEAVE A LEGACY AUCTION FORM



Saturday, November 4th, 2023

Greenwood Hills Country Club

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.

Supports Trinity Lutheran School

501 Stewart Ave., Wausau, WI 54401

715.848.0166 | trinitywausau.org

Our adults-only celebration attracts 150-200 adults, with guests enjoying an evening of fundraising with hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and silent auction. Funds raised through your generous support play a vital role in the education of our students and provides them with advanced technology opportunities and academic resources.

How can you help? Attend our event or consider one of the donation options below.

Donor Information

Donor Name _____

Address [Optional] _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Please send me a charitable gift receipt for my taxes [email required]: Yes ☐ No ☐

We ask that all donations be submitted by Friday, October 20th, 2023

Donate

☐ Donate an auction item or gift card

Federal Tax ID
39-0818675

Item Name _____ Item Value _____

Item Description _____

☐ Cash Donation \$ _____

For questions or to arrange pickup of your donation, please contact Jami or Tracie using the contact info listed below. You may also mail donations to Trinity Lutheran School, using the address on the top of this form.

Jami Olcott (715) 574.0134 (call or text)

Tracie Schultz (715) 581.4804 (call or text)

Attend

We invite you to attend the Trinity Lutheran School Leave a Legacy Benefit Auction!

Admission \$25 per person

of Attendees _____

Names of Attendees

Tickets may be purchased in the school office or you may mail this form with payment to Trinity Lutheran School, using the address on top of this form. All checks can be made payable to: Trinity Lutheran School

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CALENDAR—OCTOBER 2023

Sunday, October 1st:

7:30 AM Traditional Worship*—Sanctuary
9:00 AM Blended Worship—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Confirmation Class—Parlors
10:15 AM High School Bible Study—Rm 203
10:15 AM Sunday School—ECC Rm, Library, Rm 212
6:00 PM Jr. & Sr. YAT—Youth House

Monday, October 2nd:

5:45 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM JuBellation Handbell Rehearsal—Sanctuary
7:00 PM Men's Basketball—Gym

Tuesday, October 3rd:

8:00 AM Quilters—Parlors
9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
3:00 PM GriefShare—Parlors

Wednesday, October 4th:

9:00 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors
10:00 AM School Chapel: Led by 7th Grade, Message by
Pastor Kampfer—Sanctuary
1:00 PM Bruss Women's Bible Study—Lounge
5:30 PM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors

Thursday, October 5th:

6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, October 6th:

8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors

Saturday, October 7th:

8:00 AM Band of Brothers—Parlors
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—Sanctuary

Sunday, October 8th:

7:30 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
9:00 AM Blended Worship—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Special Congregational Assembly for
Peaceful Release of Call for Pastor Smith—
Sanctuary
10:15 AM Confirmation Class—SLC
10:15 AM Sunday School—ECC Rm, Library, Rm 212
10:30 AM Farewell Reception for Pastor & Heidi
Smith—Parlors
6:00 PM Sr. YAT—Youth House

Monday, October 9th:

1:00 PM Goetsch/Wadzinski Women's Bible Study—
Parlors
5:45 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM JuBellation Handbell Rehearsal—Sanctuary
7:00 PM Men's Basketball—Gym

Tuesday, October 10th:

8:00 AM Blood Drive @ Blood Center of Northcentral
Wisconsin (8:00am-6:30pm)
8:00 AM Quilters—Parlors
9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
1:00 PM LWML Women's Fellowship—Parlors
3:00 PM GriefShare—Parlors
6:00 PM Board of Elders Meeting—Parlors

Wednesday, October 11th:

9:00 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors
10:00 AM School Chapel: Led by Pastor Huan—
Sanctuary
1:00 PM Bruss Women's Bible Study—Lounge
5:30 PM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors

Thursday, October 12th:

6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Friday, October 13th:

8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors

Saturday, October 14th:

8:00 AM Band of Brothers—Parlors
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—Sanctuary

Sunday, October 15th:

7:30 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Confirmation Class—Parlors
10:15 AM Sunday School—ECC Rm, Library, Rm 212
6:00 PM YAT Corn Maze & Hayride @ Wilke's

Monday, October 16th:

5:45 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM JuBellation Handbell Rehearsal—Sanctuary
7:00 PM Men's Basketball—Gym

Tuesday, October 17th:

9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge

CALENDAR—OCTOBER 2023 (CONT.)

9:30 AM NWD Adult Gathering @ Mount Olive
Lutheran Church—Weston, WI
1:00 PM JOY Group *CANCELED*
3:00 PM GriefShare—Parlors

Wednesday, October 18th:

9:00 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors
10:00 AM School Chapel: Led by All Staff—Sanctuary
1:00 PM Bruss Women's Bible Study—Lounge
5:30 PM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors

Thursday, October 19th:

6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, October 20th:

8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors

Saturday, October 21st:

8:00 AM Band of Brothers—Parlors
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—Sanctuary

Sunday, October 22nd:

7:30 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
8:00 AM Pancake Breakfast (*fundraiser for Trinity
School*)—Cafeteria
9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Confirmation Class—Parlors
10:15 AM Sunday School—ECC Rm, Library, Rm 212
6:00 PM Sr. YAT—Youth House

Monday, October 23rd:

1:00 PM Goetsch/Wadzinski Women's Bible Study—
Parlors
5:45 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM JuBellation Handbell Rehearsal—Sanctuary
7:00 PM Men's Basketball—Gym

Tuesday, October 24th:

8:00 AM Quilters—Parlors
9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
3:00 PM GriefShare—Parlors

Wednesday, October 25th:

9:00 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors
10:00 AM School Chapel: Led by Mr. Welch, Director of
Family Ministry at St. Mark's—Sanctuary
1:00 PM Bruss Women's Bible Study—Lounge
5:30 PM Bible Study: Revelation—Parlors

Thursday, October 26th:

4:00 PM Trunk or Treat—Parking Lot
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary

Friday, October 27th:

8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors

Saturday, October 28th:

8:00 AM Band of Brothers—Parlors
8:00 AM Pictures & Service Rehearsal for
Confirmation—Sanctuary
5:00 PM Reformation Contemporary Worship—
Sanctuary

Sunday, October 29th:

7:30 AM Reformation Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
9:00 AM Reformation Traditional Worship w/Rite of
Confirmation—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Bible Study: Revelation—Sanctuary
10:15 AM Confirmation Class—Parlors
10:15 AM Sunday School—ECC Rm, Library, Rm 212
6:00 PM *NO YAT Events*

Monday, October 30th:

5:45 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM JuBellation Handbell Rehearsal—Sanctuary
7:00 PM Men's Basketball—Gym

Tuesday, October 31st:

8:00 AM Quilters—Parlors
9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
3:00 PM GriefShare—Parlors

***THE LORD'S SUPPER IN WORSHIP** Good news! Starting in October, Trinity will begin offering the Lord's Supper at every worship service. Why would we do this? First, the Lord's Supper, where you receive the true body and blood of Christ, is a precious gift which gives forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation. Second, it's Scriptural. In the New Testament there is no mention of Sunday services without a mention of the Lord's Supper. Third, Communion is the most visible way that we can see Christ in our worship service. We hear His Word preached every week, so why wouldn't we want to also sense (see, smell, taste, feel) His forgiveness as well to engage all five senses.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, TINA DICKENS

Facilities/Properties

The Brick Restoration Project of 2023 is complete! Our community partners at Miron were a blessing to work with, and we are very pleased with the results. Miron came under budget for the project, so we were able to complete a few items that were not in the original bid and stay under the approved amount. There are a few items left to complete the project: caulking around doors, windows and concrete joints; lighting the arch at the main entrance on Stewart Ave; and gutter replacement on the east wall of the Gym. These are additional costs, but they are operational in nature.

We have new LED lighting on the exterior of the building. This is going to save us money over time, but it will also brighten the exterior, making it safer around the campus. The congregation funded this project last year.

The YAT House got a slight facelift. There was broken plaster in the ceiling that was repaired, and there is a fresh coat of paint coming to that area and adjacent areas soon.

Trinity is working to obtain some quotes for special projects, including carpet throughout the school and childcare, carpet in the church and school office/workroom, and resurfacing the parking lots. We are also looking at quotes for the woodwork on the exterior of the church, which would be the last phase of the exterior restoration. Once we have an opportunity to prioritize the needs, we plan to present them to the congregation.

Childcare Update

The congregation met on September 12th and voted to issue a Call to Shelly McMullen for the role of Childcare Director...but wait, there's more! Prior to that, the School Board and the Board of Elders chose to make this a Ministry-driven position with a focus in Childcare Admin. The Call is for a DCE of Family Ministry/ Childcare Director. The goal is to help us grow young family ministry through both Family Ministry and the Childcare. If Shelly does not accept the Call, the School Board and Elders are committed to this model for the position moving forward.

Please pray for Shelly and her family as she deliberates the Call to Trinity; and please continue to pray for our hard-working Childcare staff – they have tripled in number since May!

August Financial Summary

We currently have 60 students enrolled through School Choice and a total of 175 students. This is a double-edged sword.

For every School Choice student, Trinity will receive \$9,800 (an increase of \$1,500/student from last year) in the *current* school year. School Choice participation requires that we spend that \$9,800/student per year on each School Choice student, *and* \$9,800/student on each of our tuition paying students. Family paid tuition is *at most* \$2,800/student for *members* and \$4,500 for *non-members* (*or members who do not meet attendance requirements). The congregation pays *at least* \$7,000/student for *members* and \$5,300/student for *non-members**. This year, we need to spend roughly \$160,000 more than we needed to spend last year to stay compliant with this program – that is a BIG challenge when we try to keep tuition low for our families and cannot cover that additional expense with current tithes and offerings. We are in process of evaluating how to bring in more income to cover this. Our main sources of income are offerings and family paid tuition.

The financial chart includes 4 line items at the bottom that show the “bottom” line for each area within the church. We are all one budget, but we do have individual responsibilities for our respective areas. There is also a comparison to last year in the chart. Highlights from last month's financials include:

- Childcare:
 - ◇ We have on-boarded roughly 20 staff members in the last 5 months. That means our staff members who were here in May have trained about 15 (because 5 have not worked out for various reasons). This is a LOT of work for those staff members to do while they are taking care of children. Please thank them when you have an opportunity.
 - ◇ We are still in a period of transition with training, and we need to be fully staffed to add more children. But we need more students to offset the cost of additional staff. We are getting there, but it is taking more time than originally anticipated.
 - ◇ While Childcare is operating at a deficit greater than expected, we are trending upward. It is important that we give the staff the time they need to be fully trained. We will get there.

FINANCIALS—AUGUST 2023

- School:
 - ◇ See the above note regarding School Choice and the impact on finances this year. This is incredibly important and should be on everyone's radar.
 - ◇ School financials look great right now because we collected tuition/fee payments in July and August. We are scheduled to receive the first School Choice payment in late September, which should help with some cash-flow issues right now.
- Church:
 - ◇ Tithes and offerings have fallen to 88% of budget in the first 2 months of the fiscal year and \$7,600 lower than last year's giving at the same time in the year. This is alarming. That is \$3,800 per month less that we have to spend on ministry. This trend coincides with the announcement of the Estate gifts back in February. If we cannot correct this as a congregation, we will have to reserve the Estate gifts for operational expenses, for which they should not be used. If you have an idea about how we can be practicing better stewardship of the congregation's funds, or if you feel that we are not being good stewards in one area of another, please discuss that with Chad Schwantes, Chairman of the Congregation: chairman@trinitynet.org. We strive to be good stewards of the LORD's gifts.
- OVERALL:
 - ◇ Overall, we are in a good financial position ending August, but the downward trend of Tithes and Offerings is a big concern. As we try to grow ministry, we are concerned about having the resources to allocate to areas of interest. In short, people of the congregation want to see Trinity serving people in a meaningful way, but we don't currently have the resources to do everything we want to do.

We continue to pay down debt ahead of schedule. Debt is currently:

- Endowment Loan: \$85,526 ← Perspective...we borrowed \$212,000 from the Endowment in 2018 with the goal of paying it back in 15 years —We are WAY ahead of schedule with interest.
- Thrivent Loan: \$513,329 ← Perspective...this was just under \$1,000,000 when I began at Trinity in August 2015! We fully anticipate this being below \$500,000 this time next year.
- **TOTAL Debt: \$598,855 ☺**

Current account balances: —Checking: \$47,479 —Savings: \$609,953 —Endowment: \$855,996

May God continue to work within you to continue to support the ministry at Trinity with time, talents and treasure in Fiscal Year 2024...we are excited about gathering people to grow in faith and share Jesus with all, and we hope you are, too!

	Aug 23	Budget	% of Budget	Aug 22	Jul - Aug 23	YTD Budget	% of Budget	Jul - Aug 22	Annual Budget
Income									
CHILDCARE INC	22,870	31,750	72%	31,964	47,147	58,130	81%	58,404	440,467
COUNCIL INC	88,430	107,023	83%	100,535	177,490	200,996	88%	185,168	1,237,677
ELDERS INC	15	45	33%	0	45	45	100%	0	450
SCHOOL INC	48,121	18,843	255%	10,301	161,214	142,752	113%	168,642	1,335,563
Total Income	159,436	157,661	101%	142,800	385,896	401,923	96%	412,214	3,014,157
Gross Profit	159,436	157,661	101%	142,800	385,896	401,923	96%	412,214	3,014,157
Expense									
CHILDCARE EXP	42,680	39,030	109%	26,461	83,272	79,547	105%	64,831	505,548
COUNCIL EX	14,498	15,768	92%	16,291	29,878	36,056	83%	36,948	617,200
ELDERS EXP	45,300	41,345	110%	35,571	90,519	83,380	109%	82,709	524,164
SCHOOL EXP	106,043	103,955	102%	89,013	212,137	234,114	91%	222,607	1,367,245
Total Expense	208,521	200,098	104%	167,336	415,806	433,097	96%	407,095	3,014,157
Net Income	-49,085	-42,437	116%	-24,536	-29,910	-31,174	96%	5,119	0
CHILDCARE Net Income	-19,810	-7,280	-12,530	5,503	-36,125	-21,417	-14,708	-6,427	-65,081
CONGREGATIONAL Net Income	73,932	91,255	-17,323	84,244	147,612	164,940	-17,328	148,220	620,477
LAY MINISTRIES Net Income	-45,285	-41,300	-3,985	-35,571	-90,474	-83,335	-7,139	-82,709	-523,714
SCHOOL Net Income	-57,922	-85,112	27,190	-78,712	-50,923	-91,362	40,439	-53,965	-31,682

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER is essential for our daily walk with God. Here at Trinity we have an opportunity to lift up the needs of others who request prayers on the friendship pads or to our church office. Please consider joining Trinity's prayer team. All that is required is a willing heart to lift up each prayer request to the Lord. Please provide your email address to prayers@trinitynet.org if you would like to participate. As a member of our Prayer Team, each week prayer requests will be sent out to the email you provide. The power of prayer is effective!

COME TO SCHOOL CHAPEL! You are invited to come to chapel here at Trinity on Wednesdays at 10am in the Sanctuary. Come worship our Lord with the school students that you so generously support, right after 9am Bible Study.

SAVE THE DATE: LEAVE A LEGACY AUCTION Saturday, November 4th at Greenwood Hills Country Club. We are planning another exciting evening to support Trinity and our students filled with fellowship, hors d'oeuvres, door prizes (including \$500 tuition credit towards a future school year*), and a vast array of silent auction items, including incredible class projects made by our very own students! This is a remarkable event that has raised funds for important purchases that Trinity otherwise would not be able to make, such as curriculum updates, security improvements, technology upgrades, renovating the school library, adding the parking lot fence, and safety improvements to the playground through the rubberized flooring. This is not just an event for parents and families with students at Trinity; this event allows us to come together as a congregation to support our school and students. More information to come. We hope to see you there! Questions or want to donate? Contact Jami Olcott (715) 574.0134 or Tracie Schultz (715) 581.4804. ** In the event you are unable to use the \$500 tuition credit, it may be gifted to another family.*

SAVE THE DATE: ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT will take place on Sunday, December 10th at 3:00pm.

TRUNK OR TREAT Trinity Lutheran School is doing Trunk or Treat again this year on Thurs., Oct. 26, 4-6pm. If you would like to decorate your vehicle trunk and pass out candy to our school children in the parking lot, please contact the school office to get signed up. Also needed are candy donations, which can be taken to the school office. Please make sure your costumes are God pleasing.

DON'T FORGET! Every 5th Sunday of the month is a Gathering Sunday for the Salvation Army! Remember to bring in your non-perishable goods on October 29th!

NWD ADULT GATHERING Make plans now to attend the NWD Adult Gathering on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Weston. Registration & morning refreshments begin at 9:30am with the program from 10:00am–2:30pm. A catered lunch will be served at noon. Devotions will be led by Rev. Dr. Dwayne Lueck, president of the North Wisconsin District. Keynote speaker, Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, executive director of Synod's Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL) and speaker emeritus for The Lutheran Hour, will share the message "Defending our Religious Liberty as People of Faith." The cost is \$30 which includes morning refreshments, program & lunch. Registration deadline is October 2nd. An offering will be collected at the event to support the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty. Registration forms are available in the narthex and on the NWD homepage at www.nwdlcms.org under 'Events and Info.'

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UP Is Christian fellowship within Trinity's membership important to you? Do you enjoy coffee and/or treats? Pray about hosting a Coffee Hour! Coffee Hour provides refreshments and fellowship opportunities between worship services on Sunday, and is a wonderful way you can serve! ***Coffee Hour this year will be held every Sunday morning that there is a volunteer signed up*** between the 7:30 & 9am worship services and between 9am worship and 10:15am Spiritual Growth Hour. Coffee Hour will not be held if there is no volunteer signed up. For more information or to sign up, please see the sign up sheet outside the Sanctuary.

TRINITY SUNDAY SCHOOL NEEDS ONE MORE VOLUNTEER TEAM TEACHER this fall. With Team Teachers leading each of the classrooms, the time commitment for teaching would only be for one or two Sundays per month! If you are passionate about sharing the love of Jesus with children, are interested in teaching, or are simply looking for more information about volunteering with our Sunday School program, please fill out a Sunday School Volunteers Needed form, which can be found in the Narthex or Reception area, and return to the church office. In lieu of the form, you may also email kimberlyattrinityss@gmail.com or if you have any questions. Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT.)

CHURCH OFFICERS & BOARD CONTACTS

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, April 28, 2024. "Wedding Dresses Through the Decades" for all women of Trinity, young and old.

WANTED: Wedding dresses from past to present for the bridal show at Trinity on Sunday, April 28, 2024. Do you have your wedding dress, your mom's or your grandmother's? If you would like to showcase a dress at the bridal show, please contact Pauline Bruss (12packer@charter.net; call/text: 715-216-9401) or Adele Bluhm (adbluhm70@gmail.com; call/text: 715-571-1924). Dresses will be displayed, or we have young ladies willing to model if you so desire.

THE CHURCH KITCHEN is in need of plastic containers with covers. Any donations would be greatly appreciated and can be brought to the church office. Thank you!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER Trinity School is raising money to serve lunch on our last school day picnic at Marathon Park—just like the good old days. Come one and all to the Cafeteria on Sun., October 22nd from 8:00-10:30am. It's ALL YOU CAN EAT—pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage links, fruit, coffee, milk, and orange juice. The suggested donation is \$8 for those 13 years old to adult; \$5 for children 5-12 years old; and those 4 and under are free. Join us for a delicious breakfast!

TRINITY BLOOD DRIVE, sponsored by the Human Care Committee, is being held on Tues., Oct. 10, 8am-6:30pm at the Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin (211 Forest St.). Help us make a difference in our community!

SCRIP 90% of the Scrip fundraising program is required to be run by volunteers. Thank you to all of our volunteer Scrip sellers on the weekends between worship services, and thank you to Barb for weekly processing orders. *We could not utilize this amazing program that supports Trinity without each and every one of you.* **We are in need of volunteers to sell Scrip Monday through Friday, 7:00-8:00am and 2:00-4:00pm.** The commitment for these hours is no different than selling Scrip over the weekends. Scrip will be sold in the offices from 8:00am to 2:00pm until we have weekday volunteers. Scrip will continue to be sold at the counter in the Narthex after the 5pm Saturday service, after the 7:30am Sunday service until the 9am service, and after the 9am service until the 10:15am Spiritual Growth Hour.

CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY UPDATE We are still hard at work in the proofing process with Harmann Studios. We compiled your responses correcting contact information and member records to ensure this directory has the most accurate information possible. We look forward to presenting the completed directory this winter.



Congregational Officers

Chad Schwantes, *Chairman*
Chairman@trinitynet.org 715-355-3027

Ron Edwards, *Vice-Chairman*
ViceChairman@trinitynet.org 715-845-2972

Jamie Schlei, *Secretary*
Secretary@trinitynet.org 715-551-9400

Lenore Breit, *Treasurer*
Treasurer@trinitynet.org 715-370-8652

Board of Elders Elders@trinitynet.org

Doug Beisner	
Raun Egner	
Todd Hauer	Tim Rock
Craig Hoehne	John Schult
Dan Oelke	Dan Schwantes
Terry Page	Eric Sneider
Bob Popelka	Bob Zimmerman

School Board

Katie Claxton
Barb Emerson
Emily Jolin
Sallie Kitzrow

SchoolBoard@trinitynet.org

James Kramer
Dick Kriewaldt
Stephanie Lynn
Marie Traska

Church Council

Brian Barkow
Dave Christian
Darryl Neumann
Chad Schwantes, *Congregational Chairman*
Ron Edwards, *Congregational Vice Chairman*
Jamie Schlei, *Congregational Secretary*
Lenore Breit, *Congregational Treasurer*
Raun Egner, *Chairman of Board of Elders*
James Kramer, *Chairman of School Board*
Rev. James Mayland, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Timothy Smith, *Associate Pastor*
Bill Zuelsdorff, *Principal*
Tina Dickens, *Church Administrator*

ChurchCouncil@trinitynet.org



CHURCH & SCHOOL

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October is Clergy Appreciation Month

This is a wonderful opportunity to commit to pray for and encourage our pastors and their families. Our pastors have the very important task of overseeing the spiritual well-being of our congregation, and they do so much for Trinity! Please remember them with words of appreciation and encouragement or with a card—perhaps include a note of a time that you were especially touched by their ministry.

Any cards or notes can be placed in the church office.

*Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor,
especially those who labor in preaching and teaching.
(1 Timothy 5:17)*

