

TRINITY TIDINGS

Growing faith, family and friends with our future in Christ



Kocsis' Kontemplations

Well, I finally did it. I finished the honey do list. For the past several months we have been slowly getting the house ready to sell in preparation for retirement. It is amazing how many little jobs get pushed to the side. It is easy somehow to get motivated to do a big project, but tightening that one little screw that has been loose for as long as you can remember can get walked by over and over and over again. The longer we do so the easier it is to not be concerned about it. But those little jobs also seem to pile up. The sad truth is we really didn't finish the list. We have just decided it is good enough.

I wonder how many other areas of our lives are plagued by the same syndrome? I should take 20 minutes to read my bible, five minutes to pray for so and so. I should call them and check on them.

I wonder if my neighbor could use some help? We live next door to people for years and never get to know them. It reminds me of the Song, 'Cat's in the Cradle.' We even do it with our family and friends.

So, it is no surprise that we also do it with our Lord. I think it is easier with him, because He doesn't need our help. He is, after all, God. But that is the problem. We need Him. All those little things in our lives that we have somehow learned to live with, even those little aches and pains, He has a cure for.

He is not like us. He does not get distracted by bigger stuff. He actually keeps track of how many hairs we lost today. He doesn't work on the list and finally say that is good enough. He has a plan all worked out and is working it out continually. He is committed to it. In the same way, He was committed to dying to purchase our Righteousness.

St. Paul says, "I am confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

As comforting as that is, now ponder just how detailed the plan is, if he is even keeping track of every hair on your head. So, take some time to dig into His word and hear again how much He cares for you.

Pastor Mark

Trinity Lutheran Church

105 Luther Way
Dothan, AL 36301

334-792-9745

Trinitylutherandothan.org



Pastor: Mark Kocsis

tluthpastor@comcast.net

Admin Asst: Ann Spradley

trinitydothan@outlook.com

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday-Friday 8 am to 12 pm

Sunday Service 9:45 am

Pastor Mark Kocsis

Or Watch:

- live stream:
<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranDothan>

- Youtube channel:
Trinity LCMS Dothan

Sunday Bible Study 8:30 am

With Pastor Mark Kocsis
Study: Job

With David Reed
Study: Liturgical Worship

President's Message

CALL - We are beginning the call process for finding a new pastor. Thank you to all who participated in the congregational survey. The results have been collated and will be analyzed by the call committee. The Council has approved the following members to serve on the committee - Rick Schmoldt, Becky Mozo, Ed Lambert, Linda Whillock and Jerry Cornog. We will be asking the congregation to also approve the committee members. If you would like to see the "results" of the survey, just ask. The congregation will be able to ask questions pertaining to the call process on Sunday, October 18th, after Divine Service when we meet as a group with the Southern LCMS District President, Eric Johnson. We look forward to his insights and direction as we call a new pastor.

SHINE! - In cooperation with the Southern District, Trinity has chosen a service project to help us SHINE the light of Christ across our community. We will be packing food boxes at the Wiregrass Food Bank Thursday, November 5th, beginning at 8 am. The project will take several hours and we need up to 20 people. More details will be forthcoming.

LERT - Bee Rupright has graciously volunteered to be the congregational point person for our LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team). She will be working with the Southern District office to move us forward in setting up our program.

OCTOBER - October will be a busy month at Trinity. The Council meeting has been moved up to the 4th, which also happens to be LWML Sunday. The voter's meeting will occur after services on the 11th. Southern District President Eric Johnson will be with us the 18th. The last Sunday of the month, October 25th, will serve as Reformation Sunday. In the afternoon we will host members from Christ The King, Enterprise and Prince of Peace, Ozark for both a service and meal following the service.

VOTER'S MEETING - The voter's meeting will be held after the service on October 11th. Please check your mail boxes for an agenda, the proposed 2027 budget and a slate of candidates for the various offices. If you have not volunteered for an office, you have time to do so. Contact David Hanks and he will be delighted to add your name to the slate.

PASTOR'S GONE, NOW WHAT? I am sure everyone has wondered, thought about, prayed about what will happen during our vacancy. Life will continue, God's Word will be preached, the Lord's Supper will be

celebrated, Bible classes will be taught, the LWML will meet, quilting will continue, etc., etc. Times may change, leaders may change, formats may change. We need to be flexible. Sunday service may begin earlier or later depending on our vacancy pastor. Bible classes may be after services, meeting times may change. In addition to being flexible with our scheduling, we will need members to step forward to serve in various capacities. Please be thinking of how you can contribute to the overall program here at Trinity. Let me know if you are interested in assisting in any way.

QUOTES - (more actual quotes from Federal employee performance evaluations)

- He's been working with glue too much
- Gates are down, the lights are flashing, but the train isn't coming
- If you give him a penny for his thoughts, you'd get change
- He brings a lot of joy whenever he leaves the room
- The wheel is turning but the hamster is dead
- He would argue with a signpost
- This lady has delusions of adequacy

In His Service,
Marvin Weber



The Lord has blessed Trinity Lutheran Church. On Sunday, September 20th, He provided us with acolytes. Nora Matteson and Evan Bernard took over the duties from the Elders. While they're younger than the usual age, they did a great job. We know the Lord will continue to bless us.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
75th
Anniversary
History

*"For the LORD is good and
His love endures forever;
His faithfulness continues
through all generations."
Psalm 100:5*



In 1948, Rev. Vernon H. Boriack was serving Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn, Alabama, and making bi-weekly trips from Auburn to visit a new mission in Panama City, Florida. It was during these trips that Rev. Boriack stopped in Dothan to visit with Lutheran families about starting Lutheran church services in Dothan, Alabama. By 1949, Lutheran families in Dothan began having regular church services in their homes utilizing wire-recorded church services from Auburn. Rev. Boriack continued to assist as it became apparent that servicemen in the area also needed a place for worship.

In April 1951, a new chapter in Trinity's history began with the arrival of Rev. Luther M. Voss, a Lutheran Service pastor of the Wisconsin Synod. Rev. Voss served both the military personnel at Fort Rucker and the local Dothan, Alabama, congregation. On August 1, 1951, Trinity Lutheran Church was formally organized. The congregation affiliated with the Southern District of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. A building site was purchased on St. Andrews and Hill Streets in Dothan.



Meanwhile, the congregation was eager to establish a Lutheran Service Center, a "home away from home" in Dothan to serve the many Lutheran servicemen of the Forty-Seventh Division which had arrived at Fort Rucker from Minnesota and North Dakota. The congregation wrote to the Lutheran Service Commission in Washington, D.C., about their desire to offer worship facilities to the servicemen and their families. The Commission responded very quickly and favorably. Trinity members donated many hours of labor for the preparation and program of the center which was a large home located on North Foster Street and dedicated on September 2, 1951 with Rev. Boriack as the Pastoral Advisor.

On March 30, 1952, Rev. William H. Marwede was installed as the first full-time pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church and as director of the Lutheran Service Center. Rev. Marwede continued serving in those capacities until September 1953 when he moved to Charleston, South Carolina. The Service Center in Dothan closed soon thereafter.





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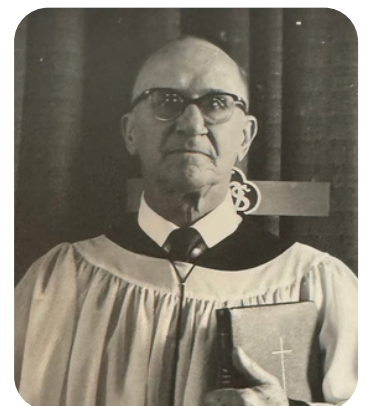
In the same 1953 timeframe, Charles Woods, a prominent Dothan citizen, deeded five lots on the corner of South Park Avenue and West Selma Street to Trinity's congregation. A ground breaking service was held September 13, 1953. At that time, the original proposed building site on St. Andrews and Hill Streets, was sold.

Trinity's church services were conducted temporarily in the Jewish Temple while the new Trinity structure was under construction. The congregation moved into the new Chapel (still unfinished) on April 27, 1954. Furnishings for the chancel were designed by Rev. Boriack who continued to serve Trinity as vacancy pastor during Trinity's building construction. In addition, the baptismal font was crafted by Ernest Anderson.



In October 1954, Rev. William B. Gummelt accepted the call to serve Trinity as pastor. The first regular Sunday Services were held beginning November 7, 1954. Pastor Gummelt was formally installed on January 16, 1955 and became the first resident pastor called by the Trinity congregation. Dedication services for the completed chapel located on South Park Street were held Sunday, October 9, 1955 at 4:00pm with guest speaker, Rev. William H. Marwede and liturgist, Rev. Walter B. Gummelt. At that time, Trinity numbered 63 baptized members and 30 communicant members with Sunday School enrollment at 31.

Trinity's parsonage was built the following year at 1205 West Selma Street. Rev. Gummelt served as pastor of Trinity for three years until September 1957. At that time, Rev. Henry Meyer, a retired pastor from Cullman, Alabama, came to Dothan to serve as vacancy pastor. Rev. Meyer would also be called to serve Trinity vacancies in later years (1965).



A written Trinity Lutheran Church history booklet is being compiled for publication at the end of the year.

LWML News

Oct. 4 - LWML Sunday
Oct. 10 - LWML Monthly meeting
Oct. 25 - Reformation Sunday
Nov. 1 - All Saints Day
Nov. 7 - LWML Monthly Meeting
Nov. 14 - Christmas Bazaar (Craft Fair)
Nov. 22 - Christ the King Sunday
Dec. 12 - LWML Christmas luncheon



This month's meeting

*October 10th
at 10 am.*



Join us for
LWML
Sunday
October 4th



Save the Date

ANNUAL
**TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHRISTMAS
BAZAAR**

@ TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH • DOTHAN, AL

Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026 • 9 am to 2 pm



105 LUTHER WAY, DOTHAN, AL
(OFF E. COTTONWOOD RD)

FEATURING

HANDMADE CRAFTS,
GIFTS AND BAKED GOODS

There are a few vendor spots left. If you know of someone, please have them contact Ann Spradley at 334-648-6986

This Month's Events (see calendar for all events)

Weekly Schedule

Tuesday	9:00 am	Quilting (10/13 & 10/27)
Wednesday	11:30 am	Lunch Out
	6:00 pm	Bible Study
Thursday	8 am	Men's Prayer Group & Breakfast
Friday	12 pm	Crafts and Game Group (potluck lunch)

Please Note:

Pastor and others have fragrance sensitivity.
Please refrain from wearing perfume or cologne.

Note: No potluck Sunday in October, November and December

Mark your Calendar



Sunday October 11th.
After Service

**Southern District
President Eric Johnson
Call Meeting**

Sunday October 18th.
After Service

**Don't forget to lock your car in
the church parking lot.**

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please email articles to
Karen Sanders at
TLCDothanNews@gmail.com
by the 20th each month.

Reformation Sunday



Join us on Sunday, October 25th

We will host members from Christ The King, Enterprise and Prince of Peace, Ozark for both a service and meal following the service.

Watch your bulletin and our facebook page for more information.

We Need Your Help!

We are looking for volunteers to help run the slides during Sunday morning worship services. It's easy to learn, and your help would be greatly appreciated!

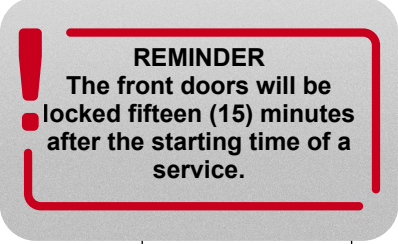
Interested in helping?
Please sign up in the narthex.

Thank you for serving!

Trinity Lutheran Church

105 Luther Way Dothan AL 36301 (334) 792-9745
 Rev. Mark Kocsis, TLuthPastor@comcast.net

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:00am Men's Prayer Group and Breakfast	2 12:00pm Lunch, Crafts and Games	3
4 8:30am Bible Study 9:45am Worship (LWML Sunday) 11:00am Church Council Meeting	5	6	7 11:30am Lunch Out	8 8:00am Men's Prayer Group and Breakfast	9 12:00pm Lunch, Crafts and Games	10 10:00am LWML Meeting
	Pastor Mark away at Pastors' Conference					
11 8:30am Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Voter's Meeting	12	13 9:00am Quilting	14 11:30am Lunch Out 6:00pm Bible Study	15 8:00am Men's Prayer Group and Breakfast	16 12:00pm Lunch, Crafts and Games	17
18 8:30am Bible Study 9:45am Worship 11:00am Call Meeting with President Johnson	19	20 Pastors' Meeting	21 11:30am Lunch Out 6:00pm Bible Study	22 8:00am Men's Prayer Group and Breakfast	23 12:00pm Lunch, Crafts and Games	24
25 8:30am Bible Study 9:45am Worship Reformation Sunday Service Dinner Time TBD	26	27 9:00am Quilting	28 11:30am Lunch Out 6:00pm Bible Study	29 8:00am Men's Prayer Group and Breakfast	30 12:00pm Lunch, Crafts and Games	31