

September 2021

## Pastor's Page

Friends in Christ,

I want to begin by once again expressing my gratitude to all of you for your thoughts and prayers when I was sick with Covid-19 last month. I really appreciated all of the support you gave. Hopefully we will see a reduction in cases soon in our area as transmission is high right now. I hope and pray that everyone stays safe and healthy!

As September approaches and school resumes this fall, we are planning on returning to a relatively normal schedule and ministry calendar. We will move to two services on September 12th and begin a new year of Sunday School in-person. As most of you know, we will be following local and federal guidelines for our on-site activities. At this time masks are recommended for worship and Sunday School. We also plan on beginning Confirmation with a 6th and 7th grade parents meeting on Sept. 15th from 6:30-7:00 pm. We will begin classes for 6th-8th grades on September 22nd. At this time, with high transmission in our area of Covid-19, we will plan on just meeting for large group sessions from 6:30-7:15. We hope to begin small groups after the MEA break. More information will be sent to participating students and families.

I am so excited to let you all know that we will be having a waffle truck coming to Trinity on September 26th! The truck will be here from 9:00-10:15, and the waffles will be free! Our Outreach Team will be covering the cost so that everyone can come and enjoy a delicious treat! We just wanted to try and do something fun to welcome everyone back for the new school year!

I want to close by saying that I know we are still in the thick of things as far as the pandemic is concerned, but we will carry on the best we can. Every day we take a breath on this earth is a sacred gift from God. And God is generous! I hope and pray that all of you are well and look forward to starting the school year with purpose and gratitude!

God Bless,  
Pastor Jon

### September Worship

**September 5: 9:00 a.m. in person worship in the sanctuary.**

**September 12 and ongoing: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. in person worship in the sanctuary.**

We will be singing and celebrate communion and have coffee fellowship between services. (No pre-registration necessary/sit where you wish/masks recommended.)

Our 8:00 a.m. worship service will be livestreamed vs. pre-recorded. It will be available to view in "real time" on our YouTube page and then posted to both our Facebook and YouTube pages at some point following worship to access for viewing later. An email with the link to view the worship service and an order of service will be emailed to everyone we have an email address on file for.

**Confirmation pictures are on the Narthex table for pick up.**



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church



# Children & Youth Ministry News

## Children's Ministry:

We're excited to share that Sunday School will be kicking off on Sunday, September 12. We will hand out backpack tags that day and have our "Blessing of the Backpacks" for students and staff at the 10:00 a.m. service. We encourage students to bring their backpacks to the service. Sunday School registration is available now. Forms can be found in the narthex or online. We are still looking for a few substitute teachers to help out in classes as needed this year. Reach out to Sarah if you can help [skrosschell@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:skrosschell@trinitynorthbranch.org)



We are planning to have our 3rd Grade Bible Presentation during the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, September 26. If you did not receive the registration letter and have a child who is in 3rd grade please reach out to Marie at [mray@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:mray@trinitynorthbranch.org). We will also have our Sunday School teacher and volunteer installation at the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, September 26.

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## EDGE Youth Ministry:

EDGE will be kicking off our school year on Wednesday, September 15, with yard games and fun on the Trinity lawn from 6:30-7:45 p.m. EDGE Youth Group registration is available in the narthex or online. We invite incoming 9th grade families and any other 9-12th grade families interested in being a part of EDGE to register or reach out to Marie at [mray@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:mray@trinitynorthbranch.org)



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**College Ministry:** We're planning to make college care packages to send out some time this fall. If you would like your college student to receive one, please send Marie the mailing address for where they will be this fall. We'll likely send notes, snacks, and other fun items to hopefully brighten their day and let them know their church family is thinking about them and praying for them. [mray@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:mray@trinitynorthbranch.org)

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FROM THE CHAIR.....

September is my favorite month of the year. Not only were my two children born in September, but I love the weather. The temperatures seem to be perfect. Especially, if you want to be outside a lot.

This September is my 50th high school class reunion. Where did that time go? I was fortunate to be on the planning committee with 5 other classmates. Our meetings were very organized and we worked well as a team. We had a small class of about 80 plus students, so you got know everyone pretty well. I look forward to seeing some people I have not seen in a long time.

In September we start with Sunday School, Confirmation, music worship team, and going back to two services. We finally in July, thought we were moving forward after the pandemic and worshipping inside with no masks and having coffee hour. The middle of August we were back to being able to worship inside, but going back to recommending we wear masks and hold off on having coffee hour. We need to work together as a team, so we can get through this next phase and be able to do the things we look forward to each Sunday.

*"Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken."*

~ Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

God's Blessings,  
Linda Born

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**"Christ in Our Home" daily devotionals for October, November & December have arrived. Large and regular print books are available. If you'd like a copy, email [jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org) or leave a message for Julie at 651-674-7047 to pickup.**

# Treasurer's Report

## Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending July 31, 2021  
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

<u>Income</u>	July Actual	July Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 24,841	\$ 30,093	\$ 196,849	\$ 210,652
Loose Offering	\$ 175	\$ 500	\$ 693	\$ 3,500
Other Income	\$ 35	\$ 63	\$ 4,236	\$ 5,640
Grants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 48,744	\$ 48,744
Rent	\$ -	\$ 167	\$ 200	\$ 1,168
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 2,110	\$ 1,458	\$ 16,417	\$ 15,384
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Regular Giving</b>	<b>\$ 27,161</b>	<b>\$ 32,280</b>	<b>\$ 267,140</b>	<b>\$ 285,087</b>
<u>Expenses</u>	July Actual	July Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<u>General Expenses</u>				
Ministry Support	\$ 24,728	\$ 28,246	\$ 178,141	\$ 198,473
Church Property	\$ 5,150	\$ 6,402	\$ 45,141	\$ 49,779
Stewardship	\$ 132	\$ -	\$ 644	\$ 816
Learning & Youth	\$ 27	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,875	\$ 3,750
Worship	\$ -	\$ 225	\$ 1,152	\$ 1,575
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 118
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 30,038	\$ 36,539	\$ 226,954	\$ 254,510
<u>Mission Support</u>				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 17,004	\$ 17,004
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 1,313	\$ 1,313
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 642	\$ 642
	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 18,958	\$ 18,958
<b>Total Regular Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 32,746</b>	<b>\$ 39,248</b>	<b>\$ 245,913</b>	<b>\$ 273,469</b>
<b>Total Net Income - July 2021</b>	<b>\$ (5,585)</b>	<b>\$ (6,968)</b>		
<b>Total Net Income - Year-To-Date</b>			<b>\$ 21,227</b>	<b>\$ 11,618</b>

July Income was \$5,119 under the July Budget  
July Expense was \$6,502 under the July Budget

Net Income is -\$5,585 for July  
Net Income is \$21,227 Year to Date

**Please consider online giving.**

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$132,227  
Mortgage Balance as of 7/31/2021 \$194,799

Respectfully Submitted,

*Todd J. Fisk*

Treasurer

See our website [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://www.trinitynorthbranch.org) to give electronically on a one-time or recurring basis. Select the date and frequency (one time, weekly or monthly) and designate the amount and fund (Unified, Building, Viking Vittles, Memorial or Other.) Changes can easily be made at any time.

**Offering can also be mailed** to Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 447, North Branch, MN 55056.

# Worship Notes for September 2021

## Sunday, September 5<sup>th</sup>—Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel.*

*Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.*

**Isaiah 35:4-7a** These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

**Psalms 146** I will praise the LORD as long as I live.

**James 2:1-17** Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

**Mark 7:24-37** In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

## Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark, too, the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of "Messiah") in Mark only on the way to the cross; so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.*

**Isaiah 50:4-9a** The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah.

Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

**Psalms 116:1-9** I will walk in the presence of the LORD.

**James 3:1-12** This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

**Mark 8:27-38** This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

## Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>—Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.*

**Jeremiah 11:18-20** Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

**Psalms 54** God is my helper; it is the LORD who sustains my life.

**James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a** The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

**Mark 9:30-37** Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

Worship  
with us  
from  
HOME

**Our weekly worship recording will continue to be available each Sunday on our facebook page and YouTube channel. If you'd like to watch "together" from home, tune in at 8:00 am Sunday mornings beginning September 12!**

**Like Trinity Lutheran Church on facebook, and comment on our posts! Updates, Bible Study and weekly worship videos are posted frequently!**



## Sunday, September 26h—Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomed good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.*

**Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29** What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

**Psalms 19:7-14** The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes.

**James 5:13-20** Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

**Mark 9:38-50** On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

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### Looking to get a punch on your Stewardship card???

A year of learning new ways of living, worshiping, and loving has past. We have become masters of our inner growth! Let's keep that self growth going with singing with Senior Choir! That's right, we are back at it come Fall at our 8am time slot! We are taking you as you are and have a very flexible schedule! If you are even remotely interested, or even if you aren't - email Tyler or Deb anyways. They will ease your mind of all the reasons you have come up with as to why you can't make this fit in your schedule! Once you join you will be mad at yourself for not coming on board sooner! And remember, God made each and every one of your voices... I think you see where we are going here!

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**I'd like to thank everyone** for the get well cards, messages, thoughts and prayers during my hospital stay and continued recovery. I was diagnosed with a staph infection in my blood stream, which also settled in a bone in my lower spine and large muscle in my upper right leg, and have an abscess around my lower spine. After 10 days at the U of MN, I am recovering at home. I will have at least 8 weeks of IV antibiotic therapy. During this time I have some restrictions, and have been advised this will take a while to recover from energy and muscle strength wise. I hope to begin in the office soon, gradually increasing my hours as I recover, and do some things from home. I'd also like to thank the wonderful Trinity staff for filling in for me while out of the office and recover. As I recover, office hours may vary a bit, so please call ahead if you need to stop in. Julie



**To the roof** in memory of Dan Walden (Martha Arnold's brother) from Dave & Martha Arnold, Tom & Candi Hals, Mike & Barb Nelson, Esther Tatley, Jane & Loren Magnison

**Undesignated** in memory of Orv Otterness from Michas Ohnstad, Millicent Aycock

**Undesignated** in memory of Tom Fisk from Keith & Erma Parsons, Mandi Irkfeldt & Jesse Lavalla

**To Music Fund** in appreciation of Kelly Rogstad from Bev Otterness

**To the Building Mortgage** in memory of Orv Otterness from Murray & Linda Schmidt, Joanne Aakhus, Lorraine Wenzel, Gloria Karsky & Jerry McFarlane, Janelle Mork, Carol Gustafson, Yvonne Johnson, Don & Roberta Elmstrand,

**Undesignated** in memory of Nancy Boyce from Mandi Irkfeldt & Jesse LaValla

**Undesignated** in memory of Lu Dresel from Bev Otterness

**Youth Programs** in memory of Mariam Bloom Curtis from Bev Otterness

**Undesignated** in memory of her brothers Dick, Larry & Ed from Sherri Johnson

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### Viking Vittles Help Needed

We are looking for some members to help with packing Viking Vittles.

If you are able to help, please sign up at <https://signup.com/go/CPhKcVP> or call Mary Twitchell at 320-630-5040.

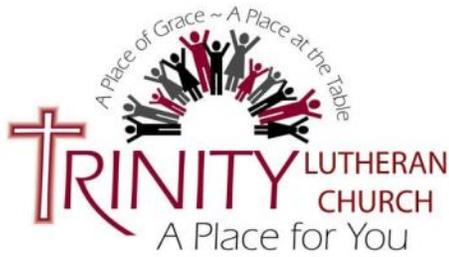
**Fare for All is back at Trinity Lutheran Church. This is an all outdoor drive-thru version. The time has changed to 3:30-5:30 pm. The next sales will be held September 15 & October 13. See [www.fareforall.org](http://www.fareforall.org) for details.**

### ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month of September

Mary Twitchell

Donna Brown



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
North Branch, MN  
Permit 39

38460 Lincoln Trail  
PO Box 447  
North Branch, MN 55056

**Return Service Requested**

Mailing Label

# September 2021

## Partners in Ministry: The People of Trinity

Church Office: 651-674-7047 Church Fax: 651-674-7048  
Church Office Hours: no scheduled hours at this time  
Sunday Worship: available at 6 am Sunday mornings on our  
facebook page and YouTube. See our website for links.  
Church email: [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Church website: [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://www.trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Pastor Jon Yurk Cell: 612-231-2111  
[pastor@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:pastor@trinitynorthbranch.org) ext. 12  
Sue Danielzuk, Church Administrator  
[sdanielzuk@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:sdanielzuk@trinitynorthbranch.org) ext. 37  
Marie Ray, Director of Youth & Family Ministries  
[mray@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:mray@trinitynorthbranch.org) ext. 13  
Sarah Krosschell, Sunday School Coordinator  
[skrosschell@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:skrosschell@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Deb Aulich, Director of Worship and Arts  
[daulich@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:daulich@trinitynorthbranch.org) ext. 14  
Julie Morgan, Church Office Manager  
[jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org) ext. 10  
Christopher Dehen, Financial Recorder  
[cdehen@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:cdehen@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Jaron Roberts, Audio Visual Manager  
[jroberts@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:jroberts@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Tyler Olson: Sr. Choir Director  
[tolson@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:tolson@trinitynorthbranch.org)

Roger Anderson & David Nelson, Custodians  
Rick Olson & Luke Meyer, Cemetery Staff  
Outreach Committee:  
[Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Todd Fisk, Church Treasurer  
Missionaries: Dr. Stephen Swanson family –  
Tanzania  
Our Sister Congregation in Tanzania—Pawaga

**Church Council Members:**  
Linda Born, Council Chair  
Chris Judson, Council Vice-Chair  
Dennis Aulich, Lucas Edson,  
Rosanne Johnson, Gary Porath, Stan Sjodahl,  
Ann Tanko, Vicky Trampe,

**Are you receiving the Tidings by e-mail and by regular mail?**  
To reduce our expenses and receive only the email version, contact Julie at [jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org)