

August 2022



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pastor's Page

Dear Friends at Trinity,
Sometimes I'm asked just how things are going at Trinity. And I will always reply, "They are going great!" And then, after a moment's hesitation, I'll add, "Except for visiting folks, that part continues to be a challenge."

Since arriving at Trinity in March I've tried a variety of strategies for calling, connecting and, if possible, visiting people in our parish. And I've had people recommend I visit someone who may, or may not, be interested in a pastoral visit. And I'm always grateful when I'm told about parishioners who have entered the hospital or nursing home and have requested a visit from the pastor. But I know I continue to miss some people who would really appreciate a visit.

So I'm excited to share that Trinity has begun its lay visitation and communion program again and that we have nine women who have volunteered to be part of this program. Thanks to: Kathy Aho, Penny Boyce, Carol Gustafson, Sue Gustafson, Roseann Johnson, Jane Magnison, Barb Mork, Barb Nelson, and Ann Tanko who were installed as Lay Visitation Ministers on Sunday, July 10th.

If you would like a visit, with or without communion, you can call one of these women directly. Or you can contact Julie or me at the church office and let us know about your desire for a visit. I know I speak for all of us when I say how important this part of Trinity's ministry is and how eager we are for a chance to visit with you.

I'm hoping that with the volunteer work of our new Lay Visitors, when I'm asked how things are going at Trinity, I'll be able to say: "Things are going great and I'm really enjoying my visits!"

Blessings and peace, Pastor Greg



**Mn Adult & Teen Challenge coming to Trinity
Sunday, August 28th: 9:00 a.m. worship**

Mn Adult & Teen Challenge will be joining us for our 9:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, August 28th. For over 30 years, Mn Adult & Teen Challenge has been restoring hope to people struggling with drug and alcohol addiction. In addition to their effective and affordable shorter-term residential and outpatient programs and distinctive long-term faith-based recovery program, they have extensive outpatient programs and transition/aftercare services. Mn Adult & Teen Challenge helps clients gain hope, healing and freedom in their lives.

One of the ways Mn Adult & Teen Challenge reaches out to area churches and the community is through their resident choir. Each weekend the choir visits churches sharing music and testimonies. The MnTC choir has had the pleasure of ministering to a wide variety of churches in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Their goal is to be a blessing to congregations by testifying about God's healing power in their lives and helping others see that with Him, they too, can overcome their struggles.

The MnTC choir will be singing during the worship time on Sunday, August 28th. Some of them will also share real accounts of their lives while addicted and how God helped them overcome. These stories are not inappropriate, but we want to respect all parents' right to tell their children about drugs and alcohol when they are ready and therefore we hope that you are now aware of what will be taking place during worship on August 28th. The choir will also join us for fellowship and refreshments following the worship service. A free will offering will be taken for the ministry of Mn Adult & Teen Challenge that Sunday.

Children & Youth Ministry News

Children's Ministry / VBS

Like usual, summer is flying by and we're working on youth and family ministry for the fall! We will be having our Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, September 11, at the 9:00 a.m. service. Bring your backpacks to worship and receive a special backpack tag for the school year. Sunday School also kicks off on September 11, after worship at 10:00 a.m. and we will put together backpack blessing bags to be shared in our community. On September 18, we encourage families to attend the Trinity carnival for food and fun! Sunday school registration will be available mid-August so please watch your emails for more details.

This year, with our new family-style Sunday School model, we will be having a teacher leadership team vs. having individual teachers assigned to specific classrooms. This will allow people to help out even if they can't commit to helping every Sunday! The members of the teacher leadership team will give input on our Sunday School year, help families navigate our new changes, and occasionally help teach the lesson or lead a song if they are interested in doing so! If you'd like to join the teacher leadership team, please reach out to Sarah Krosschell at skrosschell@trinitynorthbranch.org

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

7 youth and 2 adult leaders recently returned from a wonderful mission trip to Luther Park in Danbury, WI, in July. We are very proud of everyone in the group and the amazing job they did serving in the area each day. Our first day we worked on painting the gaga ball pit at camp and prepping crafts for campers. Another day we helped stack wood at Interfaith Caregivers of Burnett County that supports heating homes in the winter within the local community. They estimated we helped stack enough wood to help 5 families. We also served at the local food pantry distribution center sorting food and packing boxes. The food we helped pack feeds more than 600 families in the local community. We also helped sort and organize items at the local thrift store. We enjoyed lake time, campfires, yummy meals, devotions, games, and wonderful fellowship together during our free time. We're grateful to our chaperones, EDGE youth and families, Pastor Greg for joining us for a day, and all of the support of Trinity Lutheran to make this trip and experience possible. It's amazing to watch this group be the hands and feet of Christ in this world and see God working in our group to be a blessing to others. Keep letting your light and the light of Christ shine!



"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds, and glorify your father in heaven." -Matthew 5:16

9th-12th graders are invited to be a part of EDGE youth group this fall! We will kickoff our year on Wednesday, September 14, with food, fun, and games. Look for registration to be available in mid-late August. Please contact Marie with any questions, mray@trinitynorthbranch.org

The Path Program

Trinity has been a host for the Path Program for many years. In this program, homeless families with children are hosted in local churches, with each church hosting a few weeks each year. Since Covid these families have been housed in hotels from grant funding received by the program, with hosting churches providing funds for groceries and gas cards. Trinity hosts twice a year for two consecutive weeks, generally in June and December.

Grant funding will end in September, and Trinity will be responsible for hosting the last two weeks of December. This may be a combination of hotel and church hosting, based on available space and volunteers.

We are looking for a coordinator to work with scheduling volunteers, beginning in December. We are also looking for monetary donations to help fund hotel and gas and grocery cards for December.

If you can help out in any way, please contact Julie at 651-674-7047 or jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org. Thank you!



To the Roof Fund in memory of Twyla Ring from Sharon Fairbanks, Clifford & Jeanne Buchan, Howard & Judy Lestrud, Duane & Eileen Fisk, Lorraine Wenzel, Don & Roberta Elmstrand, Karen Nelson, Jill Nelson-Decker, Yvonne Johnson, Evonne Peterson, Carol Gustafson, Arthur Vogel, Gloria Karsky & Jerry McFarlane, Robert & Vicki Heavirland, Albert & Ann Tanko, Tom & Candi Hals, Bonnie Nelson, David & Martha Arnold, Bev Otterness, Mike & Barb Nelson, Sue Gustafson, Lee & Donna Setter, Ted & Jody Nemetz

Senior's Social Night

We are inviting all our seniors for a get together twice a month! Get out and have some fun, spread some joy, and have a good visit. If you are bored at home or feeling couped up and lonely, this is the group for you! We will have social time, eat a hearty meal, sing some good ol' tunes, and some other great surprises. Our group will meet early before the sun goes down. Feel free to have your kids or grandkids drive you and stay for the fun! This is a place where walkers, canes and wheelchairs are welcome, but don't make you look old! You don't have to be old to join in either. If this group sounds fun, but you are not what you consider a senior, then come and visit or help with the fun.

We will meet from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

May 12th and 26th – May 12th bring a picture of your mother if you have one.

June 16th and 30th – June 30th bring a picture of your father if you have one.

July 14th and 28th

August 11th and 25th – If you have a Bible, please bring it.

September 8th and 22nd

October - 13th -A toe tapping night of music

And guess what!?! You don't have to bring anything. You don't have to pay anything. You don't have to be a member of Trinity. You can stay as long as you like. Just bring your smile and a few pictures of the Grandkids to brag about with your friends. That's it!

If you are able, please RSVP to Julie at the church
651-674-7047 or email jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org.



TWIGS ANNUAL SALAD LUNCHEON

It's back! Invite your friends and neighbors and come and enjoy a delicious lunch that you did not have to fix!

We are looking for donations of salads and bars. There are signup sheets in the Narthex for salads, bars, set up, or clean up help.

There will be a free will offering. TWIGS (Trinity Women in God's Service) is not a budget item. This luncheon is our one fundraiser of the year for programs, sponsorship of a Pawaga student and the purchase of Beginner Bibles for all baptized children at Trinity.



**11 am—1 pm Thursday,
September 1 in our
Fellowship Hall**



Trinity's Rummage Sale will be held August 19 & 20. Items can be brought to Room 16 (near Door 4) 8a-3p Monday through Thursday. Please call ahead so we can unlock.

Please make sure clothing is clean with no rips or stains, and buttons and zippers are intact.

No TVs or computer equipment accepted. Radios and small appliances that are in good working order are welcome.

We have become known for our quality and quantity of items for sale. Thank you to everyone who donates to our sale. Help is available to bring large items such as furniture to the church. Funds raised will go towards our roof repairs.

If you could help sort or work the sale, please call Wendy Malone at 651-237-0190, or call the church office at 651-674-7047.

New individual communion option available



If you are someone who has a little harder time navigating our sloped aisles in the sanctuary as you go down for communion, we will have a new communion option available beginning Sunday, August 7th. There will be prefilled/disposable individual communion cups and wafers in baskets by the offering plates on the stands as you enter the sanctuary. You can take one and keep it with you until the communion part of the service. Then you will be able to stay in place in your pew and drink the wine and eat the wafer in a way that may be more comfortable for you. This does not replace the options of either coming down the aisles for communion or having the pastor/communion assistant bring communion to you in your pew. We want to offer this as another option to receive communion.

Save the date!

Sunday, September 18th

Church carnival with *faith, fun & fellowship* for all ages!

Sunday, September 18th 9:00 a.m. outdoor worship
10:00—noon: games & entertainment for all ages
11:00 grilled hamburgers & hot dogs for lunch & the Scoops ice cream truck!



Everyone in our church family is invited to this fun day of just "being together." There is no cost for anything. More details will be shared in the September Tidings. Put the date on your calendar now. You don't want to miss this!

Did you know? Members of the Outreach Team delivered tangible expressions of Trinity's gratitude for their service to the North Branch Police Department during National Law Enforcement Week in May. The following were delivered:

- * Box lunches from Merchants Cafe
- * Blessing bags for the officers containing rain ponchos, car air fresheners, Kleenex tissues, wet wipes, pens, paper, special wipes for phone and computer screens, crackers and or nuts or pretzels and hard candies.
- * Thank you cards made by Sunday School children.



Your generosity makes it possible for the Outreach Team to show Christ's love to our community. Thank you.

In past we have given them sleeping mats for homeless and also men and women's blessing bags to distribute as they see need. In each bag we include the name of our church, address and phone number.



We have a number of open weeks for serving Coffee Hour this summer. (August 14, 21; September 4) If you can bring treats and serve, please call Julie at 651-674-7047 or sign up on the sheet on the office bulletin board. Thank you!



Trinity's Fellowship Team night at the movies! All are welcome! Simply meet at the North Branch Theater on **August 19** at 6:45 pm, and we will decide on a movie. Discussion and dessert after the movie!

Books for all ages are needed

for our Little Free Libraries. Books may be left in the bin just inside Door 12. Trinity sponsors little libraries at Central Park, Anderson Park and Stacy Lions Park!

To submit a prayer chain prayer request or to be added to the email recipient list, please call the office or email office@trinitynorthbranch.org.

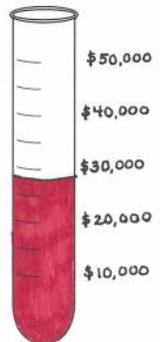


Please email articles for the September Trinity Tidings to office@trinitynorthbranch.org by August 15. Thank you!



Let's Raise the Roof!

The total cost of replacing the roof is \$164,315. We are in the midst of a campaign that is asking the congregation to raise at least \$50,000 towards that effort. With that and other available funds, the roof will be paid for in full! Any money over \$50,000 will help pay down the mortgage more quickly. Currently we have pledges and non-pledged donations that put us just slightly over \$30,000 and the work is now complete! Please consider contributing! Thank you!



Viking Vittles Summer Distribution:

North Branch Central Park: Wednesdays 10:00 am –noon
 Trinity Lutheran Church: Wednesdays 3:00-5:00 pm
 Stacy Lions Park: Thursdays 4:00-6:00 pm
 Spread the word! Volunteers are needed for Wednesday morning distributions. Call Julie at 651-674-7047 if you're available to help out!

Fare for All is back at Trinity Lutheran Church. The next sales will be held 3:00-5:00 August 10 & September 7. See www.fareforall.org for details.



Our weekly worship will be available each Sunday live at 9a on our YouTube channel, and about 90 minutes later on our facebook page. Links can be found on our website.

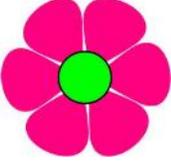
Like Trinity Lutheran Church on facebook, and comment on our posts! Worship videos are posted each Sunday!



"Christ in Our Home" daily devotionals for July, August & September have arrived.

Large and regular print books are available. If you'd like a copy, email jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org or leave a message for Julie at 651-674-7047 to pickup.

AUGUST 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:00 am worship services are livestreamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and facebook.	1	2	3 3:00-5:00 pm Viking Vittles Distribution at Trinity	4 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	5	6
7 Worship Service/ Communion 9:00 am 10:00 am Coffee Hour Relay for Life luminaries available to purchase	8 	9 7:00 pm Council Mtg	10 3:00-5:00 pm Viking Vittles Distribution at Trinity 3:00-5:00 pm Fare for All	11 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Senior Social Night	12 	13
14 Worship Service/ Communion 9:00 am 10:00 am Coffee Hour	15 August Tidings articles due	16 Twins Game-bus leaves Trinity at 5:00 pm	17 3:00-5:00 pm Viking Vittles Distribution at Trinity 4:00 Carnival Planning Team meeting	18 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	19 Movie Night Rummage Sale 	20 Rummage Sale 
21 Worship Service/ Communion 9:00 am 10:00 am Coffee Hour	22	23	24 3:00-5:00 pm Viking Vittles Distribution at Trinity	25 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Senior Social Night	26	27
28 Worship Service/ Communion 9:00 am 10:00 am Coffee MnAdult & Teen Challenge	29	31 	31 3:00-5:00 pm Viking Vittles Distribution at Trinity	1 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 11:00 am-1:00 pm Salad Luncheon	2	3

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending June 30, 2022
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

<u>Income</u>	June Actual	June Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 20,726	\$ 29,740	\$ 173,746	\$ 178,442
Loose Offering	\$ 203	\$ 233	\$ 2,094	\$ 1,400
Other Income	\$ 475	\$ 58	\$ 6,520	\$ 4,463
Grants - Employee Retention Credits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,890	\$ 57,089
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 3,195	\$ 2,167	\$ 19,779	\$ 13,000
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Regular Giving	\$ 24,598	\$ 32,199	\$ 258,030	\$ 254,394
<u>Expenses</u>	June Actual	June Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Mission Support				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 14,575	\$ 14,575
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 1,125	\$ 1,125
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 550	\$ 550
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 16,250	\$ 16,250
General Expenses				
Ministry Support	\$ 24,111	\$ 32,047	\$ 160,187	\$ 193,723
Church Property	\$ 6,993	\$ 6,725	\$ 52,232	\$ 44,198
Stewardship	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 510	\$ 900
Learning & Youth	\$ 602	\$ 308	\$ 2,117	\$ 2,038
Worship	\$ 29	\$ 208	\$ 1,208	\$ 1,780
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 100
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 31,735	\$ 39,456	\$ 216,254	\$ 242,739
Total Regular Expenses	\$ 34,444	\$ 42,164	\$ 232,504	\$ 258,989
Total Net Income - June 2021	\$ (9,845)	\$ (9,965)		
Total Net Income - Year-To-Date			\$ 25,525	\$ (4,596)

June Income was \$7,600 under the June Budget
June Expense was \$7,720 under the June Budget

Net Income is -\$9,845 for June
Net Income is \$25,525 Year to Date

Please consider online giving.

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$132,908.68
Mortgage Balance as of 06/30/22 \$77,398.58

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd J. Fisk
Treasurer

See our website 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.

FROM THE CHAIR.....

Proverbs 15:22

"Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisors they succeed."



Thank you to all who have shared your perspectives over the last several weeks during our Coffee Talk series. Your input is vital to our future as a congregation and as we prepare to call a new pastor. For those that have not had a chance to attend our live Coffee Talks during fellowship hour, we encourage you to share your perspectives through the following short online surveys:

Trinity in times of change and challenge

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/49qe>

Trinity's Gifts and Opportunities

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/48up>

Ministry & Outreach

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/49dw>

What creates meaningful faith, fellowship and connection at Trinity Lutheran Church?

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/49tc>

Future Leadership: Pastoral & Lay

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/49td>

Priorities for the Future

<https://www.surveylegend.com/s/4b5n>

Some of the key themes that we have heard throughout this process include the importance of being together in worship and service, the positive impact of our community outreach, and the challenge of meeting the needs of multiple generations and bringing us all together.

Look for additional opportunities to share your perspectives on the future of Trinity in the coming months as the Ministry Exploration Team (MET) looks for additional ways to engage with our congregation and community partners.

As we transition into August, the MET will be working to complete our Ministry Site Profile (MSP). This information will summarize the input we have received, and provide insight for the Call Committee and pastoral candidates. We are actively looking for volunteers for the Call Committee, so please contact the church office or reach out to me directly if you are willing to serve in this important role.

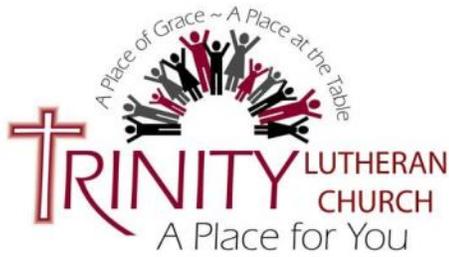
Peace,
Chris Judson

ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month of
August

Tom & Candi Hals

Trinity's Altar Guild needs your help! Due to aging and illness the Guild is shrinking. Do you have one hour a week, one month the year to see that the altar area is neat, that the paraments are correct for the season and see to the general tidiness of the sanctuary? This can be done by men or women, or couples. Current members will be available for training. If this is calling you, please let Julie in the office know of your willingness. Thank you!



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Mailing Label

August 2022

Partners in Ministry: The People of Trinity

Church Office: 651-674-7047 Church Fax: 651-674-7048
Church Office Hours: 8:00 am-3:00 pm Monday-Thursday
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am May 29-Sept 18 in person and
livestreamed on YouTube.

Available on facebook 10:30 am. See our website for links.

Church email: office@trinitynorthbranch.org

Church website: www.trinitynorthbranch.org

Rev Greg Wilcox pastor@trinitynorthbranch.org
Cell 605-351-3289 ext. 12

Sue Danielzuk, Church Administrator
sdanielzuk@trinitynorthbranch.org ext. 37

Marie Ray, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
mray@trinitynorthbranch.org ext. 13

Sarah Krosschell, Sunday School Coordinator
skrosschell@trinitynorthbranch.org

Deb Aulich, Director of Worship and Arts
daulich@trinitynorthbranch.org ext. 14

Julie Morgan, Church Office Manager
jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org ext. 10

Christopher Dehen, Financial Recorder
cdehen@trinitynorthbranch.org

Jaron Roberts, Audio Visual Manager
jroberts@trinitynorthbranch.org

Tyler Olson: Sr. Choir Director
tolson@trinitynorthbranch.org

Roger Anderson & Jeff Hill, Custodians
Rick Olson & Luke Meyer, Cemetery Staff
Outreach Committee:

Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org

Todd Fisk, Church Treasurer

Missionaries: Dr. Stephen Swanson family –
Tanzania

Our Sister Congregation in Tanzania—Pawaga

Church Council Members:

Chris Judson, Council Chair

Linda Born, Lucas Edson, Tom Hals (Vice-Chair)
Rosanne Johnson, Aaron Nysse, 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