

November 2022

Pastor's Page

After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more. His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' Mt. 25:19-21 NIV

When my oldest granddaughter, Sophie, turned 9 years old my wife came up with an idea: we would fill 9 paper grocery bags, marked with the number 9, with 9 balloons, each one with 9 things in it that Sophie really liked.

So in one bag there were 9 cookies. In another, 9 little containers of Pringles potato chips. In still another 9 colored markers and so on.

Two of the 9 bags had money. One had 9 dollars with a note for Sophie to use them to get the juice drinks at Starbucks that she really likes. And the other bag had 9 pennies, 9 nickels, 9 dimes, and 9 quarters for whatever Sophie wanted to buy. Sophie was delighted with all the bags, especially the ones with money.

All of the gifts, all of the 9 bags with things and money, were hers to use as she wanted. She could keep it all to herself or she could share it with her sister and brother, mom and dad. It was up to her. (As Sophie's grandfather—and with the urging from the pastor in me—I was tempted to encourage her to share her many gifts. But I held my tongue.)

The verses I began with come from a story Jesus tells—called a parable—whose central point is that God has given each of us some wonderful gifts, some great talents. Like Sophie and her 9 birthday bags full of presents and money—we are free to use and spend those gifts and talents however we like. But Jesus' story is a very strong reminder that God has included a note with our gifts and talents—he not only has suggestions for how we use them, he has expectations. When our Master returns may we all hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Pastor Greg



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church



Thanksgiving Eve
WORSHIP

7:00 pm Wednesday, November 23



Join us for a
Pie Social
following our
Thanksgiving Eve
worship service.



FIRST Communion

If you are interested in First Communion, please let Julie or Pastor Greg know. We are considering having First Communion at our 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve worship service on November 23.

Care Closets

at the Middle School and High School are in need of new and gently used hoodies. Donated items may be left in the bin inside Door 12. If you'd like to make a financial contribution we'd be happy to shop for the needed items.




ADVENT TEA

Our 88th annual Advent Tea is right around the corner. Join us at 6:30 pm Monday, November 28. Pati Kachel, storyteller, will speak on the theme "A Merry Martha Stewart Christmas."

Tickets will be available Sunday November 6, 13 and 20th and in the church office. Come and enjoy this special evening to start your Advent season!

Children & Youth Ministry News

Children's Ministry

Every one of us is a treasured child of God and we're thankful for the many gifts and talents He has given our youth and families. We are blessed and grateful for amazing volunteers and everyone that is a part of youth ministry at Trinity! It has been really fun to do our Bible stories in an interactive large group setting with our new family-style model along with more engaging, hands-on activities. Thank you to all of our families for giving something new a try! Our hope is to grow in our faith as a community of families. Our next service project will be in support of Trinity hosting the Path to Home program. We will begin practicing for our Christmas Program songs and parts this month! There will be NO Sunday School on November 27. We wish all of our youth and families a blessed Thanksgiving!

Save the date for our annual Christmas Program: Sunday, December 18, at the 10:00 service with a cookie party to follow in the Fellowship Hall. We will rehearse Sunday, December 11, and December 18, during Sunday School.

November 6 -- Family Style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45

November 13 -- Family Style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45, Service Project Day

November 20 -- Family Style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45

November 27 -- NO Sunday School - Happy Thanksgiving!



Confirmation is underway for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. It's not too late to register! Forms are on our website and in the Narthex.

We meet Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm. (No Confirmation Nov 23-Thanksgiving Break)

Confirmation

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

We are so grateful for the youth and families in our youth group! We're blessed to serve, have fun, and grow in faith together. EDGE has begun hosting coffee hours again along with packing Viking Vittles once a month. EDGE youth also helped hand out candy for the Family Sunday School treat trail. In November, we will be packing college care packages and are planning a shopping trip to support care closets at the local schools along with holiday giving tree needs. There will be NO EDGE on November 23. We wish all of our youth and families a blessed Thanksgiving!

November 2 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 p.m - game night

November 6 -- EDGE Hosts Coffee Hour

November 9 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 - college care packages

November 11 -- Donuts and Devos 6:45-7:15 a.m.

November 16 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Viking Vittles packing

November 23 -- NO EDGE - Happy Thanksgiving!

November 30 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 p.m.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Thrivent Action Grants

Are you aware of the power of Thrivent Action grants to help people in our community? They have helped supplement our ability to minister in so many ways to this community. Here are just a few ways that Action Grants have been used by Trinity: blessing bags, backpacks and school supplies for middle school students, Viking Vittles, Path to Home welcome baskets for families transitioning into permanent housing, items to go into baskets for shut-ins, and helping fund Senior Socials. If you have a Thrivent account, you probably have access to at least one \$250 Action Grant annually. That grant can be used to help others. Just let Julie know if you have a Thrivent account. If a need comes up, she or someone on the Outreach Team can help you apply for the grant. Please don't let your Action Grant go unused!

Emergency Assistance

Can you help? Occasionally there are special needs that we become aware of. These may include purchasing some clothing items for a student, helping a homeless family, shopping for groceries for a shut-in, doing some home repairs, or helping to pay for a special need that arises. If you are willing to be a resource, please let us know. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex, or you can let Julie know.





Be a part of our women's Bible study dishing out the word of God. Our next gathering will be Sunday, November 20, from 6:00-7:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity. Hot dish supper, refreshments, and fellowship to begin, followed by Bible study, discussion, and prayer. Our future dates will be December 11 and January 8. Please read John Chapters 7, 8, and 9 before our next gathering. Contact Marie if you have any questions at mray@trinitynorthbranch.org



Undesignated in memory of former Trinity Pastor Mike Jacobson from Tom & Candi Hals

8:00 Worship Choir (We need you!)

Who: anyone who loves to sing **What:** 8:00 worship choir
When: rehearsal on Tuesday night and sing at the 8:00 worship service twice per month and church holidays
How: contact Tyler tolson@trinitynorthbranch.org (once we have enough singers rehearsals will start)

Trinity Bags to Benches Program

Did you know it takes 10-20 years for plastic bags to decompose? Trinity Lutheran Church, in partnership with Trex Company, has started the Bags to Benches program. We will be collecting plastic as listed below and in turn we will get beautiful benches for free (benches are valued at \$350.00) –one for each of our sanctuary outside entrance doors. This is a beautiful Christian way of helping pollution around our church, our homes, community and the world. McDonald Distributing in Rush City generously has offered to bale the plastic we donate / recycle and Connie Deminsky will weekly bring our plastics to Rush City for baling. The plastic is then recycled and used by Trex to make decking products such as the benches we will secure. So far, enough plastic for 64 benches has been collected from many businesses and sites in northern Chisago County. It takes approximately 500 pounds of plastic to make one bench! We have already received one bench! Please contact Connie Deminsky, cmdeminsky@gmail.com or Martha Arnold, marthaarnold@me.com if you have questions. **There is a tall white collection box in the Narthex.**



ALL PLASTIC MUST BE CLEAN, DRY AND FREE OF FOOD RESIDUE

WE WILL ACCEPT ALL COLORS OF: PALLET WRAP & STRETCH FILM, CASE OVERWRAP, PRODUCT WRAP, GARBAGE BAGS/LINERS/TOILET PAPER/PAPER TOWEL/WATER BOTTLE WRAPPING, SALT BAGS, ICE BAGS, PUNCTURED BUBBLEWRAP & PACKAGING, AIR PILLOWS, NON-PAPER BUBBLE MAILERS & OTHER PLASTIC MAILER, GROCERY/RETAIL BAGS, ZIPLOC & OTHER RESEALABLE FOOD STORAGE BAGS, BREAD BAGS, CEREAL/PASTA BAGS, DRY CLEANING BAGS, NEWSPAPER SLEEVES, PRODUCE BAGS, CARPET OVERWRAP, MATTRESS BAGS & WOOD PELLET BAGS

WE CAN NOT ACCEPT: WET MATERIAL, HARD PLASTIC (WATER BOTTLES), PALLET STRAPPING, FREIGHT AND SHIPPING AIR SACS, MATERIAL CONTAINING NYLON, ADHESIVES, STICKER BACKING, FROZEN FOOD BAGS, ORGANIC MATERIAL INCLUDING PAPER & CARDBOARD, SIX-PACK RINGS, PRE-WASHED SALAD MIX BAGS, RUBBER, METAL, ALUMINUM-LINED AND/OR METALLIC-LOOKING PACKAGING (e.g. CHIP BAGS AND CANDY BAR WRAPPERS)

Thank you to all who attended our Senior Socials Nights! Here are a few photos of the fun. We plan to offer these once a month beginning in the spring. Stay tuned for details!





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 have a new communion option available! There are 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.

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!



ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month of November

Rosanne Johnson

Connie Deminsky

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!



*Trinity's Fellowship Team night at the movies! All are welcome! Simply meet at the North Branch Theater on **November 18** at 6:45 pm, and we will decide on a movie. Discussion and dessert after the movie!*



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 December Trinity Tidings to office@trinitynorthbranch.org by November 15. Thank you!



Fare for All is back at Trinity Lutheran Church.

The next sales will be held 3:00-5:00

November 2 and December 7.

The Thanksgiving pack is available on November 2. Items include a 10-12 lb turkey, 25 oz chicken breast tenders, 6 oz beef links, 16 oz ground pork, 16 oz green beans and 10" pumpkin pie. All items are frozen. \$35 per package. The Shoe Bus is also here November 2. Fare for All is open to everyone! The more who shop the better they buying power of the organization!

Did you know Trinity has a Prayer Shawl ministry?

The person making the shawl begins each shawl with prayers and blessings for the recipients, and prayers are continued through completion of the shawl. If you know of someone who would like a prayer shawl, or if you would like to knit or crochet prayer shawls, please email jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org, or call the office at 651-674-7047. Our supply has been well used lately, so we could use more donations of shawls! They are always appreciated!



Our weekly worship will be available each Sunday live at 8 & 10a 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 October, November & December 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.

NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Worship services are livestreamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and facebook.</p>		<p>1 8:30 am Outreach Mtg</p>	<p>2 3:00-5:00 pm Fare for All /Shoe Bus 4:30 pm Trinity Troupe 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry</p>	<p>3 9:00 am Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 </p>
<p>6 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School Scrip order forms due</p>	<p>7 9:00 am Fellowship Mtg</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 4:30 pm Trinity Troupe 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry</p>	<p>10 9:00 am Women's Bible Study </p>	<p>11 6:45 am Donuts & Devos</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School</p>	<p>14 6:00 pm Path Program Volunteer Training at Trinity</p>	<p>15 7:00 pm Council Mtg Tidings articles due</p>	<p>16 4:30 pm Trinity Troupe 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry</p>	<p>17 9:00 am Women's Bible Study</p>	<p>18 6:30 pm Fellowship at the movies</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Holy Hot Dish</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 </p>	<p>23 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship followed by Pie Social</p>	<p>24 </p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour No Sunday School</p>	<p>28 6:30 pm Advent Tea</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 4:30 pm Trinity Troupe 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry</p>			<p></p>

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

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

<u>Income</u>	September Actual	September Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 25,191	\$ 29,740	\$ 252,717	\$ 267,662
Loose Offering	\$ 159	\$ 233	\$ 2,659	\$ 2,100
Other Income	\$ 5	\$ 80	\$ 6,530	\$ 4,659
Grants - Employee Retention Credits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,890	\$ 57,089
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 2,088	\$ 2,167	\$ 24,380	\$ 19,500
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Regular Giving	\$ 27,443	\$ 32,220	\$ 342,176	\$ 351,011
<u>Expenses</u>	September Actual	September Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<u>Mission Support</u>				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 21,863	\$ 21,863
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 1,688	\$ 1,688
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 825	\$ 825
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 24,375	\$ 24,375
<u>General Expenses</u>				
Ministry Support	\$ 28,888	\$ 32,755	\$ 244,533	\$ 294,523
Church Property	\$ 5,273	\$ 8,912	\$ 68,644	\$ 63,828
Stewardship	\$ 130	\$ 150	\$ 771	\$ 1,350
Learning & Youth	\$ 4	\$ 475	\$ 2,634	\$ 4,678
Worship	\$ 88	\$ 208	\$ 1,826	\$ 2,645
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 150
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 34,384	\$ 42,517	\$ 318,407	\$ 367,174
Total Regular Expenses	\$ 37,092	\$ 45,226	\$ 342,782	\$ 391,549
Total Net Income - September 2022	\$ (9,649)	\$ (13,006)		
Total Net Income - Year-To-Date			\$ (606)	\$ (40,538)

September Income was \$4,777 under the September Budget
September Expense was \$8,133 under the September Budget

Please consider online giving.

Net Income is -\$9,649.31 for September
Net Income is -\$606 year to date

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$196,929.47
Mortgage Balance as of 09/30/22 \$46,251.68

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.....

Thank you to all who joined us for the Special Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday, October 16th for the election of our Call Committee. We are blessed to have a committed group of members that represent many cross sections of our congregation who are willing to step forward in this capacity. Please keep them in your prayers and thank them for their service as they embark on this important work. Our official committee includes:



Emily Darst, Jenna Shultz, Lucas Edson, Sharon Lundberg, Jane Magnison, Kathy Aho, Rosanne Johnson, Gary Porath, Kristin Ferguson, Sarah Grovender, September Dehen

The call committee will work in partnership with the Saint Paul Area Synod and begin reviewing pastoral candidates in November and December. Stay tuned for updates as the team navigates this important process.

In other business, as the leaves have fallen and the temperatures are following, it must mean we are transitioning into 2023 planning. As we begin the stewardship season, I ask you to please remember the important work that our outreach teams are doing every week to serve our neighbors in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our partners in the local community and school district continue to express gratitude for our programs and emphasize the growing need to address food and shelter insecurity throughout our community. A few examples of where your contributions in time and donations make an impact include:

- Community Blessing Bags: Providing snacks and essentials for those in need in partnership with the local police & fire departments and the local school district
- Fare for All: Providing access to affordable and nutritional food in partnership with The Food Group monthly (<https://thefoodgroupmn.org/groceries/fare-for-all/>)
- PATH to Home: Partnering with New Pathways to provide transitional housing for families with children experiencing homelessness in Minnesota (<http://newpathwaysmn.com/transitional-shelter/>)
- Viking's Vittles: Providing weekend and summer food packs for students experiencing hunger in partnership with New Pathways, North Branch Area Schools, and Phoenix Academy. (<https://www.facebook.com/people/Viking-Vittles/100071044969040/>)
- Care Closets: Providing access to food, toiletries, clothing, shoes and other essentials for students in need through the North Branch Area schools.

All of this requires a strong operational foundation and we couldn't ask for a stronger team making sure our operations are running day-to-day, week-to-week and month-to-month. Your commitments in 2023 will help ensure that our staff is able to support us as a congregation and our facilities are a welcoming place to gather in our faith journey, worship together, and ongoing outreach.

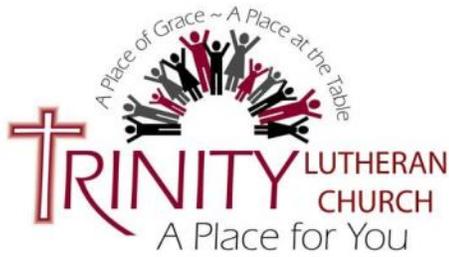
When your stewardship cards arrive this month, please take the time to consider how your time, talents and donations can help make an impact in our faith community and the lives of our neighbors.

Peace,
Chris Judson

Thanksgiving baskets for families in need in our area are being prepared by the North Branch Food Shelf. **Trinity has been asked to collect canned cranberry sauce and boxed potatoes. They are also requesting \$25 gift cards for County Market** that will be included for the families to purchase turkeys and other perishable items. Please leave any food items or gift cards in the church office. **All items are due to Trinity by November 6.** The North Branch Food Shelf thanks you for your donations!



Trinity hosts the Path Program December 18-January 1. If you are interested in helping in any way, The Path Program is hosting a volunteer training at Trinity from 6-8 pm on Monday, November 14. Please RSVP to Julie at 651-674-7047 or jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org if you'd like to attend.



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

November 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: 8:00 am & 10:00 am in person worship,
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 Krossschell, Sunday School Coordinator
skrossschell@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

**A Pie Social will be held Wednesday,
November 23 following our 7:00 pm
Thanksgiving Eve worship service.
All are welcome!**

