

September 2023



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pastor's Page

God's Work Our Hands Day Sunday, September 10th

I'm excited to get back into the regular patterns of the school year after Labor Day Weekend. Don't get me wrong, I love summer – family vacations, grilling outside, jumping in the lake (etc.). But I won't miss having to constantly entertain my kids, who by late August, are fighting like territorial feral street cats ... Yes, I'm ready for the routine of school and fall programming.

"God's Work Our Hands" Sunday is celebrating its tenth anniversary in the Lutheran Church this year. It usually marks our kickoff to fall programming, Sunday School, Confirmation and Youth Group. Bible Studies regather after a summer off. We get back into our regular routines.

But it's more than just routine. Maybe you've been to one of these events at Trinity or another church before. You might remember the yellow "God's Work Our Hands" t-shirts. Maybe you've participated in an assembly line, packing school kits for children or care packages for new mothers in other countries.

It's a day dedicated to service, for ELCA churches across the country. It's a day where we think about our identity as a people of God. The ELCA Toolkit for God's Work Our Hands day shares

"We know that the gospel changes lives and that God's power and grace are real and at work today. We live out our purpose through worship and service, in our congregations and communities, through our individual vocations and our collective work as church together. "God's work. Our hands." Sunday offers a special opportunity to be church together and to share Jesus' love by inviting others to join in a day of service."

It's an opportunity for us to proclaim that God has called and sent us to care for his world, the people in it and all of creation. That's our purpose as a people who have been set free through the cross of Christ.

And there's nothing routine about that!

Pastor Paul

BLESSING BAGS

Thank you to everyone for their contributions to the school supplies for the elementary students and fall blessing bags!

Now that school is in full swing, we will be concentrating on collecting necessary items to stuff 30 bags of needed everyday supplies for struggling adults in and around our community. Our greatest need is for warm insulated mittens or gloves, but we still need many other essentials too!

Please check the display in the narthex for specific items that we are looking for if you are able to contribute, and return items by September 17th.

Thank you again! Lori Fisk

New Creation Choir (our contemporary worship choir) would love to have additional voices join them! They will rehearse at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays, beginning August 30th, and sing at our 10:00 am worship services. See Barb Mork, Kathy Aho, or Julie with questions.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We are in need of a Path Program Coordinator-
We host next in December. There is a program-wide coordinator meeting 9/18 in Cambridge. If you're interested in helping out with this ministry or have questions, please contact Julie or Pastor Paul.

A Path Program Volunteer meeting will be held at Trinity 5-7 pm on Tuesday, September 26. Anyone who volunteers with the program is encouraged to attend. RSVP to Julie at jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org or 651-674-7047.

Children & Youth Ministry News

Family Sunday School—Children's Ministry

Sunday School will kickoff on "God's work. Our hands." Sunday, September 10. Families will join us in the fellowship hall from 9:00-9:45 a.m. to pack backpacks with school supplies for the local elementary school. After we do our service project families are invited outside to play on the playground for fun, fellowship, games, and a snack. **Blessing of the Backpacks** will be during the 10:00 a.m. worship service that day and youth are invited to bring their backpacks to worship and receive a backpack tag for the school year. **Family Sunday School registration** forms are now available in the narthex and online here: <https://forms.gle/Uvjf6XKePiHu1A566>.



3rd Grade Bible presentation and teacher leadership team installation will be on Sunday, September 24, during the 10:00 a.m. worship. An email was sent for signing up for 3rd Grade Bibles. Please contact Marie if you did not get the email and would like to receive a Bible this fall.

September 10 - Packing backpack blessing bags, and playground time from 9-9:45 a.m.

Blessing of the Backpacks at 10:00 service

September 17 - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.

September 25 - Family Sunday School from 9:00-9:45, 3rd Grade Bible Presentation and Teacher Leadership Team Installation at 10:00 a.m. service.

Welcome to our new Sunday School Coordinator!

We want to share some exciting news! Trinity is happy to welcome Courtney Fairbanks as the new Sunday School Coordinator! We are excited to have her share her gifts and join our ministry team! We can't wait to work together to keep sharing the love and light of God with all the youth and families at Trinity! Please be sure to welcome her!

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

Our EDGE youth group headed to Wisconsin in July for our mission trip with a group of 8 youth and 2 adult leaders. Our home base for our trip was at Luther Park and we were able to serve with some wonderful local organizations in the surrounding communities. One day was spent working with the local Habitat for Humanity chapter on a Home Preservation project. We were able to help out at an elderly residence to stain their deck, do yardwork, and move brush. They were abundantly grateful for our help and it was a great day of working together and serving others. Another day was spent working with an organization called Interfaith Caregivers to support their Heat a Home project. We helped move and stack firewood and load trailers to be delivered to area residents to heat their homes for the winter. We also spent a day working with volunteers to put together a game called carpet ball. It was fun to see the project come together from start to finish and this will be a game that campers can enjoy for years to come. In our free time we enjoyed time on the lake, games, meals, campfire, devotions, and fellowship with one another. I am so proud of the positive attitudes, work ethic, and servant hearts of this group. It was as blessing to be a part of God's work with our hands. Our theme verse for the week was from Psalm 40:5,



"Many, LORD my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare."

This verse was tied into our daily devotions and we were reminded of the wonderful gifts God has given each of us and how God has a wonderful plan for each of our lives. We're thankful for the financial support and prayers from our congregation for this trip and all of our youth at Trinity. We also thank our other adult leader Jeremy Edson for sharing his time on our trip and Pastor Paul for joining us for a couple of the service projects. With thankful hearts, we give all Glory and Praise to God. Amen.

9th-12th graders are invited to be a part of EDGE youth group this fall! Registration forms are available in the narthex and online. Please contact Marie with any questions.

September 13 - EDGE Kickoff 6:30-7:30 p.m.

September 15 - Donuts and Devos offsite 7:00-7:20 a.m.

September 20 - EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m.

September 27 - EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Viking Vittles packing

College/Young Adult Ministry

We'll be making college-aged/young adult care packages again this year to send out throughout the year. If you would like your young adult or college-aged student to receive them, please send us the mailing address for where they will be this fall. We'll send notes, snacks, devotionals, and other fun items to hopefully brighten their day and let them know their church family is thinking about them and praying for them. Send your mailing addresses to Marie to be added to our list.



Holy Hotdish Bible Study

Be a part of our women's Bible study dishing out the word of God this fall. Our first gathering will be Sunday, September 10, from 6:00-7:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity. This is a Bible study for women of all ages and is for beginners and experienced Bible readers alike. We begin with Hot dish supper, refreshments, and fellowship, followed by Bible study, discussion, and prayer. We will focus on the book of Nehemiah and hand out the study books on the first night. We will continue to gather one Sunday each month throughout the school year. Fall dates are planned for October 8, November 12, and December 10. Come when you can, leave when you must. Contact Marie with questions and to be added to our email list and to be sure to have a study book for you.



Mental Health and Wellness Presentation:

Confirmation and youth group students and their parents/caregivers along with other interested community members are invited to join us for a mental health and wellness presentation on Wednesday, October 11, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary at Trinity. Joy Hensel, Synod Minister for Mental Health, and Wellness for the Northeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA, will lead this workshop to learn about mental health, and practice stress relief activities to nurture well-being. Churches have the unique opportunity to gather for authentic conversations, provide engaging education that nurtures self-awareness, create safe space for connection, questions, stories, and play, and be a bridge that connects all ages to resources, all within a faith context that speaks to the depths of despair and promises of hope.

Joy Hensel, MA, LADC, ADC-MN, is from Duluth Minnesota. Joy attended graduate school at Luther Seminary, the Hazelden Betty Ford Graduate School of Addiction Studies and at the Adler Graduate School. Joy's background in youth and family ministry includes eight years in congregations, and as the Program Director at Voyageurs Lutheran Ministry. Joy has worked as an outpatient chemical dependency counselor in a dual diagnosis program for adolescents. Currently, she is the Synod Minister for Mental Health and Wellness for the Northeastern Minnesota Synod, ELCA, has been trained as a Mental Health First Aid Instructor, and is a full-time parent. She enjoys opportunities to speak, teach and be a resource to congregations.



Registration forms for 6th-8th grade Confirmation are available on our website, and in the narthex. We will begin with our Parent/Student meeting at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, September 13, and continue to meet at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays. Please see Pastor Paul or Julie with any questions.

Viking Vittles is looking for someone to deliver the totes to the schools one week per month or occasionally. The totes weigh about 25-28 Lbs. each. Delivery is done Tuesday or Wednesday mornings before 10:30. Please talk to Donna Setter (612) 363-5072 if you have any questions or are interested in helping out with this ministry.



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, let us know. We occasionally get specific requests for basic needs, and are happy to shop for the needed items.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA - North Cluster Gathering

9:00-11:00 am Saturday September 23 at Trinity in Lindstrom

All are invited to meet other women in our North Cluster: make new friends and learn about some great things that are happening to be the hands and feet of Jesus. The St. Paul Area Synod and the Iringa Lutheran Diocese in Tanzania have developed **"Dignity for Daughters"** to achieve menstrual equity by 1) providing health education to teenage girls and boys, and 2) ensuring reusable menstrual products are made available. They have established local sewing groups, and have available, and distribute sanitary kits approved by a group of girls from a local village (girls don't go to school when they have their period). Come and see how we can be of help in this project. See Ann Tanko with questions.



Thank you to all who supported our Rummage Sale! Over \$2700 was raised for Viking Vittles and gas/grocery cards for those in need of help!



Thank you to everyone who attended, brought salads or bars and helped at our Annual Salad Luncheon!



Thank you to everyone who prayed for us, sent cards, food and good wishes during our recovery! Jon & Trudy Trendera



We are in need of a group or a couple of families to bring treats and serve at our 9:00 am Coffee Hour September 3 and 17. Please contact Julie or sign up on the bulletin board if you can help out. Thank you!



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



Become Part of Our Church Family

A New Member Class will be held at 9 am Sunday, September 17. New members will be received during worship on Sunday, September 24. Please let Pastor Paul or Julie know if you'd like to become a member of Trinity!



Ushers and Communion Assistants

We are looking for people to help out as ushers and communion assistants. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please sign up in the narthex, or talk with Julie or Pastor Paul.

Trinity's grocery shelf has seen an increase in use.

Non-perishable or personal care items, may be placed on the shelf. We have a freezer available as well. We have multiple requests for gas cards. If you'd like to make a monetary donation, note "Grocery Shelf" or "Gas Cards" on your donation and we will do the shopping for you. Thank you for supporting your community in this way!



Please email articles for the October Trinity Tidings to office@trinitynorthbranch.org by September 18. Thank you!



Our weekly worship will be available each Sunday live at 8 & 10 am 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!



To sponsor altar flowers, please sign up on the calendar near the church office, and bring a plant or an arrangement of fresh flowers prior to 7:45 am that Sunday. See Julie with questions.



**Fare for All at Trinity Lutheran Church.
3:00-5:00 pm September 13 and October 11.
Fare for All is open to everyone! The more who shop the better the buying power of the organization. www.fareforall.org
The Shoe Bus will also be here October 11.**

Contribution reminder

If mailing or using online bill pay for contributions, please include P.O. Box 447 in the mailing address. Also, please mark your contribution so the monies are directed to the appropriate funds. Thank you!



*Trinity's Fellowship Team night at the movies! All are welcome! Simply meet at the North Branch Theater on **September 15** at 6:45 pm, and we will decide on a movie. Discussion and dessert after the movie!*

ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month
of September

Mary Twitchell & Carol Gustafson











ALTAR GUILD

"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.

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday worship services are livestreamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and facebook.					1 	2
3 Worship Service/ Communion 9:00 am 10:00 am Coffee Hour	4 	5 8:30 am Outreach meeting	6 5:30 pm New Creation	7 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	8	9
10 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour/ God's Work Our Hands projects 9:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Holy Hot Dish Bible study	11	12 	13 3:00-5:00 pm Fare for All 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation Parent/Student meeting 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	14 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Senior Social	15 7:00 am EDGE Donuts & Devos offsite 6:30 pm Fellowship at the movies	16
17 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am Pastor Paul's installation 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am New Member Class	18 Tidings articles due 	19 7:00 pm Council Mtg	20 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	21 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	22	23 
24 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am New Member Sunday 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School	25	26 5:00-7:00 pm Path Program Volunteer Meeting	27 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	28 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	29 	30

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending July 31, 2023
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

<u>Income</u>	July Actual	July Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 26,892	\$ 33,333	\$ 200,313	\$ 233,333
Loose Offering	\$ 260	\$ 375	\$ 4,047	\$ 2,625
Other Income	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 7,064	\$ 6,442
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 1,782	\$ 2,500	\$ 18,308	\$ 17,500
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Regular Giving	\$ 28,934	\$ 36,250	\$ 229,731	\$ 259,900
<u>Expenses</u>	July Actual	July Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<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
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 18,958	\$ 18,958
<u>General Expenses</u>				
Ministry Support	\$ 25,237	\$ 34,990	\$ 211,073	\$ 244,579
Church Property	\$ 6,807	\$ 6,182	\$ 59,029	\$ 56,963
Stewardship	\$ 134	\$ 150	\$ 659	\$ 1,050
Learning & Youth	\$ 636	\$ 583	\$ 3,063	\$ 4,958
Worship	\$ 896	\$ 643	\$ 2,273	\$ 2,518
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 116
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 33,710	\$ 42,565	\$ 276,097	\$ 310,185
Total Regular Expenses	\$ 36,419	\$ 45,273	\$ 295,056	\$ 329,143
Total Net Income - July 2023	\$ (7,485)	\$ (9,023)	\$ (65,325)	\$ (69,243)
Unified Support - Phoenix	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 49,000	\$ 49,000
Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support	\$ (485)	\$ (2,023)		
Total Net Income - Year-To-Date			\$ (16,325)	\$ (20,243)

July Income was \$7,316 Under the July Budget
July Expense was \$8,855 Under the July Budget

Net Income is -\$485 for July
Net Income is -\$16,325 Year to Date

Please consider online giving.

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$111,057.36

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 President:

In your recent visits to our facility you have probably seen the new carpet in the hallway from the narthex to the kitchen and Sunday School rooms; it is hard to miss. There are some other recent improvements that are not quite as noticeable. The new entry tile at doors 4 and 13 and the new LED lighting in the chapel just to name a couple. The new carpet cleaning machine will probably be seen only by a few, but we hope the clean carpet it leaves behind will be noticed by all.

On the outside, the parking lot was swept and a tree service will be removing a dead spruce tree north of the narthex and about ten stumps from shrubs that were previously removed. On July 29th, five volunteers spent the morning working on the landscape areas and removed two pickup loads of weeds, branches, sticks and brush. While this work may go unnoticed, if left undone it could create a negative image.

At our August Council meeting the job description for the Director of Worship & Arts position and corresponding wage scale was approved as a prerequisite to advertising for someone for this job. We also reviewed attendance and financial numbers. Since Pastor Cannon started in June attendance at Sunday services and online views have increased. The monthly deficit in July decreased from prior months. On September 10th, "God's Work – Our Hands" Sunday, we are returning to services at 8:00AM (Traditional) and 10:00AM (Contemporary). Sunday School resumes that day as well.

Since the pandemic it seems that wherever you go there are "Help Wanted" or "Now Hiring" signs. Makes me wonder what happened to the work force. At Trinity a great amount of the work is done by volunteers, a time and talent ministry. Many people work in many different ways to get accomplish the mission of this church. There is always room for more, working on existing programs or starting new programs. Please volunteer, it will leave you with a feeling of satisfaction and a group of new friends.

Two members that have been very active in our congregation are moving in September. Steve and Mary Twitchell are moving to Northfield to be near their daughter and her family. Mary has served as a Worship Assistant, Chair of the Outreach Team and coordinated the last two visits of the Path Program. Steve has used his beautiful singing voice in our choir and many times as a soloist. On behalf of the entire congregation, I want to thank Steve and Mary for everything they have done for Trinity. We wish you well, we will miss you.

Tom Hals, Council President



Our Women's Bible Study will begin their 9 am Thursday morning studies again on September 7th. Beginners and experienced Bible readers are encouraged to join! The meetings will be held in the Genesis Room.



ATTENDANCE

Date	In person	Online views
7/23	130	114
7/30	96	95
8/6	119	103
8/13	125	95
8/20	129	95

Senior Socials

We have two more Senior Socials this year! Please join us from 5:00-6:30 pm on Thursday, September 14 when our theme is Nature and Fall.

October 12 is Glitz and Glamour night, and will go from 5:00-7:00 pm. Be fancy, if you'd like to! We will have a full concert in the sanctuary after our dinner.

Please RSVP to Julie so we can plan for you! Bring a friend, all are welcome! If you'd like to help out in the kitchen, we'd love to have you, just let Julie know.



Undesignated in memory of Paulette Eilandson from Jeffrey Carlson
Undesignated in memory of Joyce Walked from Jay & Karen Young



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Mailing Label

September, 2023

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: 8a & 10 am in person worship (9a Sept 3)
livestreamed on YouTube.

Available on facebook later. See our website for links.

Church email: office@trinitynorthbranch.org

Church website: www.trinitynorthbranch.org

Pastor Paul Cannon

ext. 12

Sue Danielzuk, Church Administrator

ext 37

Marie Ray, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

ext. 13

Courtney Fairbanks, Sunday School Coordinator

ext. 15

Director of Worship and Arts

open

ext. 14

Julie Morgan, Church Office Manager

ext. 10

Christopher Dehen, Financial Recorder

Jaron Roberts, Audio Visual Manager

Tyler Olson: Sr. Choir Director

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:

Tom Hals, Council Chair

Linda Born, Jeremy Edson, Rosanne Johnson,
Barb Nelson, Aaron Nysse, Stan Sjodahl,
Ann Tanko, Vicky Trampe



September 3

9:00 am Worship

10:00 am

Coffee Hour

Beginning

September 10

8 & 10 a worship

9 a Coffee Hour