

October 2023



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pastor's Page

For surely, I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

Jeremiah 29:11

Remember those Magic 8 balls? If you don't remember them, you probably didn't grow up in the 90s. Everyone seemed to have one back then.

It was an old toy that looked like an enlarged 8-ball from the game of pool, except on one side it had a glass window that revealed a blue liquid behind it. Floating in that liquid was a twenty-sided die with various responses on it.

The idea was you would ask it a yes/no question, like, "Does Jenny like me?" or "Will the Vikings win their game next week?" and then shake it up. Then one of the phrases would slowly rise to the surface to give you your answer. If it was affirmative it would say something like "Signs point to yes". If your answer was negative it would say something like "Outlook not so good".

The worst though, was when the Magic 8 Ball gave you an undecided answer. It would say something like, "Reply hazy, try again." That was the most frustrating answer by far. Most of the time if I got that answer, I would shake it up until I got something more definitive.

There are times when I wish God would give us a Magic 8 Ball. So often, I pray, but the only answer I get is "Reply hazy, try again."

Sometimes I wonder what God has in store for Trinity Lutheran Church. It would be nice if God would write it all down for me on a piece of paper. Or maybe send an email? Or a text? Some days I would settle for a thumbs up emoji letting me know we're on the right path.

But God doesn't work that way. Instead, God asks us simply to trust. Trust that we are where we need to be. Trust that God's plans are for the good. Trust that God is giving us "a future with hope."

It's not a Magic 8 Ball, it's something better. Because in Christ, we can be assured that "Signs point to yes." Amen!

Pastor Paul



September 24th we welcomed new members

Lynn Behr,

Pastor Paul & Kirstin Cannon, Isaac, Elin, Anders

Donald (DJ) & Becky Grote

Molly Whelan, Eireann

We are looking for a couple of volunteers to count offering

once a month. If you're interested or have questions email Chris at cdehen@trinitynorthbranch.org.

The Director of Worship & Arts and The Audio Visual Manager job

descriptions can be found on our website and bulletin board. See Pastor Paul with questions.

Children & Youth Ministry News

Family Sunday School—Children's Ministry

Family Sunday School kicked off last month and we are so excited to see youth and families again! We helped pack 20 backpack blessing bags on God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. We also had 6 youth receive their 3rd grade Bibles at the end of September and we blessed our amazing Teacher Leadership Team. We're grateful for the time and energy they devote to the youth at Trinity! We're diving into stories from the Old Testament and spending time together for activities, singing, service projects, and crafts. Our fall family party will be on Sunday, October 29, from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the fellowship hall. We'll have snacks, make and take crafts, and a trick or treat trail. The children will be singing during the 10:00 worship service.

October 1 - Family-style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45

October 8 - Family-style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45 - Service Project Day

October 15 - Family-style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45

October 22 - NO Sunday School -- MEA Break

October 29 - Family-style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45 - Fall Party in the fellowship hall with trick or treat trail. Sunday School Sings at 10:00 worship.



Confirmation is underway for students in 6th, 7th and 8th grade. It's not too late to join! We meet from 6:30-7:30 pm on Wednesday nights. (No Confirmation October 18-- MEA Break) See Pastor Paul with questions or to join! Thank you to our adult small group leaders for volunteering with our students!

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

EDGE kicked off our year with new members, games, and treats! We're excited to be together again serving and growing in our faith. EDGE packed Viking Vittles in September and had our first Donuts and Devos before school. October will include our fall bonfire, serving coffee hour, helping on the Sunday School treat trail, and a Mental Health and Wellness Presentation on October 11, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary at Trinity for confirmation and high school youth, and their parents.

October 1 -- EDGE Hosts Coffee Hour

October 4 -- EDGE Bonfire offsite 6:30-7:30 p.m.

October 11 -- Mental Health and Wellness Presentation 6:30-7:30 p.m. for youth and parents

October 13 -- Donuts and Devos 7:00-7:20 a.m. offsite

October 18 -- NO EDGE - MEA Break

October 25 -- EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m.

October 29 -- Sunday School Trick or Treat Trail (hand out candy and treats)



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 address to Marie to be added to our list. Our first care packages go out in October!



Holy Hot Dish Bible Study

Our next women's Bible study gathering will be Sunday, October 8, 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 Nehemiah Bible study, discussion, and prayer. We will continue to gather one Sunday each month throughout the school year. Fall dates are planned for November 12, and December 10. Come when you can, leave when you must. Contact Marie to receive a study book and be added to our email list.



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.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We would like to thank Mary Twitchell for her time as our Outreach Committee Chair, and wish her well on her new adventures closer to her family. Martha Arnold has taken over as the Outreach Committee Chair. The Outreach Committee meets in our Genesis Room at 10:00 am on the second Tuesday of each month, and are looking for more people to join the committee. Contact Martha or Julie with questions.

BLESSING BAGS Thank you for all your generous donations this fall! If you would like to help pack the 30 adult Blessing Bags, please join us on Tuesday, October 3rd at 10:00 am in the Genesis room. Hope to see you there!

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.

Path to Home Program

Trinity will be hosting families through the Path to Home Program December 17-31. In July, 74 volunteers from Trinity, Kost Evangelical Free church, Northbrook Church, and Living Branch Church logged over 400 hours of service. That is amazing!

Managing that many volunteers takes a strong leadership team. We have that team in place. These team leaders will

- Oversee the setup and tear down of the rooms
- Make sure that we have sufficient clean linens available for our families
- Provide a family friendly environment with appropriate DVDs, crafts, toys, and welcome baskets
- Coordinate the evening meals
- Stock a variety of breakfast and lunch foods, as well as snacks and beverages
- Arrange to have the trailer full of beds transported to its next location.

One leadership position, the role of host site coordinator, has been filled by Jeff & Kris Johnson. Thank you for taking on this role!

Jeff & Kris will serve as the liaison to New Pathways, the parent organization for this program. They will ensure that the team leaders have the resources needed and be available to help trouble shoot if necessary. They will help recruit volunteers from Trinity. And when the families arrive, the coordinators will greet them, give them a tour of the facilities, and go over the rules with the adults. During the hosting period, the coordinators will want to be available to answer questions from team leaders or deal with some unexpected circumstances, such as a snow day. But they will not be doing this alone, because they already have a strong leadership team in place.

Please consider volunteering when we host by bringing a meal, spending the night at the church, moving the trailer, helping with set up and tear down, washing laundry, and visiting with our guests. Watch for sign-up sheets for when we host in December.



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



We are in need of a group or a couple of families to bring treats and serve at our 9:00 am Coffee Hour October 15. Please contact Julie or sign up on the bulletin board if you can help out. Thank you!



Phoenix Academy's Parent Organization is hosting Trunk or Treat in the parking lot at 1:00p on Saturday, October 28. All are welcome to join the fun!

If you'd like to host a trunk or space at this event, please contact Jen Minick at 612-226-3223 by October 14. Set up will begin at 11:30 am. They would love to fill the parking lot!



Ushers and Communion Assistants

We are looking for more people to help out as ushers at our 10 am worship services, and will also need communion assistants at our 8 am services. If you are interested in helping out in this way 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 November Trinity Tidings to office@trinitynorthbranch.org by October 16. Thank you!

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 October 11 and November 8.
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 **October 20** 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
Judy Weiss & Karin Perrault



ALTAR GUILD



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!



"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.

OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School	2 9:00 am Fellowship Team meeting	3 10:00 am Assemble Blessing Bags	4 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	5 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	6	7
8 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Holy Hot Dish Bible study	9 	10	11 3:00-5:00 Fare for All & The Shoe Bus 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry 6:30 pm Mental Health presentation	12 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Altar Guild Mtg 5:00 pm Senior Social	13 7:00 am EDGE Donuts & Devos offsite 6:30 pm Fellowship at the movies	14 
15 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School	16 Tidings articles due 	17 9:00 am Outreach meeting 7:00 pm Council Mtg	18 3:00-5:00 pm Fare for All 5:30 pm New Creation	19 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 9:00-3:00 pm Red Cross Blood Drive	20 	21
22 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour	23	24	25 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	26 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	27	28 1:00-3:00 pm Trunk or Treat 
29 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School Fall Party	30	31 				Sunday worship services are livestreamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and facebook.

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

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

<u>Income</u>	August Actual	August Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 25,415	\$ 33,333	\$ 225,727	\$ 266,667
Loose Offering	\$ 355	\$ 375	\$ 4,402	\$ 3,000
Other Income	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ 7,064	\$ 6,483
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 4,157	\$ 2,500	\$ 22,465	\$ 20,000
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Regular Giving	\$ 29,927	\$ 36,250	\$ 259,658	\$ 296,150
<u>Expenses</u>	August Actual	August Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<u>Mission Support</u>				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 19,433	\$ 19,433
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 733	\$ 733
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 21,667	\$ 21,667
<u>General Expenses</u>				
Ministry Support	\$ 27,579	\$ 34,490	\$ 238,602	\$ 279,069
Church Property	\$ 6,523	\$ 7,465	\$ 65,552	\$ 64,427
Stewardship	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 659	\$ 1,200
Learning & Youth	\$ 73	\$ 458	\$ 3,136	\$ 5,417
Worship	\$ -	\$ 233	\$ 2,273	\$ 2,751
Witness & Service	\$ 107	\$ 17	\$ 107	\$ 133
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 34,283	\$ 42,813	\$ 310,330	\$ 352,998
Total Regular Expenses	\$ 36,991	\$ 45,521	\$ 331,997	\$ 374,664
Total Net Income - August 2021	\$ (7,064)	\$ (9,271)		
Unified Support - Phoenix	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 56,000	\$ 56,000
Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support	\$ (64)	\$ (2,271)		
Total Net Income - Year-To-Date			\$ (16,339)	\$ (22,514)

August Income was \$6,323 under the August Budget
August Expense was \$8,530 under the August Budget

Net Income is -\$64 for August
Net Income is -\$16,339 Year to Date

Please consider online giving.

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$153,640.70

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:

Fall is here. We may have noticed the change in weather, the change in leaf colors and the later sunrise and earlier sunset. Another sign of fall is the amount of activity at Trinity. We now have services at 8:00 and 10:00 and Sunday School at 9:00 on Sunday morning. Confirmation, EDGE High School Youth and New Creation Choir on Wednesday evenings. Add about 170 students at Phoenix Academy during the day on weekdays and Trinity is a busy place. It's great to see all the activity again.



At our September Church Council meeting we discussed the worship coordinator position and whether that should be one full time job or two part time jobs. Other topics of discussion included having a fish fry again during Lent, a possible youth trip to the National Youth Convention in New Orleans next summer, the need for a stewardship campaign this fall, probably November, and the need to update our constitution at the next annual meeting. We also agreed on the health insurance and benefit package for the Pastor for 2024. The date for the annual meeting in February was set. A policy for non-church groups selling things at church was also approved.

Another topic was the Path Program during which our church hosts homeless families for a two week period. We hosted in July and are scheduled to host again from December 17th through December 31st. Several people have agreed to oversee various parts of this program, and Jeff and Kris Johnson have volunteered to be Overall Coordinator to continue this ministry. Please consider volunteering for this program, you will find it to be very rewarding.

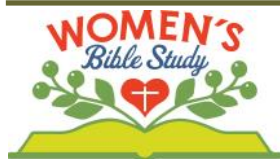
The council also received a letter of resignation from Tyler Olson, Senior Choir Director. Tyler took over the job when Renée King retired, was interrupted by COVID, and then reorganized a joint choir with Immanuel Lutheran of Almeland this past winter. We thank Tyler for his service and wish him well.

Tom Hals, Council President

Raise Right (formerly Scrip) gift card order forms are available on the narthex bulletin board. These gift cards are the same as you would buy in a store, and Trinity receives a percentage of each purchase. Orders will be placed October 1, November 5 and December 3. We will call you when cards arrive, usually a week later. To order online go to raiserright.com/shop, choose sign up, join existing program. Trinity's code is BDE7C8LF12L85. See Sue with questions.

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 office@trinitynorthbranch.org



Our Women's Bible Study meets at 9 am on Thursday mornings in our Genesis Room. Beginners and experienced Bible readers are encouraged to join at any time!



ATTENDANCE

Date	In person	Online views
8/27 9a	108	78
9/3 9a	94	141
9/10 8a	41	67
9/10 10a	86	42
9/17 8a	57	56
9/17 10a	75	75

Senior Socials

We have two more Senior Socials this year! Please join us from 5:00-7:00 pm on Thursday, October 12 when our theme is Glitz & Glamour. 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.

Trinity hosts an American Red Cross Blood Drive 9am-3pm Thursday, October 19. Sign up at www.redcrossblood.org/give.



EDGE Youth Ministry in memory of Cliff Secord's father from Mike & Barb Nelson

Undesignated in memory of Karen Lunde from Carolyn Tenkhoff



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Mailing Label

October, 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
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

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



8 & 10 a
Worship

9 a Coffee Hour

9 a Family
Sunday School