

November 2023

Pastor's Page

Trinity Tidings
November 2023
Pastor Paul Cannon



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth.

1 Corinthians 3:6

You should have received your stewardship letter by now (if you haven't yet, please go back and read it). In it, I wrote about what it means to grow in Christ. Part of that is growing as a church, welcoming new people through our doors and showing the love of Christ for those who are yet to come.

The other part is personal; it's how we grow in our giving. As a dad with three kids, I feel the stress of not knowing if I have enough whenever someone asks if I can volunteer or donate a little extra. I'm incredibly fortunate to be where I am, but between daycare, kids' activities, car payments, student loans, two full-time jobs and a mortgage, we don't often have a lot of extra time or money to give at the end of the month.

But if I'm honest, there's always something I can give. I don't have massive reserves of time or money, but on the margins I have a little extra. There may be a night or two I can volunteer for an activity. I can give an extra five dollars a week.

It's not a lot, but collectively it can make a big difference! If one hundred families gave an extra five hours a year to volunteering at church, or five dollars per week to the mission of the church, we would have five hundred extra service hours and an additional twenty-six thousand dollars in the budget! Imagine what God could do with that!

We trust that God can make big things grow from small beginnings. Whether it's a seed, a dollar or an hour of your time. And I trust God is making something new grow in you and here at Trinity Lutheran.

89TH Advent Tea

6:30 pm Monday, December 4th

ADVENT
A Season of Preparation

Join us for our 89th annual Advent Tea in the Fellowship Hall on Monday December 4th. Our program will be provided by **Theater for the Thirsty**, a husband and wife duo from St. Paul. Jeremiah and Vanessa Gamble are Bethel graduates with a passion for creating and performing original works. They have been sharing their entertaining, imaginative and soul stirring brand of theater throughout the country for the past 23 years. It will be a memorable evening for sure!

Jeremiah and Vanessa will be performing *A Misfit Christmas* for us. They invite us to smile, laugh and hum along to your favorite Christmas carols as a tone-deaf angel, an absentminded census taker, a cow, a little drummer girl, and several other misfits share their offbeat and charming stories of the first Christmas.

Tickets are \$15 and will go on sale on Sunday Nov 5th between services or in the office.

As always, we are requesting donations of Christmas cookies be brought to the kitchen on Sunday, December 3rd or the morning of December 4th. Thank you for your willingness to help.

Children & Youth Ministry News

Family Sunday School—Children's Ministry

We are blessed and grateful for amazing volunteers and everyone that is a part of youth ministry at Trinity! Last month we focused on Old Testament stories about Joseph and Moses. Our family service project was decorating lunch bags to support an organization called Kids Meals, Inc. They accept decorated bag donations and fill them with food items similar to our Viking Vittles program. Our next family service project will be in support of Trinity hosting the Path to Home program in December. November is our official kickoff to practicing our Christmas Program songs and parts! There will be NO Sunday School on November 26. We wish all our youth and families a blessed Thanksgiving!

Save the date for our annual Christmas Program: Sunday, December 10, at the 10:00 service with a cookie party to follow in the Fellowship Hall. We will do a rehearsal Sunday, December 3, and December 10, during our Sunday School time.

November 5 -- Family Style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45, Christmas program practicing begins!

November 12 -- Family Style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45, Service Project Day

November 19 -- Family Style Sunday School from 9:00-9:45

November 26 -- NO Sunday School - Happy Thanksgiving!



Confirmation continues to meet at 6:30 pm on Wednesdays.

There will be no Confirmation on Wednesday, November 22. Thanksgiving Eve worship will be at 6:30 pm that night.

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

Gratitude, as we were reminded at our mental health and wellness presentation last month, is a wonderful form of wellness. 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. Speaking of growing in our faith together, we're excited to share that we have 8 youth and 3 adult leaders going to the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans next summer! The cost of the trip is approximately \$1500/person. We sincerely appreciate your support of our Envelope Wall fundraiser, soup lunch, and Palm Sunday brunch we have planned for this school year. It's also not too soon to start praying for the youth, adult leaders, and organizers of this huge event.

In November, EDGE youth will be serving and sharing their gifts in a variety of ways; we will be packing Advent college care packages, packing Viking Vittles, serving coffee hour, and supporting the holiday giving tree with a shopping trip. There will be NO EDGE on November 22. We wish all of our youth and families a blessed Thanksgiving!

November 1 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 p.m

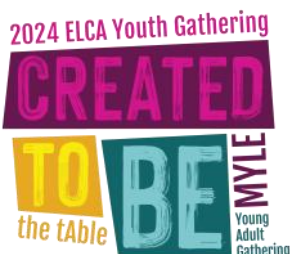
November 5 -- EDGE Hosts Coffee Hour

November 8 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 - college care packages

November 15 -- EDGE meets 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Viking Vittles packing

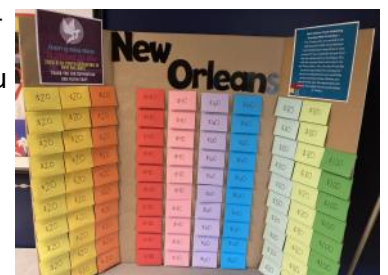
November 22 -- NO EDGE - Happy Thanksgiving!

November 29 -- Giving Tree Shopping Trip 6:00-7:30 p.m.



New Orleans Youth Gathering Envelope Wall Fundraiser –

The Trinity youth are excited to be attending the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans next summer!! If you would like to help fund this trip, please check out the Envelope Wall Fundraiser posterboard in the narthex with donation envelopes ranging from \$20 – \$100. Please pick an envelope, fill it with the amount listed, and return it to the Trinity office. You can also fill out the enclosed slip inside the envelope to receive a postcard from our youth that will be traveling to New Orleans as a special thank you. We appreciate your prayers and support of our youth group at Trinity!





Trinity Lutheran Church member and North Branch Area High School Senior Amelia Bjerketvedt has been elected to serve as the 2023-2024 Minnesota State DECA President! She is the first student from North Branch Area High School to be elected to this office.

Amelia represents more than 3,000 DECA members across the state of Minnesota. "We are so proud of Amelia and can not wait to see everything she accomplishes during her year in office," said Stan Rosen, North Branch DECA Advisor. SKOL! And congratulations Amelia!

The Path Program

Trinity hosts the Path Program December 17 through December 31. Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex soon. We will need volunteers to bring meals, visit with the families in the evenings, and to sleep in the nursery as an overnight host.

If you were unable to attend the Path Program Volunteer Training, stop in the office or email jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org to receive the materials discussed at the training.

Thank you for supporting this important ministry!



Our October 29 Nolsy Offering and Coffee Hour donations will go to help people in Israel and Palestine via Lutheran Disaster Response. Trinity's Outreach committee will match all offerings up to \$500, giving us the chance to raise upwards of \$1,000 to help our siblings in crisis.

Phoenix Academy is sponsoring a Trunk or Treat from 1-3 pm on Saturday, October 28th in the parking lot. If you're looking for a fun and safe way to celebrate Halloween, please stop by this family event!



The Christmas Giving Tree will be put up before Thanksgiving, with tags for local foster children. Gifts will be due back to the church by Monday, December 4. Thank you for your support of this program each year!

Join us for our Annual Pie Social following our 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service on Wednesday, November 22.

Sign up in the Narthex if you'd like to bring a pie!



Holy Hot Dish Bible Study

Holy Hotdish gathers again Sunday, November 12, from 6:00-7:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Trinity. We look forward to seeing you! We'll go over Nehemiah Chapter 2:9 - Chapter 4:23 and week 2 in our study book (pages 36-61). Bring your Bible, study book, and a pen! It's not too late for new friends to join as we have extra study books. Contact Marie to get a study book and be added to our email list.



Through the Operation Christmas Child organization, 200 million shoeboxes have been distributed to children in over 170 countries in the past 30 years. The purpose of the shoebox gift is to introduce the Gospel to a child and his/her family. You can make a difference in the life of a child by participating in this ministry. It's also a fun project to do with your children or grandchildren.

If you'd like to pack a shoebox this year for a child in need, or have any questions, call or text Sandy Schoess at 651-357-4352, and she will get you a box and suggested packing list. You can also fill a shoebox online by visiting samaritanpurse.org. Online boxes are needed too, since these are the boxes that go to hard-to-reach places. Samaritan's Purse is well on their way to taking the Gospel "to the ends of the Earth!" How exciting!

SHOEBOXES ARE DUE THE WEEK OF Nov. 12th—17th.



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



Christmas Eve falls on Sunday this year.

We will not have morning worship on 12/24. Our Christmas Eve worship services will be held at 2:30, 4:00 and 7:30 pm.

We will have one service at 9:00 am on December 31.



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 December Trinity Tidings to office@trinitynorthbranch.org by November 13. 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 November 8 and December 6.
Fare for All is open to everyone! The more who shop the better the buying power of the organization. www.fareforall.org

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!

ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month

of November

Mike & Barb Nelson



ALTAR GUILD

The Outreach Committee will be meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 9am in the Genesis Room. Many exciting projects are being planned for the next few months. Come and join us - we need your help.

Martha Arnold, Chair person.



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.

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday worship services are live-streamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and facebook.			1 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	2 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	3	4 
5 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School All Saints Day	6 9:00 am Fellowship Team meeting	7	8 3:00-5:00 Fare for All 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	9 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	10	11
12 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	13 Tidings articles due 	14 10:00 am Outreach meeting	15 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	16 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	17 8:30 am Fish Fry Committee Meeting at County Market	18 
19 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School	20	21 7:00 pm Council Mtg	22 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship 7:15 pm Pie Social	23 Church Office closed 	24	25
26 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour No Sunday School	27	28 	29 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	30 9:00 am Women's Bible Study		

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending September, 2023
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

<u>Income</u>	September Actual	September Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 24,183	\$ 33,333	\$ 249,911	\$ 300,000
Loose Offering	\$ 559	\$ 375	\$ 4,960	\$ 3,375
Other Income	\$ 135	\$ 42	\$ 7,199	\$ 6,525
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 1,988	\$ 2,500	\$ 24,453	\$ 22,500
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Regular Giving	\$ 26,865	\$ 36,250	\$ 286,523	\$ 332,400
<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	\$ 26,976	\$ 33,506	\$ 265,579	\$ 312,576
Church Property	\$ 9,873	\$ 6,399	\$ 75,425	\$ 70,827
Stewardship	\$ 138	\$ 150	\$ 797	\$ 1,350
Learning & Youth	\$ 866	\$ 458	\$ 4,002	\$ 5,875
Worship	\$ 296	\$ 358	\$ 2,566	\$ 3,110
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ 107	\$ 150
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 38,147	\$ 40,889	\$ 348,477	\$ 393,886
Total Regular Expenses	\$ 40,855	\$ 43,597	\$ 372,852	\$ 418,262
Total Net Income - September 2023	\$ (13,990)	\$ (7,347)		
Unified Support-Phoenix	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 63,000	\$ 63,000.00
Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support	\$ (6,990)	\$ (347)		
Total Net Income - Year-To-Date			\$ (23,328)	\$ (22,862)

September Income was \$9,385 under the September Budget
September Expense was \$2,742 under the September Budget

Net Income is -\$6,990 for September
Net Income is -\$23,328 year to date

Please consider online giving.

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$174,932.37

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:

Over the past several months the Church Council has been developing a policy for outside or non-Church groups that allows them to sell on Church premises before or after services. This policy will be added to other Church policies developed over the years and kept on file in the Church office. To raise awareness of this policy it is printed here.



Policy for Selling at Church by outside (non-Church) Organizations

Organizations that are not a part of Trinity Lutheran Church will be permitted to sell on Church premises if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Schedule with Church office.
2. Organization is non-profit and for the betterment of the community.
3. People representing the organization and doing the selling are members of Trinity.
4. Selling would be done at a table so that buyers could approach the sellers (rather than sellers approaching potential buyers).
5. Selling would be limited to once per year for any organization.
6. Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts could sell for two consecutive Sundays per troop.
7. Where multiple Trinity members are doing the selling, credit for the sales within the organization is to be divided equally amongst those doing the sales.

This policy has been adopted by the Church Council and is now in effect. Hopefully it will resolve any conflicts related to who can sell and people feeling pressured into buying.

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 & Views

Date	In person	Online views
9/24 8a	40	60
9/24 10a	100	102
10/1 8a	46	104
10/1 10a	79	51
10/8 8a	47	48
10/8 10a	86	63
10/15 8a	40	65
10/15 10a	67	91



To the Cemetery fund, Viking Vittles, and Undesignated in memory of Helen Lindhart from John Lindhart, Catherine & Emily Leslie

Undesignated in memory of Helen Lindhart from Mike & Barb Nelson

Undesignated in memory of Jim Peterson from Loren & Jane Magnison

To Viking Vittles in honor of Martha Arnold's 80th birthday from Tom & Candi Hals, Lee & Donna Setter





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, 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

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

ext. 14



8 & 10 a
Worship

9 a Coffee Hour

9 a Family
Sunday School

Thanksgiving Eve Worship November 22 at
6:30 pm followed by Pie Social