

March 2025

Pastor's Page

Trinity Tidings
March 2025
Pastor Paul Cannon



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

Eyes on the Cross

This last month, we debuted the new Trinity Logo that I hope serves our church for years to come as a recognizable symbol that helps bring people to Trinity. Tom Moriarty, Julie Morgan, Jeremy Edson and I formed a team and started working with the designer back in the fall of 2024. We began without a clear idea of what it would look like. We browsed dozens (if not hundreds) of church logos to get a sense for what we liked and what we didn't.

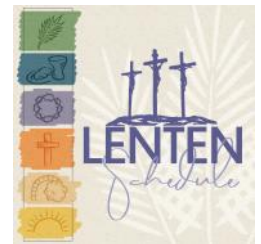
We wanted to keep it simple and so we asked for a design with warm, welcoming colors and modern font types, that convey the warmth, welcome and authenticity that our church embodies. Tom outlined a sketch of the front of the church that we thought could work well for us. Every family with a kid in the North Branch public schools drives by our building, and so we thought that an outline of it with the stained glass would serve us well. We sent out the idea to the designer and waited to see what she would come up with.

The design that came back accomplishes all those things! But when we got the first proof of the new logo, the first thing I noticed wasn't the colors or the font, or even the stained glass; my eyes were immediately drawn to the cross. The building and stained glass are encircled in the logo, but standing above (and standing out) is the cross.

As we start Lent this March (Ash Wednesday is March 5th) it's a reminder that everything we do here at Trinity should be in service to Jesus. We can start all kinds of programs, and have all kinds of success, but if we aren't focused on the cross then it's all vanity – chasing after the wind (to borrow a phrase from Ecclesiastes).

No matter what we do, my prayer for this congregation is that we can keep our eyes fixed on the one thing that's more important than all the rest. Every program, every outreach endeavor, every youth event and cup of coffee served, should be done with the goal of bringing people to a closer relationship, understanding and love for our Triune God.

- Ash Wednesday, March 5:** 11:00 a.m.. & 6:30 p.m. worship
- Wednesdays March 12 through April 9:** 11:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. worship
- Palm Sunday, April 13:** 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. worship
9:00 a.m. Palm Sunday Brunch
- Maundy Thursday, April 17:** 11:00 a.m.. & 6:30 p.m. worship and First Communion
- Good Friday, April 18:** 6:30 p.m. worship
- Easter Sunday, April 20:** 6:15 a.m. Cemetery Service
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. worship



Children & Youth Ministry News

Family Sunday School and Children's Ministry:

Thank you to all the families and Trinity members that helped us collect cans of soup for our Souper Bowl Sunday food drive! We collected 275 cans of soup to support the Trinity Food Shelf, North Branch Food Shelf, and Viking Vittles. Our Sunday School families also made 5 fleece tie blankets for Safe Haven Foster Shoppe and Ecumen. Sunday School students also helped lead and sing 3 songs at 10:00 worship on February 23 and were such a delight to hear! There will be NO Sunday School on March 9 and 16 with Spring Break. In April, we will be celebrating Easter and are looking forward to our Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt and singing in worship with our palm branches.

March 2 - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m. **March 9** - NO Sunday School - Spring Break
March 16 - NO Sunday School - Spring Break **March 23** - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.
March 30 - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.



Save the date! Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday Brunch 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship hall, Family Easter Egg Hunt at 9:45 a.m. on the Trinity lawn (weather permitting), Palm Branch Parade and singing in church at 10:00 a.m.

Faith Friends

Our last Faith Friends for this school year will meet on Wednesday, March 19, from 5:30-6:00 p.m. Join us in the Sunday School rooms for our seasonal Bible verse, craft, and activity. Everyone is invited to join for TLC Pizza Night from 6:00-6:30 p.m. TLC Pizza Night serves Domino's Pizza, salad, lemonade, cookies/bars, and water. (Suggested donation \$5/person).

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

February was a busy month for EDGE and we want to thank everyone that supported our youth group at the soup lunch during the Annual Meeting! Our group donated all the food from our poverty simulation project to the Trinity Food Shelf and North Branch Food Shelf. We also packed 15 college/young adult care packages this month and had a fun bowling field trip to wrap up February. Lent season will begin with Ash Wednesday on March 5, and we will use the Lent theme: "Everything in Between" for our discussion and fellowship time before attending Lenten worship services together. There will be no EDGE on March 12, due to spring break. The next NB Breakfast Club is on Wednesday, March 5, from 7:00-7:30 a.m. We had 65 high school students at our full launch in February!

Please join us for our **Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser** on Sunday, April 13, from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. EDGE youth will be serving donuts, muffins, fruit, yogurt, cheese, coffee, and juice. Free will donations support youth trips and activities, including this year's mission trip to Wisconsin.

March 2 - EDGE hosts coffee hour
March 5 - NB Breakfast Club, 7:00-7:30 a.m.
March 5 - EDGE 6:00-6:30 p.m. - Ash Wednesday Worship 6:30-7:30 p.m.
March 12 - NO EDGE - Spring Break
March 19 - EDGE 6:00-6:30 p.m. Pizza Night and Viking Vittles Packing, Lent worship 6:30-7:00 p.m.
March 26 - EDGE 6:00-6:30 p.m. - Lent Worship 6:30-7:00 p.m.



NB Breakfast Club - North Branch Breakfast Club meets the first Wednesday of the month (October-May) and is for all 9-12 grade high school students. Our next one is Wednesday, March 5, from 7:00-7:30 a.m. before school in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity. Students come for a yummy breakfast, friends, and an encouraging Word before school! Thank you to our amazing volunteer team for all of their time, energy, and care to make this happen! Reach out to Marie to volunteer to help.



Holy Hotdish Bible Study

We will finish our study of Mark on Sunday, March 2, from 6:00-7:30 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 supper and fellowship, followed by Bible study on the book of Mark, discussion, and prayer. Our final gathering for this year will be our succulent workshop on April 6. Please contact Marie to be added to our email list.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our Little Free Libraries are in need of books for all ages. Donations can be placed in the bin inside Door 12. Thank you!

Diaper Collection We are collecting disposable diapers and wipes for families in need. If you have a partial package of leftover diapers, or would like to purchase diapers, we will create bundles that could be distributed as needed. Please leave donations in the church office. We are especially in need of baby wipes.

March is food share month. We are asking local churches to collect items for Viking Vittles every Sunday in March as a way to support the program. Listed below are items that we include in the bags of food that are sent home for the weekend. Please do not exceed the size listed as both the bags and the backpacks only hold so much. Cash donations are also greatly appreciated! Items may be placed on the cart in the narthex. Thank you for helping to feed our community! Canned corn or green beans 15 oz. Chicken noodle soup 12 oz. canned fruit 15 oz., peanut butter 15 oz., mac & cheese 7 oz., toaster pops.



Venmo



PayPal



Senior Socials 2025 are COMING SOON! Mark your calendars for the second Thursday of each month, April through September. We will meet from 5:00-6:30 pm (until 7:00 pm September 11.) Stay tuned for more details including our fun themes and special guest musicians.

If you would like to volunteer to help at the dinners, we can always use help in the kitchen! There is no cost to attend. If you would like to make a donation, contact Julie in the church office at 651-674-7047.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TRINITY'S HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Trinity's scholarship applications for high school seniors attending an ELCA affiliated school are due to the church office by May 1. See Julie for more details and an application form.

Calling all orchestra musicians!

We are looking for volunteers to join our small orchestra that will be playing on April 20th, Easter Sunday. This would include brass, woodwinds, strings, etc. There will be a dress rehearsal on Wednesday evening, April 16th, at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Melissa if you have any questions or interest in joining us!



Newcomer Connect Gathering – For new people and visitors of Trinity who would like to get to know the church better, we are hosting a gathering on March 19th at 5pm, where we'll have a meet-and-greet, learn about Trinity and then join the community for Pizza Night! Email Pastor Paul to sign up.



First Communion Class

First Communion Class at Trinity will take place on Sunday, April 6, 2025, from 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. We ask that a parent/guardian/caregiver/Godparent attend with each child. Please complete your registration form by Monday, March 31, 2025. Class will include lunch, lesson, making banners, and making First Communion bread. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Pastor Paul.



First Communion will then take place at Maundy Thursday worship on Thursday, April 17, 2025, at Trinity Lutheran Church. Families are invited to arrive for photos at 6:00 p.m. and worship/receiving First Communion takes place at 6:30 p.m.

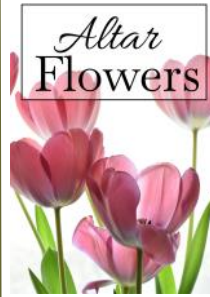
Please register your student for First Communion here: <https://forms.gle/HRZ1Na5xA2a5F6Zy6>

All ages are welcome! We invite families to decide when their child is ready to receive Communion for the first time with the most common ages between 2nd-5th grade.

Greeting cards are sent periodically to our homebound members. If you are not receiving cards from Trinity and would like to be added to the mailing list, please call the office at 651-674-7047 and we will add you!



We are in need of a group or a couple of families to bring treats and serve at our 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 16. Please contact Julie or sign up on the bulletin board if you can help out. 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 a.m. that Sunday. See Julie with questions.

The Outreach Committee will be meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m. in the Genesis Room. Many exciting projects are being planned for the next few months. Come and join us March 11.

Martha Arnold, Chair person.



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



We are looking for volunteers to help out as ushers, greeters and communion assistants at our worship services. Training is available if desired. If you are interested in helping out in this way please sign up in the narthex, or talk with Julie or Dani. 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

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

Trinity's grocery shelf has seen continued 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 our community in this way!

ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month of March

Tom & Candi Hals



Please email articles for the April Trinity Tidings to office@trinitynorthbranch.org by March 17. Thank you!

Fare for All
3:00-5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 12.
Fare for All is open to everyone! The more who shop the better the buying power of the organization. www.fareforall.org











Our weekly worship will be available each Sunday live at 8 & 10 a.m. 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 January, February, March are in the Narthex. 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.



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Coffee Hour 6:00 pm Holy Hot Dish | 3 9:00 am Fellowship Team meeting | 4  | 5 Ash Wednesday 7:00 am Breakfast Club 11:00 am Worship 5:15 pm Praise Band 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm EDGE Youth Group 6:30 pm Worship 7:15 pm Choir practice | 6 9:00 am Women's Bible Study | 7 5:00 - 7:00 pm Fish Fry  | 8  |
| 9 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 am & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour | 10 12:30 - 6:30 pm Blood Drive | 11 9:00 am Outreach meeting | 12 11:00 am Lenten worship 3:00 pm Fare for All 5:15 pm Praise Band 6:30 pm Lenten worship | 13 9:00 am Women's Bible Study  | 14 5:00 - 7:00 pm Fish Fry  | 15 |
| 16 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 am & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:05 am Adult Bible Study | 17 Tidings articles due  | 18 7:00 pm Church Council | 19 11:00 am Lenten worship 5:00 pm Newcomer connect 5:15 pm Praise Band 5:30 pm Faith Friends 6:00 pm Pizza Dinner 6:00 pm Confirmation/EDGE 6:30 pm Lenten worship 7:15 pm Choir practice | 20 9:00 am Women's Bible Study | 21 5:00 - 7:00 pm Fish Fry  | 22 |
| 23 & 30 Worship / Communion 8:00 am & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School 3/30 New Member Sunday | 24 31 | 25 | 26 11:00 am Lenten worship 5:15 Praise band 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 PM EDGE Youth Group 6:30 pm Lenten worship | 27 9:00 am Women's Bible Study | 28 5:00 - 7:00 pm Fish Fry  | |

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending January 31, 2025
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

| <u>Income</u> | January Actual | January Budget | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Unified Giving | \$ 32,224 | \$ 34,325 | \$ 32,224 | \$ 34,325 |
| Loose Offering | \$ 418 | \$ 667 | \$ 418 | \$ 667 |
| Other Income | \$ 598 | \$ 213 | \$ 598 | \$ 213 |
| Phoenix Operating Reimbursement | \$ 2,680 | \$ 2,500 | \$ 2,680 | \$ 2,500 |
| Special Bequests | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total Regular Giving | \$ 35,919 | \$ 37,704 | \$ 35,919 | \$ 37,704 |
| | | | | |
| <u>Expenses</u> | January Actual | January Budget | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
| Mission Support | | | | |
| Synod Support | \$ 2,429 | \$ 2,429 | \$ 2,429 | \$ 2,429 |
| Missionaries | \$ 188 | \$ 188 | \$ 188 | \$ 188 |
| Iringa Church Tanzania | \$ 92 | \$ 92 | \$ 92 | \$ 92 |
| Sub-total Mission Expenses | \$ 2,708 | \$ 2,708 | \$ 2,708 | \$ 2,708 |
| | | | | |
| General Expenses | | | | |
| Ministry Support | \$ 33,154 | \$ 37,793 | \$ 33,154 | \$ 37,793 |
| Church Property | \$ 7,920 | \$ 8,307 | \$ 7,920 | \$ 8,307 |
| Stewardship | \$ 250 | \$ 270 | \$ 250 | \$ 270 |
| Learning & Youth | \$ 252 | \$ 569 | \$ 252 | \$ 569 |
| Worship | \$ 81 | \$ 167 | \$ 81 | \$ 167 |
| Audio Visual | \$ - | \$ 125 | \$ - | \$ 125 |
| Witness & Service | \$ 70 | \$ 404 | \$ 70 | \$ 404 |
| Sub-total General Expenses | \$ 41,727 | \$ 47,635 | \$ 41,727 | \$ 47,635 |
| | | | | |
| Total Regular Expenses | \$ 44,435 | \$ 50,344 | \$ 44,435 | \$ 50,344 |
| Total Net Income - January 2025 | \$ (8,516) | \$ (12,640) | \$ (8,516) | \$ (12,640) |
| Unified Support - Phoenix | \$ 8,600 | \$ 13,479 | \$ 8,600 | \$ 13,479 |
| Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support | \$ 84 | \$ 840 | | |
| Total Net Income - Year-To-Date | | | \$ 84 | \$ 840 |

January Income was \$1,785 under the January Budget
January Expense was \$5,909 under the January Budget

Net Income is \$84 for January
Net Income is \$84 Year to Date

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$20,683.33

Respectfully Submitted,
Todd J. Fisk
Treasurer

Please consider online giving.

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

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.

Trinity Lutheran Church – North Branch

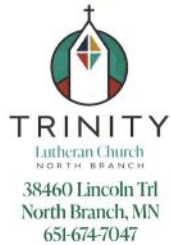
Annual LENTEN FISH FRY

Fridays 5-7 p.m. | March 7-April 11, 2025

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
 Fish
 Hand-cut Fries
 Coleslaw
 Dessert
 Coffee & Milk



Pop for \$1
 Meatless spaghetti also available!



\$15 Adults
\$5 Kids age 5-10
Kids under 5 FREE!

Proceeds support
Viking Vittles
 Weekend backpack food program

Invite your friends and family to come, see and enjoy fresh French Fries, delicious fish, coleslaw and dessert bars.

Volunteers needed for bringing bars and helping set up, serve and cleanup. Sign up sheets will be located in the Narthex.



Everything In Between Lenten devotion booklets are available in the narthex. This will be our theme throughout Lent.

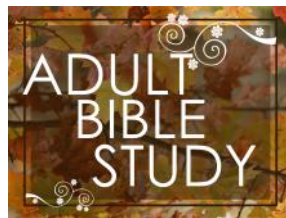
Like, comment on, and share our daily facebook posts!



Gas Cards in memory of Tom Warneke (father of Path Fairbanks) from Pat Fairbanks

Attendance & Views

| Date | In person | Online views |
|------|-----------|--------------|
| 1/19 | 8a | 40 |
| | 10a | 55 |
| 1/26 | 8a | 43 |
| | 10a | 83 |
| 2/2 | 8a | 45 |
| | 10a | 114 |
| 2/9 | 8a | 41 |
| | 10a | 64 |



Sign up for our Adult Bible Study

a monthly video/book based Bible study called "Making sense of the Cross" presented by Dr. David Lose. Open to all adults in the congregation! Sign up on the sheet in the narthex or

<https://forms.gle/xqENeiHvUbg1SWU29>

Bible Study: Changed to 9:05 a.m. Sunday, March 16

TLC Pizza Night Schedule

5:00-6:00p – Newcomer Connect
 5:30-6:00p – Faith Friends elementary programming.
 6:00-6:30p – Pizza Night in the Fellowship Hall.
 Confirmation, EDGE.

6:30 p—Lenten worship

*Please sign up for Pizza Night separately.



TRINITY
Lutheran Church

38460 Lincoln Trail
PO Box 447
North Branch, MN 55056

**Non-Profit Org.
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Return Service Requested

Mailing Label

March 2025

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 am & 10 am worship
(available on YouTube and facebook)
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
Melissa Westmore, Director of Music ext. 14
Julie Morgan, Church Office Manager ext. 10
Danielle Baumann, Volunteer Coordinator
Christopher Dehen, Financial Recorder
Lucas Starr, Audio Visual Manager

Roger Anderson & Jim Juntunen, Custodians
Jason Vanous & 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:
Jeremy Edson, Council Chair
Tiffany Byrne, Shari Denny,, Jeff Johnson,
Rosanne Johnson, Jim Naggatz, Barb Nelson,
Dan Peterson, John Swenson



The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held 12:30-6:30 p.m. Monday,

March 10. During the month of March, the Red Cross will expand its health offerings to include hemoglobin A1C screening for all donors who make a successful blood, platelets or plasma donation. Register at redcrossblood.org.