

May 2025

## Pastor's Page

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Trinity Tidings  
May 2025  
Pastor Paul Cannon

### Affirmation of Baptism

The Lutheran Church isn't always good at branding. Case-in-point, we call one of the most treasured traditions in our church "Affirmation of Baptism" which sounds like something you might have to wait in line for at the DMV. It's so bad, we don't even stick with that name most of the year, we just call it "Confirmation" which isn't much better. That sounds like a word invented solely for use by news anchors ("we've *just received confirmation...*").

I don't have a clever new name for it (email me if you can come up with something!), but I wish we had one that better captured the spirit of our weekly Wednesday classes. I would replace it with something that recognized what a momentous decision it is for these young people to stand up in front of the congregation and say, "I want faith to be a part of my life."

When I say "decision" I really mean it. It truly is *their* choice. I tell parents at the beginning, middle and end of Confirmation that they already made promises on behalf of their children when they were baptized and now it's their kids' turn. And if their kid says "No" then I tell them they need to respect that decision.

Especially in a day and age when (let's face it) religion isn't a cultural *expectation* in the same way it was just a few decades ago, saying "Yes!" to faith is a big deal! It's why we spend three years taking classes, doing small groups, playing silly games and highlighting Bible verses - all so they can one day feel confident enough to "Affirm" the promises that were first made for them in baptism (hence the lame name).

But no matter what you call it, it is certainly a milestone to be celebrated. So when we observe this "Affirmation of Baptism" on May 4 during 10:00 a.m. worship with our students, know that the Holy Spirit is up to something great with these kids.

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**We are moving to our summer worship schedule a week earlier than usual this year.**

**We will have one service at 9:00 a.m. beginning Sunday, May 18. We will have Coffee Hour/Fellowship Time following worship.**



**Summer**  
**WORSHIP**  
**SCHEDULE**

TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church



# Children & Youth Ministry News

## Family Sunday School and Children's Ministry

Thank you to our amazing Teacher Leadership Team (Megan, Sarah, Dani, Abby, Becky, Marie, and Kaia) that helped pray, lead, and support our Sunday School program this year! We appreciate you! Thank you also to our Sunday School Coordinator, Courtney Fairbanks, for all the time, energy, care, and creativity you pour into making our program so fun and engaging for youth and families! We are grateful for all the wonderful youth and families we get to learn and grow with at Trinity! We wrap up our Sunday School year on May 4, with an end of the year party and celebrating our 5th grade students who are moving on to confirmation next year! Blessings on a wonderful summer and we hope to see you all at "Water World" VBS Family Nights in June!



**May 4** - Last Day of Sunday School Party 9:00-9:45 a.m. Celebrate 5th Grade Students at 10:00 a.m. worship

**June 11, 18, 25** - "Water World" VBS Family Nights 5:30-7:30 p.m.

## EDGE High School Youth Group

Thank you for your support of our EDGE Palm Sunday Brunch! We appreciate all the kindness and generosity you show our youth programs! EDGE wraps up the school year with our annual bonfire, packing Viking Vittles, serving coffee hour at the Confirmation reception on May 4 and Senior Recognition reception on May 19.

We have 4 EDGE seniors graduating this year who have been very active in serving and sharing their gifts at Trinity for many years and faithfully served on every mission trip and the ELCA Youth Gathering. We are so proud of them and will sincerely miss them. We know God will guide them on their journeys ahead and always be with them as they step out to new adventures.

Thank you to all the adult leaders that have helped make our EDGE events and activities possible this year, Jeremy, Sarah, Alanna, Justin, Megan, Gretel, Kristin, Becky, and Sarah! We couldn't do what we do without your support! We are looking forward to summer fun at Summer in the Sun/VBS in June!

**May 4**- EDGE serves Confirmation Reception/Coffee Hour

**May 7**- NB Breakfast Club, 7:00-7:30 a.m.

**May 7**- EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m. - Viking Vittles Packing

**May 14**- EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m. Bonfire offsite

**May 18**-Trinity Senior Recognition 9:00 a.m. Reception/Coffee Hour 10:00 a.m.

**June 4** - Class of 2025 Baccalaureate Worship 7:00 p.m. NBAPS Auditorium



## NB Breakfast Club

Our last NB Breakfast Club for this school year is on Wednesday, May 7, from 7:00-7:30 a.m. before school in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity. Breakfast Club is for all 9-12 grade high school students. Join us for a full breakfast, friends, fun, and an encouraging Word before school!



**Trinity Senior Recognition for Class of 2025** - We would like to invite you to join us for Trinity's Senior Recognition on Sunday, May 18, at 9:00 a.m. worship where we will bless the Class of 2025 and share the video slideshow. A reception will take place after the service with cupcakes and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. Informational letters were mailed and emailed to senior parents we had contact information for so please reach out to Marie if you did not receive one.



## Class of 2025 Baccalaureate Service

Wednesday, June 4, at 7:00 p.m. at the North Branch Area High School Auditorium.

Baccalaureate is a time where the community and area churches gather together to honor the graduating class. All senior students, their families, and the public are invited and welcome to this non-denominational service. This year's Baccalaureate will include music, scripture, speaker, prayer, and blessing for the Class of 2025.



# 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. Thank you!

**Blessing Bags** We will be packing summer Blessing Bags on Tuesday, May 20th at 10 a.m. in the Genesis room. If you have lunch plans, no worries...we're always done before noon!  
THANK YOU! Lori Fisk

**Fish Fry** A heartfelt thank you to all who made our 2025 Fish Fry a huge success! Your support means hungry kids in our community will have food to eat on the weekends when they are not in school. A special thanks to the dozens of volunteers who helped make this event possible. Your support is so appreciated!



## "Water World" VBS Family Nights

Families are invited to be a part of "Water World" VBS Family Nights this summer! We will gather together 3 Wednesday evenings, June 11, 18, and 25, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Trinity. We look forward to learning about God's love for us through fun water themes, including Bible stories, games, science, art, music, and service projects this summer. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. and activities will start at 6:00 each evening. There is no cost to attend. You can come to 1, 2, or all 3 nights. Please register by May 4, to ensure requested T-shirt sizes for everyone in your family. We can't wait to see you this summer! Registration forms are available online and in the narthex. Reach out to Marie if you have any questions.

**VBS/Summer in the Sun Youth Leaders** - Entering 7th grade - Outgoing 12th graders are invited to be youth leaders and helpers for our VBS Family Nights. Dates are Wednesdays: June 11, June 18, and

June 25, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Youth leaders will have fun trips in the afternoon before coming back to set up, serve supper, and help with VBS each night. Reach out to Marie if you have any questions. Registration forms are available on the Narthex table. Please register by Sunday, May 4.

## **VBS/Summer in the Sun Donation Request:**

A donation board is in the narthex with tags for supplies and snacks needed for our VBS Family Nights. We are asking for new, unopened snack bags of the following to be returned to the church office before May 15. Please only donate the following: fruit snacks, variety chip bags, Go-Go Squeeze applesauce pouches, and fragrance-free baby wipes. THANK YOU for your help supporting youth and family ministry programs at Trinity!



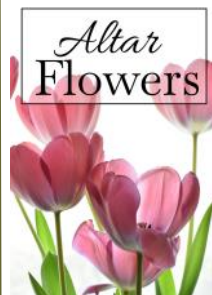
**Senior Socials** are a time for seniors to get together to have fun, visit, eat good food, laugh at Kelly's sketchy jokes, sing along to some toe-tapping music, play games, and get out of the house! They are held 5:00-6:30 pm the second Thursday of each month, through September. There is no charge, just come and have fun! Invite friends, this is open to the community. If you would like to donate towards these meals, mark "Senior Social" on your donation. If you'd like to help serve, please let us know! If you have Thrivent and would like to apply for a grant card for the dinners, please see Julie. The May theme is Mexican Fiesta. **Please call Julie at 651-674-7047 by May 5 to register for the May 8 event.**



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 June 1, 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour. 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 May 13.**

**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](mailto: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!

**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](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org)**

## ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month of May

Barb & Steve Mork



Please email articles for the June Trinity Tidings to [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org) by May 15. Thank you!



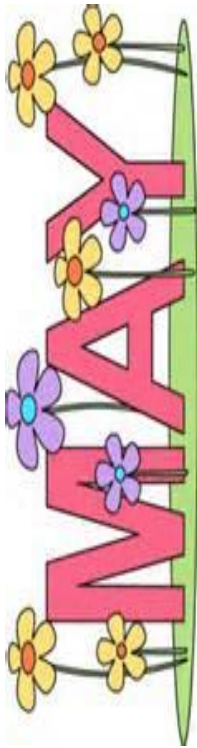
**Our weekly worship will be available each Sunday live at 8 & 10 a.m. (9 am beginning 5/18) on our YouTube channel, and about 90 minutes later on our facebook page. Links can be found on our website.**

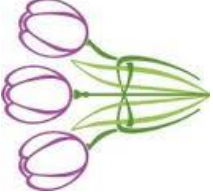



**Like Trinity Lutheran Church on facebook, and comment on our posts! Worship videos are posted each Sunday!**



**"Christ in Our Home" daily devotionals for April, May and June are in the Narthex.**

**Large and regular print books are available. If you'd like a copy, email [jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org) or leave a message for Julie at 651-674-7047 to pickup.**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	2	3
4 <b>Worship Service/ Communion</b> 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Coffee Hour Confirmation during 10:00 am worship	5 9:00 am Fellowship Team meeting	6 	7 7:00 am Breakfast Club 3:00 pm Fare for All 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Group	8 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Senior Dinner 5:30 pm Praise team	9	10
11 <b>Worship Service/ Communion</b> 8:00 am & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour	12	13 9:00 am Outreach meeting Tidings articles due	14 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Group	15 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm Praise team Tidings articles due	16 	17
18 <b>Worship Service/ Communion</b> 9:00 am –Senior Recognition 10:00 am Coffee Hour	19	20 7:00 pm Church Council	21	22 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	23	24
25 <b>Worship / Communion</b> 9:00 am 10:00 am Coffee Hour	26 	27	28	29	30	31

# Treasurer's Report

## Statement of Income and Expenses

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

<u>Income</u>	March Actual	March Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 35,227	\$ 34,325	\$ 99,906	\$ 102,975
Loose Offering	\$ 798	\$ 667	\$ 1,868	\$ 2,000
Other Income	\$ 2,892	\$ 1,763	\$ 3,508	\$ 2,088
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 3,606	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,204	\$ 7,500
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Regular Giving</b>	<b>\$ 42,522</b>	<b>\$ 38,754</b>	<b>\$ 115,486</b>	<b>\$ 114,562</b>
<u>Expenses</u>	March Actual	March Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<u>Mission Support</u>				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 7,288	\$ 7,288
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 563	\$ 563
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 275	\$ 275
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 8,125	\$ 8,125
<u>General Expenses</u>	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Ministry Support	\$ 34,779	\$ 35,549	\$ 102,670	\$ 110,101
Church Property	\$ 10,354	\$ 8,887	\$ 30,602	\$ 29,082
Stewardship	\$ 682	\$ 620	\$ 1,165	\$ 1,140
Learning & Youth	\$ 470	\$ 998	\$ 998	\$ 2,534
Worship	\$ 221	\$ 167	\$ 610	\$ 550
Audio/Visual	\$ -	\$ 125	\$ -	\$ 375
Witness & Service	\$ (379)	\$ 404	\$ -	\$ 1,213
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 46,127	\$ 46,750	\$ 136,045	\$ 144,995
<b>Total Regular Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 48,836</b>	<b>\$ 49,458</b>	<b>\$ 144,170</b>	<b>\$ 153,120</b>
Total Net Income - March 2025	\$ (6,313)	\$ (10,704)	\$ (28,685)	\$ (38,558)
Unified Support - Phoenix	\$ 6,500	\$ 13,479	\$ 29,100	\$ 40,438
Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support	\$ 187	\$ 2,775		
<b>Total Net Income - Year-To-Date</b>			<b>\$ 415</b>	<b>\$ 1,880</b>

March Income was \$3,768 over the March Budget  
March Expense was \$623 under the March Budget

**Please consider online giving.**

Net Income is \$187 for March  
Net Income is \$415 Year to Date

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$62,049.99

**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!

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Todd J. Fisk*  
Treasurer

See our website [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://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.

## Audio Visual Position Openings

Lucas Starr has resigned as our AV director. Many thanks to him and all the work he put into helping us see and hear in worship! We wish Lucas well on his future endeavors.

The Personnel Committee and Council has decided to split the position into two separate positions: Audio Tech and Worship Media Tech.

### **1. Audio Tech - Up to 8hrs/Week**

Position Summary: The Audio Technician is responsible for implementing the audio aspects of the worship plan as set by the Lead Pastor and the Worship Director. This includes (but not limited to) mixing sound and working with Audio Booth volunteers. This includes (but not limited to) Sunday worship services, midweek practices (usually Thursday evenings) and other special services that take place during the year. An important part of this job is to recruit and train volunteers or paid substitutes to support or fill in as needed

### **2. Worship Media Tech - up to 8hrs/Week**

Position Summary: The Worship Media Technician is responsible for producing weekly worship power point media and other visual media as directed by the Lead Pastor and the Worship Director. This includes (but not limited to) Sunday worship services and other special services that take place during the year, as well as running the slides during worship. An important part of this job is to recruit and train volunteers or substitutes to support or fill in as needed.

These jobs are combinable upon request. Please spread the word if you know of someone who might be qualified. For full job descriptions enquire with the Church Office or visit our website:

[www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://www.trinitynorthbranch.org).

**Viking Vittles** in memory of Steve Denny from Lee & Donna Setter, Ann & Albert Tanko

**EDGE Youth Group** in memory of JoAnn Nyholm & Penny Boyce from Mike & Barb Nelson

**Unified Fund** in memory of Penny Boyce from Randy & Margo Hermanson, Don & Roberta

Elmstrand, Susan Gustafson, Herman & Marilyn Crawford, Candace Twingstrom, Randall

Fisk, Jo Ann Dolezalek, Don & Karen Brown, Eunice Whipps, Linda Louise & David

Gunberg, Mosanne & Gary Johnson, Loren & Jane Magnison, Vonnie & Dennis Johnson,

Seth & Lisa Klatt, Pam Lindlbom, Cindy & Butch Larson, Kelly Ramberg, Dean Anderson,

Gene & Nancy Boyce, Gerald Southbloom, Randy & Tina Sederberg, Michelle Balthazor,

Troy & Christine Olson, Shirley Fisk, Pietrick Insurance, Dan & Val Anderson, Anita & Brian Mohr,

Mary Rudolph, Eileen Fisk, Todd & Lori Fisk, Jacquelyn Holmstrom, Jean Fairbanks,

Ron & Diane Barsness, Judy Ramberg, Sharon Ramberg, John & Judy Pohl, Shannon & Dallas Olson,

Bonnie Nelson, Troy & Michelle Ramberg, John & Karen Bartz, John & Annette Johnson

**Undesignated** in memory of Marlene Magnison from Loren & Jane Magnison, Darlene Nelson

**Easter Memorial Garden** in memory of Rosemary Morrison from Rosanne Johnson

**Easter Memorial Garden** in memory of Arlie, my parents, brother and sister from Mary Sederberg



<b>Attendance &amp; Views</b>				<b>Date</b>	<b>In person</b>		<b>Online views</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>In person</b>		<b>Online Views</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>In person</b>		<b>Online views</b>								
				<b>3/19</b>	<b>11a</b>	19	*	<b>4/2</b>	<b>11a</b>	24	*
					<b>630a</b>	75	29		<b>630p</b>	50	198
				<b>3/23</b>	<b>8a</b>	51	117	<b>4/6</b>	<b>8a</b>	66	159
<b>3/9</b>	<b>8a</b>	39	139		<b>10a</b>	105	206		<b>10a</b>	139	90
	<b>10a</b>	102	317	<b>3/26</b>	<b>11a</b>	30	*	<b>4/9</b>	<b>11a</b>	20	*
<b>3/12</b>	<b>11a</b>	14	*		<b>630p</b>	60	155		<b>630p</b>	67	249
	<b>630p</b>	25	10	<b>3/30</b>	<b>8a</b>	40	143	<b>4/13</b>	<b>8a</b>	58	106
<b>3/16</b>	<b>8a</b>	43	40		<b>10a</b>	116	194		<b>10a</b>	146	131
	<b>10a</b>	75	24								

\* services not shown online





TRINITY

Lutheran Church

38460 Lincoln Trail

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North Branch, MN 55056

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Mailing Label

## May 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 (9am only beginning 5/18)  
(available on YouTube and facebook)

Church email: [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org)

Church website: [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://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

Open Audio Visual Manager

Roger Anderson & Jim Juntunen, Custodians  
Jason Vanous & Luke Meyer, Cemetery Staff  
Outreach Committee:

[Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto: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



SUMMER  
WORSHIP  
SCHEDULE

**We will have  
one service  
each Sunday  
at 9:00 a.m.  
followed by  
Coffee Hour  
beginning  
Sunday,  
May 18.**