



# News & Notes

October 2017 - Number 1023

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## TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

504 S. Westnedge Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49007-6004

269-344-6181

[www.tlckzoo.com](http://www.tlckzoo.com)

[office@tlckzoo.com](mailto:office@tlckzoo.com)

## Worship Services

Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00 am

Wednesdays at 7 pm

Sunday School at 9:45 am



### Trinity Staff

Pastor

Associate Pastor

Organist/Director of Music

Children's Choir/Pianist

Office Staff

Custodian

Director of Family Ministry

Rev. Ken Johnson

Rev. Jake Lehman

William Musselman

Sara McGarvey

Katie Grubaugh &

Trudi Giffin

Margaret Stevenson

Heidi Albertson

### Library

Carolyn Albert

Mary Bittner

Maryann Hubbell

### Sunday School Coordinator

Emily Wright

### Church Council

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Worship & Music

Christian Education

Service & Social Ministry

Facilities

Evangelism, Fellowship  
& Communications

Stewardship & Finance

Karen Adams

Teri Koretsky

Mike Mueller

Don Nelson

Gege Shurney

Lisa Ruble &

Emily Wright

Kay Nelson &

Donna Gardner

Shaun Wright

Erin Sutherland &

Ashley Wineland

Bill Sherrod &

Jerry Molitor

### Trinity Foundation Members

Jerry Molitor

Maridel Greer

Mike Mueller

Jim Allen

Rev. Ken Johnson

Rev. Jake Lehman

### Missionaries

David Kramer, Tillers, Int.

Eisleben Church, Germany

# Trinity Student Ministry News!



## **ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING!**

Registration is currently open for all current 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders who are interested in attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering this coming summer! From June 27-July 1 somewhere around 30,000 Lutheran youth will gather in Houston, TX for a week of fun, faith, and service! You're going to want to be there! The gathering happens once every three years and is an event you'll remember for the rest of your life!

Cost is just \$200 plus money for meals. **To register, return the registration form and a \$50 deposit to Pr. Jake by Oct 8.** *If you need a copy of the form, contact Pr. Jake.*

## **Witness Wear Fundraiser!**

As a way to give Trinity members a way to show their Lutheran pride and raise a few dollars for the youth activities at Trinity (including the National Gathering!), we will be re-releasing our "Trinity Brand" clothing in the month of October! We'll have a display and order information available in the fellowship hall after both services on October 15, 22, and 29, so we'll need youth and parents to help staff the table during those times. Sign up to help on the youth board or let Pr. Jake know!

**Be sure to wear your Trinity shirts on October 15<sup>th</sup> as a way to promote the sale (and show off your church swag)!**



## **Confirmation Retreat!**

All students in confirmation (7-8<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to the Fall Confirmation Retreat! From

**October 20-22**, we'll be going to Camp Arcadia on the shores Lake Michigan for a fun filled weekend! Cost is just \$25 per youth! Sign up on the youth board ASAP and look for registration info to come in the mail. This was a blast last year, you won't want to miss it!!!

## **Trunk or Treat!**

Trinity will be hosting a Trunk or Treat for the entire community on Wednesday October 25! We would love to have a great turnout of trunks and treats for this event, so youth and their parents are invited to come out in their best Halloween attire to host a trunk for the neighborhood. We'll also need some youth to help with the games and pizza serving for the night. The event begins at 6 and concludes with a fun kid's themed worship service at 7. Sign up on the youth board if you're able to help!

## **Communication Update!**

As a way to improve the way we communicate with students and their families we're updating the way we communicate. We've signed up for the messaging service "Remind" so that we can efficiently send out important messages about youth events that we know will get to you. **To register, just text @pastorjak to the number 81010** and you'll be on the list! Or if you prefer, go to [www.remind.com/join/pastorjak](http://www.remind.com/join/pastorjak) and sign up there!

*Also based on conversation at last week's youth meeting, we've shut down the Facebook page since students have mostly shifted away from it as a major mode of communication.*

## **Bike to South Haven**

Want to get out and enjoy the fall on two wheels? Join the youth of First UMC for a bike trip to South Haven! They've invited any of us who are interested to join them on Sunday October 1 at 12:30 as they bike to the beach for a cookout and the sunset!

**If you're interested, contact Pr. Jake ASAP!**

## **Confirmation Classes!**

Attention all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders! Confirmation classes meet from 6- 6:50 each Wednesday through the fall. This is a great time to learn more about our faith and ask all those questions that you've been wondering about!

## News from the SCRIP Table and the SWELL Partnership\*

We have received many colorful Thank You notes from Samaritas foster kids who were quite excited to receive a backpack loaded with school supplies just in time for the start of school. The response from Trinity to this project was marvelous and we have a great head start on backpacks for next year.

We realize that most people use their credit cards to build up rewards of some kind. A number of Trinity members and friends have made a commitment to the SCRIP program to buy a certain amount of Meijer each week or month or to purchase cards from the SCRIP table for gas or birthday/wedding/Christmas gifts. We want to thank them for helping in this way.

And in case you didn't know: After your KOHL'S bill comes you can purchase gift cards at the SCRIP table to pay it at any KOHL'S register or at the service desk. It does require you to go to the store with the cards, but Trinity's Service and Social Ministry Team earns 4% when you are willing to make this extra effort.

As always, thanks for helping us help others!

Dear Trinity,  
Thank you for being such a wonderful host of the Merling Trio concert and giving us the opportunity to support the Invisible Need Project. We are so very grateful for the incredible generosity of the concert attendees and the funds collected will go a long way to support our students in need. We very much appreciate your help and kindness in making this happen.

Thank you. Shari Glaser, WMU

## WELCA Mission Action

Our project for October is SWELL. Offerings will be taken at circle meetings.

In July and August our total donation to Kairos was \$27.88 of supplies. In August the donation to YWCA Domestic Assault was \$50.20 of personal care items and toys. Thank you for your continued support to those in need.

### Court yard and beyond, plant thinning. coming to an end!

By the time you read this, many plants have found new homes and this project should be completed by Oct 7th. I want to thank everyone that help and supported this project! We should be ready for the next steps: checking the watering system and adding mulch.

**Please walk around Trinity's grounds,  
enjoy what we did together!**

If you have additional plants that you want to share, then I would suggest that you bring them to the free table in the Fellowship room.

Would you be willing to help next, spring, summer or fall? 1 or 2 days?

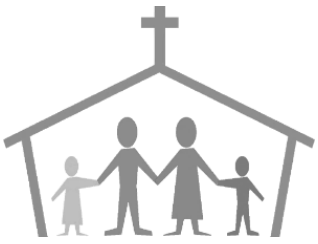
Taking care of a small section about 3x3 or 5x5 feet?  
Trimming low bushes?

Trimming tall bushes, after they have bloomed?

Look for a sign up sheet in the fellowship in the spring.  
Please call Maridel with any questions,  
home phone 544-0730

### Worship Assistants for October

		<u>Lectors</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Greeters</u>
<b>October 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Emma Shugars	Evalynn Hurley & Griffin Hurley	Neil & Monica Hurley
	<b>11:00</b>	Pat Mason	Jon Cleasby & Alina Offerman	Larry & Donna Gardner
<b>October 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Janet Gullickson	Emma Shugars	Ken & Nancy Rathert
	<b>11:00</b>	Cathy Jensen	Ben Meyer & Raili Nelson	Steve & Linda Jones
<b>October 15</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Teri Koretsky	Blake Martin & Helen Spence	Bill & Judy Sherrod
	<b>11:00</b>	Nancy Diment	David Latshaw & Tatianna Tyler	Ken & Vickie King
<b>October 22</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Lorraine Duke	Michelle Yarzebinski & Anna Schreiner	Eric & Nicole Shugars
	<b>11:00</b>	Linda Ward	Sierra Campbell & Marissa King	John & Patti Pawlak
<b>October 29</b>	<b>8:30</b>	G & M Fuerst	Emma Shugars & Max Shugars	Matt & Becky Schreiner
	<b>11:00</b>	G & M Fuerst	Simon Dorow & Jon Cleasby	Mike & Molly Recchia



# FAMILY MINISTRY

## Our Family Works Together: Apple Picking at Husted Farms Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm-2:30pm

When was the last time you had a freshly picked apple?? Fall in Michigan means apple picking time. Join us for lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Then we will caravan over to Husted Farms on West Main (M-43) and pick apples together. We will pick a few bushels to donate for our Loaves & Fishes pantry and the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission. Families may also pick apples for their own families. Cider and donuts will be provided. Let Heidi know through our Family Ministry Facebook page and/or through email if you can join us for this fun afternoon!



### Sunday Morning opportunities in October:

Our Infant & Toddler Small Group and our Parent Small Group sessions will begin again in October. Mark the dates on your calendar. We hope to see you there!

Infant & Toddler Small Group: All infants and toddlers (along with their parents) are invited to hang out together and enjoy some fun infant/toddler activities, while their parents discuss the craziness of parenting these amazing and unique individuals.

**Dates:** Sundays, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>      **Time:** 10am-10:40am      **Place:** Family Ministry Rm

Parent Small Group: **All** parents are invited to hang out together, discuss the joys & concerns of raising faith-filled children, and how God helps us with the adventure that is parenting.

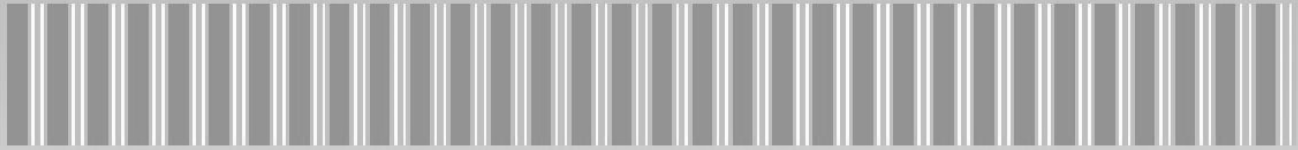
**Dates:** Sundays, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>      **Time:** 10am-10:40am      **Place:** Family Ministry Rm



## THANK YOU!!

Many thanks to Pastor Ken, Bill Musselman, Jim Magerlein, Rasma McMullen, Ginny Giese, and Teri Koretski for participating in our Tour of Trinity in September. We all appreciated you sharing your time and talents with us!!





# OKTOBERFEST

*at Trinity Lutheran Church*



**500 Years of Faith**

*FEATURING:*

Authentic German Food, A Homebrew Competition,  
Traditional Oktoberfest Games

And LIVE MUSIC provided by The Brass Rail!

Sunday, October 8th

@ 12:00 noon



From the Stewardship and Finance Team

## Returning To The Church Near You!

As you know last year we introduced our first "Narrative Budget" to better reflect how our resources are allocated to the ministries we provide with a focus on how they fulfill our mission. We then used this Narrative Budget as our guide in a four week mission focused stewardship program.

Each week we highlighted one of our four mission areas: Worship, Faith Development, Mission & Service and Fellowship & Hospitality.

We were very pleased with the many positive comments we received about this new mission focused approach to stewardship and budgeting. As a result we saw increases in both the number of pledges received (up 10%) and the amount pledged (up 12%) for 2017.

This year, we will again be focusing on these mission areas during a four week Stewardship emphasis. Each week we will highlight one area of our Mission and provide the opportunity for you to complete a commitment card for 2018. We are hopeful that in this way we will be able to increase the number of members that make an advance commitment. This is important to your council for planning our ability to expand our ministries in 2018. We hope you will plan to be with us in church each Sunday to learn more.

September 24	Focus on "Worship"
October 1	Focus on "Mission and Service"
October 9	Focus on "Fellowship and Hospitality" (Oktoberfest!)
October 15	Focus on "Faith Development"



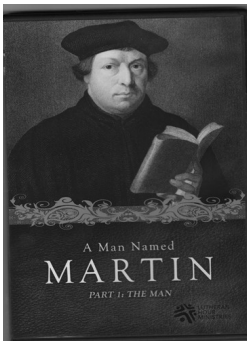
Men's Bible Study meets each month on the first and third Wednesdays at 7am in the fellowship hall for breakfast and bible study. If you've not joined us before, this is a great way to get involved and kick off your day with some good fellowship and discussion!

### Children's Choir has begun!!

If your child is interested in joining, come to our next rehearsal on **Wednesday, October 4 at 6:00pm** in the Children's Choir room (Sunday school floor, top of the stairs).



Contact Sara McGarvey at [sara.soprano@gmail.com](mailto:sara.soprano@gmail.com) with any questions.



Wednesday evening study:

A Man Named Martin,  
Part 1: The Man

A DVD and discussion

Beginning September 13



Adult Sunday School  
Sunday mornings 9:45 am

Adults and children will be studying the same verses each week, discovering how to weave faith into your life and walk with God for a lifetime.

The series this fall focuses on a study of Genesis.

## All God's Creatures

Many congregations hold a "Blessing of the Animals" service on or around October 4<sup>th</sup>, the commemoration of Francis of Assisi (1182 – 1226). St. Francis was known for his care of the poor, his simplicity of life and his love of nature. Francis exemplified a spirit of honor, love and respect for all living things. When people are asked what blessing they receive from their pets, they often name such things as "unconditional love, companionship, protection, meeting their need to be needed, motivation to walk daily, playfulness and contentment". Others describe how caring for pets has helped their children learn to become more responsible, patient and compassionate. Animals are a blessing, both in what they provide to us and in their value as beloved members of God's creation. (Psalm 104) In blessing the animals, we affirm our connection with one another and with all of God's beloved creation. With blessing lies promise, commitment and inspiration to care for what belongs to God, to live together in peace and harmony and to be good stewards of all that God has made!

## The Apostles' Creed

### Session Two: I believe in Jesus Christ by Julia Seymour

**Focus Verse:** *"But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name"* (John 20:31).

This month's study is all about Jesus. Believing in Jesus as our Lord and Savior is the defining truth of Christianity, and yet he is so often the central figure in our disagreements. The central theme of the Second Article of the Apostles' Creed is to clarify what we believe about Jesus. Beyond Jesus' teaching, miracles and ministry, the Creed speaks to the fundamentals of Christology - the study of Christ.

### We Must Keep Talking about RACISM!

Our ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton said about the Charlottesville, VA violence, *"We need to stand up firmly against racism and anti-Semitism, show up for and advocate with others!"* We are all encouraged to download the ELCA's social statement on Race, Ethnicity and Culture. The statement was created and adopted in 1993. The statement calls *"Racism – a mix of power, privilege, and prejudice – is **sin**, a violation of God's intention for humanity."* It goes on to say that *"our mission and ministry are in a society where white people have been favored and hold unequal power to implement their prejudices – socially, politically, and economically. What has been the case is **STILL** the case: skin color makes a difference and white people benefit from a privileged position."* The statement outlines expectations it has of church leadership ranging from naming the sin of racism and leading the church in repentance to continuing to challenge the church to be in mission and ministry in a multicultural society. The church's pursuit of justice involves: 1) resisting cynicism; 2) refusing to blame victimized people for their situations; 3) assuring the participation of all people; and 4) addressing the relationship between racism and social issues such as immigration, crime, and environmental pollution and how economic forces work against people of color in housing, medical care, education, and employment. The church commits to involvement at all levels of public life, "globally and locally, nationally and in neighborhoods." Resolve, Repentance and Commitment.

**LORD BLESS YOU!** Kay Nelson

## **Women of the ELCA Newsletter**

### **October 2017**

#### **Circle Meetings**

- **Esther Mary** will meet on Tuesday, October 24th at 1:00 at Rasma's home with Hazel leading the Bible Study.
- **Lydia** will meet on Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 at Joyce Magerlein's.
- **Martha** will meet on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> at church at 9:30. Lorraine Duke will host and Ginny Giese will lead the study.
- **Miriam Circle** will meet on Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:30 at Trinity.
- **Rebecca** will meet on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 at Trinity. Helen Schweinsberg will host.

#### **Women of the ELCA Purpose Statement**

As a Community of Women **Created** in the Image of **God**, **Called** to Discipleship in Jesus **Christ**, And **Empowered** by the **Holy Spirit**, We **Commit** ourselves to **Grow** in Faith, **Affirm** our Gifts, **Support** one another in our Calling, **Engage** in Ministry and Action, & **Promote** Healing and Wholeness.

#### **Christian Action**

Our project for October is offering support for SWELL. In July and August our total donation to Kairos was \$27.88 in supplies and to YWCA Domestic Assault - \$50.20 in personal care items and toys.

#### **BINGO at Ministry with Community**

**BINGO** prizes (or money donated to Linda Ward) are needed for our monthly time with folks who attend Ministry with Community –3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday afternoon.

#### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Our next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry Committee will be on Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3:00 until 5:00 at Kay Nelson's.

#### **TLC Bazaar**

A BIG **Thank You** goes out to the many individuals who donated items and worked so hard to sort, price, set out the items, work the sale and pack up any leftovers! This was truly a community project at Trinity with our neighborhood reaping the benefits as to some great household items, clothing and books as well as all the profit going to our Good Samaritan Fund. The Social Ministry Committee is very grateful for the support of our Trinity family & our scrip program for matching the funds earned! Together we made over \$4400! I was constantly amazed at the willingness, kindness and generosity of so many of our folks to create an atmosphere of giving and sharing. All items not purchased went to Rescued Treasures from The Gospel Mission!

#### **Fall Gathering General Meeting**

The Fall General Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Dave Kramer was our guest speaker and with slides and words, told us of his work in the Peace Corps and Tiller's International. An inspiring evening!

#### **Thank You**

Our directories are here! Many, many Thanks to Pat Mason for creating them! You did a fantastic job!



# October 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Pet Blessings 9:45 Infant & Toddler group 10:00 Orientation for new members 10:00 Fair Trade coffee/tea for sale	<b>2</b> Pantry 1-2:30 Prayer shawl ministry 3-5	<b>3</b> Pantry 1-2:30 Miriam Circle 6:30	<b>4</b> Men's Bible Study/Breakfast 7 Pantry 1-2:30 Children's Choir 6 Confirmation 6 Bible Study 6 Worship service 7 pm	<b>5</b> Pantry 1-2:30 Clothes Closet 1-2:30pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Parent Small Group 10:00 Reception of new members OCTOBER FEST 12-2:30	<b>9</b> Pantry 1-2:30 Council 7 pm	<b>10</b> Pantry 1-2:30	<b>11</b> Ladies Lunch 11:30 am Housing Matters 12-1:30 Pantry 1-2:30 Confirmation 6 pm Bible Study 6 pm Worship service 7 pm	<b>12</b> Clothes Closet 1-2:30pm Pantry 1-2:30 Choir rehearsal 7 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Pr. Jake sabbatical presentation 9:45 Infant & Toddler group 10:00 Family Ministry 12:30 - 3:00 Fair Trade coffee/tea for sale Open Doors 5 pm	<b>16</b> Pantry 1-2:30	<b>17</b> Pantry 1-2:30 Bingo at MWC-meet at Trinity 2:30 pm Lydia Circle 7:30 pm	<b>18</b> Men's Bible Study/Breakfast 7 Pantry 1-2:30 Confirmation 6 pm Bible Study 6 pm Worship service 7 pm	<b>19</b> Martha Circle 9:30 Pantry 1-2:30 Clothes Closet 1-2:30pm RTBC 1:30 Meeting of men 5:30 - 7 pm Choir rehearsal 7 pm	<b>20</b> Confirmation retreat	<b>21</b> Confirmation retreat
<b>22</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Parent Small Group 10:00	<b>23</b> Pantry 1-2:30	<b>24</b> Pantry 1-2:30 Esther Mary Circle 1 pm	<b>25</b> Rebecca Circle 9 am Pantry 1-2:30 Trunk or Treat 6 pm Bible Study 6 pm Worship service 7 pm	<b>26</b> Quilters 9 am Pantry 1-2:30 Clothes Closet 1-2:30pm Choir rehearsal 7 pm	<b>27</b> 30s40s potluck 6-9	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> REFORMATION SUNDAY Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 am and 11:00 am Sunday School 9:45 am Adult Bible Study 9:45 am Vegan meeting 1:30 pm	<b>30</b> Pantry 1-2:30	<b>31</b> Pantry 1-2:30				<div>PLEASE SUBMIT NEWSLETTER ARTICLES BY OCTOBER 15 FOR NOVEMBER EDITION.</div>



## OUR OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- |                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 -Vonda Yarzebinski   | 15 - Addy Alexopoulos   |
| 2 - John Adams         | - Nia Alexopoulos       |
| - Susan Warren         | 16 - Susanne Kloth      |
| - Avery Fowler         | - Sidney Mueller        |
| 3 - Vickie King        | - Pearl Hawkins         |
| - Noel Recla           | - Wendy Kent-Bracken    |
| 4 - Nathan Landry      | 17 - Lucas Freudenburg  |
| - Sam DeRidder         | - Stephen Jones         |
| 5 - Bill Musselman     | 20 - Ted Dorman         |
| 6 - Pastor Ken Johnson | - Kira O'Dell           |
| - Reese Larsen         | 21 - Conrad Eichbauer   |
| - David Sorensen       | 22 - Michele Gonzales   |
| - Deirdre Hawkins      | - Calico Morris         |
| 7 - Nick Nelson        | 24 - Kayla Benson       |
| - Kari Mix             | 25 - Noah Benson        |
| 8 - Jan Cramer         | 26 - Margaret Stevenson |
| - Jan Shugars          | - Ken McMullen          |
| 11 - Ardis Lielzuika   | 27 - Cheryl Reinel      |
| 12 - Tim Eschelbach    | 28 - Maeve Crothers     |
| 13 - August Crothers   | 29 - Michael McMullen   |
| 14 - David Kramer      | 30 - Caleb Gonzales     |

It's time to be thinking about **Christmas Shoeboxes!** There are lists of suggested items available at the Scrip table and empty shoe boxes are available upon request. The boxes will need to be turned in no later than **November 5th !**

And please note some changes to the Christmas Child Shoeboxes: due to import laws of various countries, we are not allowed to pack candy (or food of any kind) or toothpaste. Please do not pack any type of "liquid" such as glue, lotions or hand sanitizer. Also, the shipping cost has gone up to \$9.00. The official shoeboxes are available here at Trinity along with the packing labels and brochure.



## OUR OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 - Pat & Andy Turks - 1999  
 13 - Kathy & Paul Aivars - 1978  
 14 - Kay & Larry Nielsen - 1960  
 16 - Renee Beck & Tim Snow - 1993  
 20 - Glenn & Kathy Hall - 1984  
 31 - Cathy & John Jensen - 1982



Ruth Brown, Bonnie Cleasby, Phyllis Botticher, Patti Bosar, Ruth Krueger, Lisa Budzinski, Duane Rasmussen, Rich Ellstrom, William Peevey, Cathy Rysenga, Barb Hogg, Shirley Dragoo, Pastor Dale Krueger and Helen Schweinsburg

If you are interested in becoming a member here at Trinity, please speak with the Pastor.

We will be having a **New Member Orientation on October 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am and Reception on October 8<sup>th</sup>.**



There will be a **Pet Blessing** for all our pets on Sunday, **October 1 @ 9:45 (SHARP!)** in the Courtyard. Everyone with or without pets is encouraged to come!



On **November 12**, Trinity will celebrate Thankoffering Sunday. This is a tradition that Lutheran Women have been observing for over 100 years. This service helps all of us stop and reflect on our ministries and on how we have all been blessed by God. During both worship services on November 12, there will be an opportunity to:

- Donate non-perishable food to Trinity's food pantry
- Give a donation to support WELCA and ELCA missions

After each Thankoffering service, all members of Trinity and guests are invited to a special fellowship time where we **can reflect on our many blessings as a family, a church and a community.**

# Upcoming Activities

## **The Ladies Luncheon is **October 11<sup>th</sup>** at **11:30.****

It will be at the Blue Stem Restaurant (Stoatin Brae Golf Course) in Augusta and hosted by Jan Forsberg. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall!

## **Meeting of the Men!**

Meeting of the Men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation over a pint or two with other guys who are members and friends of Trinity. We'll gather this month on **Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7** over at the Old Dog Tavern. Hope you can join us!

# 30s 40s

30s40s potluck is a low key time of fellowship for anyone who falls in (or close to) their 30s and 40s! if that's you, come on out with a dish to pass and your favorite beverage and join us as we gather on **October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm.**

The Bakalyars will be hosting it. It is Halloween Themed, and costumes are encouraged. There will be a prize for the best Halloween-themed dish-to-pass.

This is a fun and relaxed evening of conversation and good food! Details will be on the 30s40s Facebook page which is TLC30s40s (the group formerly known as Y.A.P.)



## **Trunk or Treat and Special Worship Service!**

Calling all families...and all trunks!!!

Bring out your trunks and your kids as Trinity celebrates the fall and our faith with what's become an annual "Trunk or Treat" event followed by a special kids themed worship service.

The event will take place on **Wednesday October 25<sup>th</sup>** and will begin at **6 pm** as the kids of Trinity and the community are invited to a trunk or treat celebration in the parking lot. We'll need lots of trunks, so please sign up in the fellowship hall and plan to be there by 5:45 if you're able to bring a trunk and some candy. Pizza and Games will also be provided for everyone in the fellowship hall!

Then at 7pm, everyone is invited inside for a short kid themed worship service. Everyone is invited to come in costume as this is always a fun service for all ages! Hope everyone can make it for a great evening together with your family at Trinity!

## **Trinity Shirts Going on Sale Again!**

Didn't get a chance to order last winter? You're in luck! With the goals of sharing our Trinity spirit and making a few bucks while they're at it, the youth will be once again selling Trinity branded shirts, polo's, hooded sweatshirts, and ¼ zip pullover jackets this month! The Youth will be set up in the Fellowship Hall with samples, order forms, and information after worship services on October 15, 22, and 29! Please contact the office if you'd like to place an order, but are unable to do so during

## **There is a GREAT need for volunteers in the nursery immediately!**



Signing up for even ONE Sunday would be a great help to all the families and visitors who regularly use the nursery. The volunteer sign-up sheet is posted on the nursery door and also in Fellowship Hall. Please take a moment to sign for a Sunday.

If there is someone who would be interested in a paid position in nursery for the entire year, contact the office: 269-344-6181 or [office@tlckzoo.com](mailto:office@tlckzoo.com)



*"As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."*

*Genesis 8:22*

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly the seasons of our lives pass by. It seems like just a few days ago, I was crafting one of these little articles in thankfulness to share what I would be doing throughout the summer while on sabbatical. Now as I write, all those treasured experiences are in the rearview and I am struck with continued gratitude as I discover new insights and refreshment from all that I was blessed to see and do.

Throughout my life I've always been drawn to the idea and reality of seasons. It's one reason among many that I appreciate living in the north. As the world changes around us, the rhythm of the seasons gives us the opportunity to take pause at least every few months to examine what God might be doing within and around us. The seasons also instruct us that in our lives there are times of planting and times of harvest, day and night, hot and cold, times when fruit is plentiful, and wintery times when dormant inactivity is exactly what we need.

The Fall is one of those interesting seasons in which our lives are often lived at odds with what the season is telling us. Around us, the leaves are beginning to change and die off, the insects stop chirping at night, summer birds become more and more rare, and the grass in our lawns doesn't cry out to be cut so often anymore. Nature is slowing down. But as nature begins to slow, our lives often speed up. The activity of the fall months often brings our lives to a new and frantic pace as we enter into new experiences and try to keep up with old ones.

The month of October is a busy one for sure, but it's also a month that offers some opportunities to take a breath and listen to how God might be at work in our lives and in the world during this season. You likely know that this month brings the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Protestant Reformation; an event that has profoundly affected our world and our faith. As our attention is drawn to that moment through Bible Studies, the Oktoberfest celebration, and Reformation Sunday, we might let our hearts and minds be drawn to imagine what might need reforming in our own lives of faith. What in our church or community could use a change? What in our understanding of God or our neighbor could benefit from reform?

October also brings us to a focus on Stewardship, which *is* about money, but is not *only* about money. Through our narrative view of the budget, we are encouraged to examine our lives of faith through the lenses of Fellowship and Hospitality, Worship, Faith Development, and Mission and Service. As we think about our financial giving, might we also pause and think about our lives and where we are drawn to serve, rest, and experience God?

Whether it's soccer practice, a return to 60 hour work weeks, marching band rehearsals, committee meetings, teaching, studying, projects at home, or just the brutal pace of the news cycle, it seems that life is moving at a more frenetic pace than we're made to handle. May we all take a cue from nature and allow some of the leaves of our lives to fall. As nature slows around us may we take pause to give thanks to God for the many seasons in our lives, asking God what he might be doing among us and what new things this season may bring.

*God's Peace,  
Pr. Jake*

### **Pastor Jake's Sabbatical Presentation**

You probably heard that Pr. Jake was on a time of Sabbatical for 3 months this summer! Join Pr. Jake and his family on Sunday October 15 at 9:45am in the fellowship hall as they share stories and pictures of their experiences!

### **Sabbatical Photo Fundraiser**

Pr. Jake was able to try his hand at photography while he was away and as a way to share his experiences and raise a few dollars for the National Youth Gathering in Houston this summer, he'll have prints of some of the pictures he took available for any donation to the Youth Ministry.