



## Trinity Lutheran Church

504 South Westnedge Avenue

Kalamazoo MI 49007

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#### Trinity Staff

Pastor

Outreach Pastor

Organist/Director of Music

Director of Family/Youth Ministry

Office Administrator

Hospitality Host

Bookkeeper

Custodian

Rev. Ken Johnson

Rev. Jake Lehman

Nathan Mattson

Heidi Albertson

Katie Grubaugh

Margaret Stevenson

Trudi Giffin

Bob Koenes

#### Church Council

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Christian Education

Congregational Life

Facilities

Service Ministry

Stewardship & Finance

Worship & Music

Jim Magerlein

Keith Peterson

Mike Mueller

Jerry Molitor

Ashley Wineland

Connie Ruch & Katie Grubaugh

Shaun Wright

Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace

Dave Grubaugh & Gary Kent-Bracken

Jennifer Gatz

**Please note there will be**  
**ONE Sunday Service at 10am**  
**on New Year's Day, January 1<sup>st</sup>.**

#### **Trinity's Sunday Schedule:**

Worship with Holy Communion  
at 8:30 and 11am

Choir at 9:30 in choir loft

Children's Sunday School classes 9:45

Confirmation 9:45

Youth Sunday School 9:45

Adult Bible Study 9:45

Parent Small Group or Infant/Toddler  
Small Group 10am

## January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Worship w/Holy Communion <b>One Service at 10am</b> <i>No Sunday School Classes</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> No Clothes Closet Pantry 11-1pm	<b>4</b> Men's Bible Study 7am Family Ministry event 4-7pm <i>No Wednesday Eve Prayer</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <i>Memorial service for Wolfgang Koth</i>
<b>8</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:30 in loft All Sunday Schools 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Parent Small group 10	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm WELCA Board mtg 10:30	<b>11</b> Men's Bible Study 7am Ladies Luncheon 11:30am Wednesday Eve Prayer 6:30pm	<b>12</b> P.E.O 10-3 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30	<b>13</b> Samaritas 9-4	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:30 in loft All Sunday Schools 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Infant/Toddler Small group 10 Family Ministry @ Air Zoo 12:15	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm Center for Transform. 4	<b>18</b> Men's Bible Study 7am Blood Drive 11-4:30 Wednesday Eve Prayer 6:30pm	<b>19</b> Samaritas 9-12 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30 Theology on Tap 6:30-8pm	<b>20</b> Samaritas 9-12	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:30 in loft All Sunday Schools 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 New Member Orientation 9:45 Parent Small group 10 Kid's Christmas Program 1pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm	<b>25</b> Rebecca Circle 10am Wednesday Eve Prayer 6:30pm	<b>26</b> Quilters 9am Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am New Members Received Choir 9:30 in loft All Sunday Schools 9:45 Confirmation Infant/Toddler Small group 10 Youth Planning mtg 12:30	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm	<div> Please remember that articles for the Newsletters are due by the 16th of each month; articles for the Sunday bulletins are due one week in advance, by end of day Sunday. </div>			

**Please note the church building and office will be closed for the holidays December 26 – 31!**

*The church office will have limited morning hours January 2-5; please call ahead of time to make sure someone will be available.*

**Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

# YOUTH MINISTRY

for all youth in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

## CAMP!!!

Calling all Confirmation and Senior High Youth! Registration for Stony Lake Lutheran Camp opens up on **Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>!!** The week that Trinity will be going this summer is: **Week One—June 18-23**. This year, the pricing is a bit different. You may pay full price, half price, or no price. Because we support the mission of Living Water Ministries, we are opting for all families to pay half price. And because we support all of YOU guys, the church will pay half of the half price for you! For example, if your week of Confirmation camp costs \$230 (half price rate), then you will pay \$115 and church will pay \$115.

Please talk with your kids about going to camp!



It is a fantastic week of faith, service, and community! Please ask me if you have any questions.

## Youth Group Meeting:

Our next Youth Meeting will be **Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> from noon-2pm**. We're talking about our Spiritual Gifts this year. At our meeting, we'll explore our gifts a little closer and think of ways that we can use our gifts at church and in our lives. We'll also be playing some crazy games, so please don't miss out!! Sign up on the youth board or on our Youth Facebook page. See you there!

## Summer Mission Trip:

So whatcha doing this summer??? Want to travel, help people, and get plummeted down a river in a tiny little raft??? Then join us for this very special meeting to begin planning our Summer Mission Trip! The mission trip is for those youth who are current 8<sup>th</sup> graders through those youth who are graduating this spring. We will also open the trip to any adults who are interested. We will be joining the



Appalachia Service Project for a weeklong adventure down south. As treat at the end of the week, we'll go white water rafting! Please join us on **Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:15pm in the Gathering Space** to begin our planning.

## Confirmation & Senior High Sunday School

Calling all 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders!! Confirmation class needs your presence every Sunday from 9:45am-10:45am in the new Confirmation classroom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Your pastor will be there to walk with you on your faith journey and help answer all the questions about God that you're afraid to ask. ☺

As for you 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, you'll meet in the Youth Room with Mr. Grubaugh from 9:45am-10:45am. Come talk about the highs and lows of being a teenager and a Christian in this ever-changing world.

To get information about Youth Ministry activities and to sign up for events, please join our Facebook page—TLC Youth Ministry. If you're not on Facebook, you can also get info in the weekly church emails (make sure the office has your correct email), Sunday bulletins, the bulletin board outside the kitchen on the lower level, and Trinity's website. Email Heidi ([hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com)) with any questions.



# FAMILY MINISTRY

All families with children infant through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us!

## Winter Break Boredom Buster

Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> 5pm-8pm

It's become a fun tradition to gather together (parents and kids) during the Winter Break to get out of the house, hang out, eat, and play. This year, we're going to sing loud and proud to our favorite songs from animated movies. We'll watch the song clip on the screen and sing-a-long together. Go to the Family Ministry Facebook page to request your song(s). Please let Heidi know if you can attend by email ([hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com)) or sign up on our Facebook page (TLC Family Ministry) by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> so we know how many to plan for. Thx!



## Family Ministry at the Air Zoo!

Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup> 12:15pm

Time to get outside again and join the Family Ministry group as we descend upon the Kalamazoo Air Zoo! We will have lunch at church (following the second service) and then caravan over to the Air Zoo to learn about fun up high in the sky. The cost is \$5 per person. You can pay by cash or check (make checks out to Trinity Lutheran Church, memo: Family Ministry). This will be a super fun field trip, so sign up quickly by

email or on our Facebook page! Let me know if you can go by Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!!

## CAMP!!

Registration for summer camp at Stony Lake Lutheran Camp opens

on Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>!!! Summer camp is a wonderful time to get to know your friends at church better and meet new friends. The week that Trinity will be going is: Week One—June 18-23. This year, the pricing is a bit different. You may pay full price, half price, or no price. Because we support the mission of Living Water Ministries, we are opting for all families to pay half price. And because we support all of YOU guys, the church will pay half of the half price for you! For example, if your week of Elementary camp costs \$235 (half price rate), then you will pay \$117 and church will pay \$118.

Please talk with your kids about going to camp! It is a fantastic week of faith, service, and community!

Please ask me if you have any questions.



### Sunday Morning opportunities coming in January:

Mark the dates on your calendar. We hope to see you there!

**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, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>

Time: 10am-10:40am

Place: Family Ministry Rm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor



**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: Sunday, Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10am-10:40am

Place: Family Ministry Rm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

PARENTING IS A  
CONSTANT BATTLE  
BETWEEN GOING TO  
BED TO CATCH UP  
ON SOME SLEEP OR  
STAYING AWAKE TO  
FINALLY GET SOME  
ALONE TIME.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**Worship Assistants needed!** What is a Worship Assistant? Basically it is an adult acolyte. The main duty is to assist in serving communion. If you are interested, please contact Beth Latshaw (Latshaw.Beth@gmail.com). Thank you!

### **Altar Guild Service Opportunity**

Altar Guild is seeking a few new volunteers. This service involves preparing and caring for the communion elements used in worship. Guild members serve for either first or second service, depending on her/his availability and it takes only a few minutes each week. Training is provided! Are you seeking a way to help Trinity provide a beautiful worship service? Think of joining Altar Guild! Contact Ginny Giese or Teri Koretsky for more information.

### **Quilters**

The Quilters will resume January 26 at 9am. The fourth (and fifth) Thursday of the month at 9:00 am a lively group meets in the Fellowship Hall to assemble quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They cut, design, knot tie and sew the quilts as well as have a lot of fun while doing it! If you are interested in joining this group, or would prefer to sew at home, or would like to make a donation of flat cotton sheets or sewing materials, please contact Teri Koretsky or Ginny Giese.

**Trinity Needs Volunteers!! If you haven't taken the time to fill out a Time and Talent Sheet, please scan the QR code below!** *This helps us be able to plan and prepare for upcoming events, services, and outreach opportunities within our church family and community.*



**Altar Flowers!** If you've not taken time to sign up for Altar Flowers lately, please check out the chart on the clipboard in the fellowship hall and sign up. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events, and you have the option of leaving the flowers to go to our shut-ins who always are very appreciative for the bright spot in their week!

### **Fellowship Time!**

The New Year's chart is posted in the Fellowship Hall, and we need people to help contribute to this weekly opportunity to host a Sunday and share God's love for our community! Hosting consists of providing treats, setting up on Sunday morning, helping serve, and cleaning up afterwards! Please consider signing up: individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to host fellowship time for the coming months. Remember, it need not be fancy; store-bought cookies, snacks and other treats are great!



Trinity Lutheran Church sends out weekly emails to update our congregation on upcoming events, ongoing projects, volunteer opportunities, changes to our schedule, and links to our online services. Sign up with our QR code for the most up to date information available!

## Worship and Faith Formation

### **Wednesday Evening Worship resume January 11 at a new time!**

Wednesday Evening Worship will resume at the new time of 6:30pm on Jan 11th after taking a brief pause for the Holidays. The Wednesday service is a wonderful way to step out of your normal rhythm with a short and relaxed service of prayer, scripture, a short meditation. Services are live-streamed on our YouTube Channel for those who cannot make it in person for any reason.

### **Scripture and Sandwiches will not meet on December 29 or January 5.**

After taking a break for the holidays, join Pr. Jake again on January 12 and each Thursday from 12-12:30 for a short bible study and conversation about scripture over lunch! We'll meet via Zoom for a look at the history, purpose, and story of the bible so we can better understand God's activity in the world and our lives. Follow the link in our weekly emails or use the meeting ID and passcode below to join in from wherever you are!

Meeting ID: 821 5743 3849

Passcode: Lunchtime

### **Children's Sunday School and Adult Bible Study will not meet December 25 and January 1**

All Sunday School classes and Adult Bible Study will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:45. Children's classes meet on the second floor of the education wing, Adult Bible Study meets in the Lounge. The Adult Bible Study will continue with the series by Ray Vander Laan "Cultures in Conflict" video series.

### **Men's Bible Study**

Men's Bible Study meets each month on the first and third Wednesdays from 7-8 am the fellowship hall for breakfast and bible study. Join us and kick off your day with some good fellowship and discussion!

### **Confirmation Resumes**

Confirmation will resume on January 8<sup>th</sup> for all students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade! Join us every Sunday from 9:45-10:45 as we continue to explore our faith together!

### **New Member Reception**

If you are interested in joining Trinity, please speak with one of the pastors! There will be a new member orientation on January 22 at between services at 9:45am. New members will be received into the congregation on January 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Please keep these people in your prayers:**

Mike Spresser, Don Irving, Clara Mellum, Vicky Phillips, Sylvia Reekers, Mark, Catherine Chase, Beth Latshaw, Ruth Krueger, Sandy Eschelbach and Gary Belleville.

*As our parking lot fills up with snow and on especially busy holidays, our parking spaces become limited and considerations for the elderly, families with very small children, and visitors need to be made. If you are able, please consider parking across the street in Faith Temple's parking lot!*

## Worship Assistants

Date	Time	Welcome Team	Lectors	Acolytes
Jan 1	10:00	Beth Belleville, Pat Mason, Greta Decker	Connie Ruch	
Jan 8	8:30	Gary & Marie Belleville	Suze Breischafft	Nolan Fowler, Avery Fowler
	11:00	Sheree Sorenesen, Rasma McMullen	Sarah Zimmerman	Emma Zimmerman Kaitlyn Albertson
Jan 15	8:30	Trudi Giffin, Teri Koretsky	Jen Gatz	Jaxon Grubaugh
	11:00	Julie & Keith Peterson	Tim Eschelbach	Kiley Morris, Calico Morris
Jan 22	8:30	Jen & Tim Gatz	Carol Knoch	Avner Grubaugh
	11:00	Pat Mason, Greta Decker	Linda Ward	Elyse Albertson, Edith Wright
Jan 29	8:30	Jason & Isela Grubaugh, Beth Belleville	Janet Gullickson	
	11:00	Sheree Sorensen, Rasma McMullen	Nancy Diment	

### December 2022 Church Council Highlights

- Shaun Wright was elected by council to fill the Facilities council position that came open when Dave Runstrom took an out-of-town job. We appreciate all of the work that Dave completed as Facilities Chair.
- Based on input from the pastors, the 2022 Benevolence dollars (total of \$11,000 approved in the 2022 budget) were allocated to support
  - Local Ministries
    - Kalamazoo Drop in Child Care Center – \$1,000
    - Open Doors Next Door – \$1,000
    - Ministry with Community – \$1,000
    - S.W.E.L.L. – \$1,000
    - Community Homeworks – \$500
    - Kalamazoo Gospel Mission – \$500
  - Continuing Ministries
    - Lutheran Church in Eisleben Germany - \$1,000
  - Missionaries
    - Coralee Vong (Cambodia) - \$750
    - Christina Homing (Campus fur Christus – Germany) - \$750
    - Dave Kramer (Tillers International) – \$1,500
    - The Mission of Pawaga – Sam Meyer/Tanzania - \$2,000

- **Reminder that all reports to be included in the Annual Report needs to be in the office by January 8.**

## Fellowship and Events

### Ladies Luncheon

Our January Ladies Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, January 11 at 11:30 at Bilbo's Pizza (3307 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo). We hope to have a large group of old friends and new for some fun and fellowship. Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Jan Shugars (269-366-4234).

### Theology on Tap – Keepin' it light!

In the *dark* midwinter of January, we're going to bring back Theology on Tap by keeping it *light*! We'll meet at Shakespeare's Pub on Thursday Jan 19th from 6:30-8pm for a roundtable discussion with just a light sprinkling of theology to keep it interesting! This will be a great chance to get to know the people you worship with at Trinity a little better in a laid back setting (with tasty food and drink)! If you can, RSVP on Facebook or let Pr. Jake know if you're coming so he can make sure to have space...and nachos... for everyone!

### Hey College Students!

Did you know Trinity has a Campus Ministry? Matrix Campus Ministry is a collaboration between area ELCA Lutheran churches who are working together to provide mentoring, fellowship, **paid internships** and other opportunities for church involvement and leadership to local college students! If you're at all interested, talk to Pr. Jake or check out [www.matrixcampusministry.com](http://www.matrixcampusministry.com) for more info!

### SUMMER MISSION TRIP:

Hey Adults! You are invited to join the Youth for a special meeting on January 29 at 12:15pm in the Gathering Space to learn about a Summer Mission Trip. The summer of 2023, Youth and Adults are going to journey down south to Appalachia, fuse our skills together, and help a lot of people. At this meeting, we will have information about the trip, decide approximately where we will be going, and discuss our fun event at the end of the week. We hope to see you there!!

### **Possible Seminary Internship site at Trinity in Fall 2023**

Trinity is exploring the possibility of being an Internship Site starting in September of 2023. No firm decision has been made yet. This would be an additional outreach and ministry opportunity for us to help not just an individual, but the mission of the church and the spread of the Good news of Jesus Christ. Preparing ordained clergy is both time consuming and expensive. We are hoping to partner with the Synod to provide funding for this project. We have some available dedicated funds from the Foundation. We are including this endeavor in the 2023 church budget, even though it is still in the initial phases of prayer, discussion and possible implementation. Please join us in prayer as we attempt to discern visions and directions for the future ministry of Trinity.

May the peace of Christ be with all of us! Pr. Ken

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our  
Annual Congregational Meeting on February 5th at 9:45am