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## Trinity Lutheran Church

504 South Westnedge Avenue

Kalamazoo MI 49007

www.tlckzoo.com T: 269-344-6181

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### Inside this Issue:

**Page 2**

Calendar

**Page 3**

Youth Ministry

**Page 4**

Family Ministry

**Page 5**

Volunteer Opportunities

**Page 6**

Fellowship & Events

**Page 7 & 8**

Worship & Faith

**Page 9**

Birthdays and Anniversaries

**Page 10**

Pastor's Letter

### Trinity Staff

Pastor

Rev. Ken Johnson

Outreach Pastor

Rev. Jake Lehman

Organist/Director of Music

Nathan Mattson

Director of Family/Youth Ministry

Heidi Albertson

Office Administrator

Katie Grubaugh

Hospitality Host

Margaret Stevenson

Bookkeeper

Terri Schmidt

Custodian

Bob Koenes

### Church Council

President

Jim Magerlein

Secretary

Keith Peterson

Treasurer

Mike Mueller

Financial Secretary

Jerry Molitor

Christian Education

Ashley Wineland & Sally Morris

Congregational Life

Connie Ruch & Paula Sportel

Facilities

Shaun Wright

Service Ministry

Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace

Stewardship & Finance

Gary Kent-Bracken & Steve Morris

Worship & Music

Jennifer Gatz

### 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

## May 2023

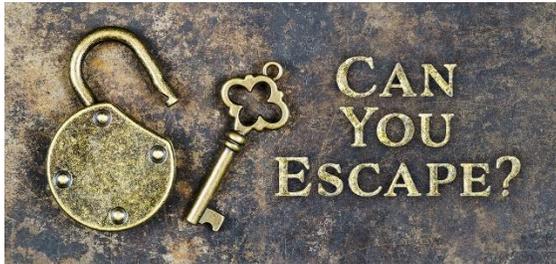
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30-Apr Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am All Sunday Schools 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 CROP Walk 12:15	1 Prayer Shawl 10-12pm	2 Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm	3 Men's Bible Study 7am  <i>Virtual Only</i> Wednesday Eve. Prayer	4 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30	5 Youth Event 7-9	6
7 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:30 in loft All Sunday Schools 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Parent small group 10 VASA 2-5	8	9 Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm	10 Ladies Lunch 11:30  <i>Virtual Only</i> Wednesday Eve. Prayer	11 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30	12	13
14 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	15	16 Clothes Closet 10-2pm Pantry 11-1pm Center for Transform. 4	17 Men's Bible Study 7am  <i>Virtual Only</i> Wednesday Eve. Prayer	18 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30 Meeting of the Men 5-6:30	19	20
21 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Last day of Sunday School 9:45 Last day of Confirmation 9:45 Plant Swap 9:30 & 12 Church Council meeting 12:15 Family Ministry Serv. Project 12:15 Sons of Norway 1-5	22	23 Pantry 11-1pm	24 Rebecca Circle 10am  <i>Virtual Only</i> Wednesday Eve. Prayer	25 Quilters 9am Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30	26	27
28 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am	29 Memorial Day	30	31			

**Please remember that articles for the Newsletters are due by the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month; articles for the Sunday bulletins are due one week in advance, by end of day Sunday.**

# Youth Ministry

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

## May Youth Meeting



Our May Youth Meeting will take place on **Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>** at church. We'll meet at 7pm and have some pizza. Then it will be your job to escape from our very own Escape Room to see if you can leave the church by 9pm. Sign up on the youth board and/or on the Facebook page...

**IF YOU DARE!!!**

## Upcoming Youth Events:

Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> is the Family Ministry service project at 12:30pm. We'll be joining with our friends from the Orthodox Greek church across the street. We are going to work together to make Blessings Bag for those in need around our town. Youth are invited to help organize and help with our little ones to create these bags. Thanks!



## Youth Fundraiser:

Our next fundraiser will be selling Trinity merchandise and we'll need your help! It's high time that everyone had a Trinity t-shirt!!!! 😊

During the last few weeks of May, we will have a table in the Fellowship Hall with Trinity merchandise for members to order. Sign-up for a date on the Youth bulletin board across from the kitchen. The proceeds will benefit our youth ministry program.

## Senior High Mission Trip:

Guess what! We have finally been assigned our site for our youth group mission trip! We will be going to Kanawha County, West Virginia. Details about where we're staying and the county we're serving can be found at <https://asphome.org/centers/wvkanawha>. We will have a mission trip meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup>, but stay tuned for the time. Can't wait!!!!

## CAMP!!!

Calling all Confirmation and Senior High Youth!

Registration for Stony Lake Lutheran Camp is open!! 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 pay the entire half rate, then tell Heidi that your youth is registered and you will receive a check reimbursement from Trinity. Let me know when your youth is signed up! 😊



# FAMILY MINISTRY

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

## Family Service Project—Blessings Bags Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 12:30pm-2pm

What do you give someone in need? A Blessings Bag, of course! Join us on May 21<sup>st</sup> to create these special bags filled with goodies to help others. We will be joined by friends from the Greek Orthodox Church across the street. After we have some lunch, we'll get to work making bags to give away and let people know we are thinking about them. Please sign up on the Family Ministry Facebook event page (TLC Family Ministry) or email Heidi ([hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com)) if you are able to come.



## CAMP!! Registration for summer camp at Stony Lake Lutheran Camp is open!!! 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. When you register for camp, please pay the whole half rate price. Then let Heidi know you have registered and we will send you a check to reimburse you. Please talk with your kids about going to camp! It is a fantastic week of faith, service, and community!

### Sunday Morning opportunities coming in May:

Our last classes of the school year!



"Let me translate that for you. I speak text."

**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: Sunday, May 7<sup>th</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, May 14<sup>th</sup>

Time: 10am-10:40am

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



## Volunteer Opportunities

**Quilters** 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. 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.

**The TLC Prayer Shawl Ministry meets May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am** We'll gather the first Monday of each month in the lounge at 10:00 to receive and pray over completed shawls, encourage one another as we work on new shawls, reflect on the gratitude of prayer shawl recipients, and, yes, socialize! Don't know how to knit or crochet? Here's your chance to learn—instruction will be provided! If you would like more information, please call Sidney Mueller at (269)806-0023.

**Welcome Team** Are you looking for an easy way to connect and engage with our Trinity community? **Please consider joining our Welcome Team!** The only requirements are a friendly attitude and an ability to arrive 15 minutes before your designated worship service. All ages are welcome! Singles, seniors, empty nesters and families with children can all extend the grace of God by being a warm and welcoming presence to all who enter our doors. Please contact Julie Peterson (jtpeterson55@comcast.net) or Katie in the church office for more information.

**Support our Neighborhood Teachers!** El Sol Elementary School is just a few blocks away from Trinity and as their partners in serving the neighborhood, we want to show our support for their teachers and students! To show that support, we're collecting non-perishable items like chips, candy, granola bars, microwave popcorn, drinks, ground coffee, and K-cups for their staff wellness room! If you're out shopping and are able to pick up any of these items to contribute that would be great! Just drop them by the church office during weekday hours (Monday – Thursday, 9am-2pm) or Sunday morning! Also, if you are a Thrivent Member, this would be an excellent use of one of your Action Team grants! Thanks for your help in building a stronger connection with our neighborhood school!

**Altar Flowers** If you've not taken time to sign up for Altar Flowers lately, please check out the chart in the fellowship hall and sign up, or contact the church office (269-344-6181)! 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!** Our Fellowship Chart is looking bare, and we need people to help contribute to this weekly opportunity to host a Sunday and share God's love for our community! Please consider signing up: individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to host fellowship time for the coming months. If you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a host. *But remember, it need not be fancy; store-bought cookies, snacks and other treats are great too! Sign up on the chart posted in the Fellowship Hall.*

## Fellowship and Events

**Meeting of the Men!** The weather is warming, spring is springing, and the Men are Meeting! This month we'll be gathering at the Old Dog Tavern on Thursday May 18th from 5:00-6:30pm for a relaxed time of fellowship and conversation over the beverage of your choice. If you've not joined us before, Meeting of the Men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation and a great opportunity to get to know other guys who call Trinity home! If the weather is nice, look for us outside in the beer garden!

**Men's Retreat- Sign up Today!** This fall we're heading north once again for the Men's Retreat at Camp Arcadia on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan! The retreat runs from Sept 29-Oct 1 with options for coming up early to take advantage of fall in northern Michigan! This is always a great opportunity to get away to relax and connect with other guys from Trinity and beyond!

Cost of Registration is \$233 with options to pay a little more if you'd like a private bath (\$31) or an extra night (\$55). To register, or for more information, go to <https://camp-arcadia.com/rkd-mens-retreat/>. Be sure to register for the "Arcadia Men's Retreat with Daniel Price". If you have any questions, contact Pr. Jake or the Camp Arcadia office staff. *(If you can, please let Pr. Jake know if you sign up!)*



**Plant Swap** - Join indoor and outdoor plant lovers for a plant and seed swap at Trinity Lutheran Church on Sunday, May 21 after both the 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. services.

Please join us to swap advice, seeds, and plants with other plant enthusiasts! Bring a pest-free, healthy indoor houseplant or outdoor garden plant or two (or more!) for trade; they can be potted, cuttings, or bare root--as long as you're prepared to part with them! You do not have to be a plant expert to participate; plant swaps are a fantastic way to learn more about plants both inside and out!

**Free Plant Table:** Have extra plants to gift to others? This is a great opportunity to give away propagations or extra plants you don't want anymore and don't need to swap for. Folks who come without plants can grab a free plant from the table to either take home or do their own swaps with! You are also welcome to bring old pots, planters, and other plant-related accessories to leave at the free table! Email any questions, comments, and concerns to Kourtney Bakalyar at [kourtney.k.bakalyar@wmich.edu](mailto:kourtney.k.bakalyar@wmich.edu).

**Ladies Luncheon** The May Ladies Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, May 10 at 11:30 at Four Roses Café in Plainwell, MI. 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 Forsberg – 269-664-3633.

## Worship and Faith Formation

**Wednesday Evening Prayer Services are Virtual ONLY through May 24<sup>th</sup> before breaking through the summer!** Services will continue through May 24 and will be posted to view on our YouTube channel. Links will be available on our website ([www.tlckzoo.com](http://www.tlckzoo.com)) or in our weekly emails. Please take the opportunity this month to tune in each week and worship online with us!

**Scripture and Sandwiches Online Bible Study** Join us Thursdays from 12-12:30 via ZOOM for a short online bible study and conversation about scripture over lunch! We're currently working through the New Testament to get a clearer picture of the history, purpose, and story of the bible so we can better understand God's activity in the world and our lives!

Zoom Meeting ID: 821 5743 3849 / Passcode: Lunchtime

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

**Rebecca Circle** - Looking for a chance to participate monthly in a women's small group meeting for Bible study? We welcome all women and those from other Circles who are not yet meeting. Their next meeting will be Wednesday May 24 at 10am at Trinity. Please join us!

### **Sunday School and Confirmation Summer Break**

Sunday School and Confirmation Class will continue through Sunday May 21st and then we'll take a break for the summer.

Be sure to make it to our last few classes!

Thanks for a great year!

**Please keep these people in your prayers:** Sylvia Reekers, Beth Latshaw, Ruth Krueger, Sandy Eschelbach, Gary Belleville, Ja'Miha Seay, Mike Spresser, Vicky Phillips and Cliff Davidson.

## Worship Assistants

Date	Time	Altar Guild	Welcome Team	Lectors	Acolytes
May 7	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Gary & Marie Belleville	Carol Knoch	Anna & Ava Schreiner
	11:00	Marianne Fuerst	Debbie Harding, Pat Mason	Liz Morison	Miryam Greenman, Edith Wright
May 14	8:30	Joyce Magerlein	Trudi Giffin, Jason & Isela Grubaugh	Jen Gatz	Avner Grubaugh, Nolan Fowler
	11:00	Marianne Fuerst	Tom & Joy Kuhs	Pat Mason	Emma Zimmerman, Frederick Thurn
May 21	8:30	Joyce Magerlein	Jen & Tim Gatz	Arlen Gullickson	Jaxon Grubaugh, Max Shugars
	11:00	Julie Peterson	Greta Decker, Rasma McMullen	Julie Peterson	Kiley Morris, Calico Morris
May 28	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Teri Koretsky, Trudi Giffin	Nicole Shugars	Avner Grubaugh, Avery Fowler
	11:00	Julie Peterson	Judy & Bill Sherrod	Connie Ruch	Kaitlyn Albertson, Elyse Albertson

### Confirmation

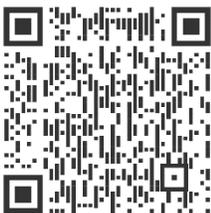
Six of our young people will be confirming their faith on Sunday,  
June 11 during the Service of Confirmation at the 11:00am worship.

It's been a blessing to work with them as they've worked to deepen their  
faith over these last three years.

Be sure to be there to support these youth as they take this big step of faith  
in front of the congregation!

*Congratulations to:*

***Elyse Albertson, Nolan Fowler, Miryam Greenman, Clare Lehman,  
Kiley Morris and TJ Ruble.***



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!

## Our May Birthdays:

- 1 - Lucy Sellin
  - Judy Sherrod
- 2 - Alexis Bakalyar
- 3 - Alex Aivars
- 4 - Sheree Sorensen
- 5 - Michael Mueller
- 6 - Marie Belleville
- 7 - Chris Running
- 8 - Nancy Diment
- 9 - Anna Schreiner
- 12 - Joseph Greenman
- 13 - Maridel Greer
  - Matthew Schreiner
  - Max Wineland
  - Bess Fitzgerald
- 14 - Brian Segraves
- 15 - Chris Allen
- 17 - Kris Spence
- 19 - Diane Dobbins
- 20 - David Counterman
- 22 - Marcella Yanez
  - Tanya Greenman
  - Scarlet McGarvey
- 23 - Joseph Zimmerman
  - Julia Lehman
- 24 - James Schripsema
- 27 - Jack Sorensen
- 28 - Arlene Warnicke
  - Susan Kloster-Larkey
- 31 - Barb Sipe

## Our May Anniversaries:

- 4 - Sandra Roethler & Todd Alfes - 1994
- 15 - Candaice & Brien Leonard - 1993
- 16 - Shaun and Emily Wright - 2009
  - Kari and Joshua Mix - 2009
- 17 - Betsy & Michael Kelly - 1975
- 19 - Kathy & Jerry Molitor - 1973
- 21 - Rafael and Vanessa Yanez - 2011
- 24 - Sidney & Michael Mueller - 1975
- 26 - Mark and Bonnie Sandmeyer - 2012
- 27 - John Johnson and Cynthia Running-Johnson - 1986
- 29 - Sharon & Evan Kokales - 1965
- 30 - Joyce & Jim Magerlein - 1981

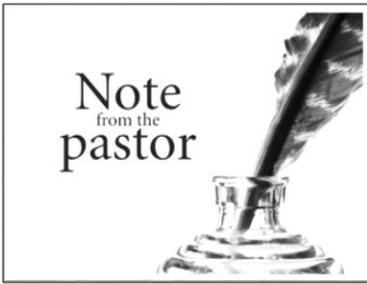
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***If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member at Trinity, please contact the church office or speak with one of the pastors. We will be having a New Member Orientation and Reception in the next couple months!***

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The Facilities team is working on organizing a Church Work Day one Saturday in May. If you are willing to help out with various projects around the church and have availability, please let the church office know and check our weekly announcements in the emails and bulletins for more information to come!





**“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”**

1 Thessalonians 5:18

It is with extreme gratitude that I would like to thank the congregation for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift! I also would like to thank you for the honor and privilege of serving here at Trinity for the past 25 years. As the hymn states, “Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all our years away”. The time has certainly flown by quickly. Thank you as well for the support Mary and our family have had for this past quarter of a century.

This was the first time in almost 40 years that I went on “Spring Break” to Florida. Obviously Lent, Holy Week, or Easter often occurs in the last week of March or first week in April, so a trip to Florida these past decades never seemed to work out. When I was younger in the late 60's and 70's, my family would pile in the old station wagon every Spring Break for a trip to Florida. My Father was a teacher, and my Great Aunt lived in Tampa, so it became an annual excursion to head to the Sunshine State. From St. Augustine to Key West, from the Everglades up the Gulf Coast we explored most of the State.

So much has changed over these years. The “Old Florida” of much less population, less traffic and building, an Orlando without Disney World!, etc. is a distant memory. Ministry and church life has dramatically changed over these years as well. Of course one thing is constant, the unconditional love of Jesus Christ. 1 Thessalonians also reminds us to “rejoice always, pray without ceasing”, and ends with the wonderful benediction of “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you”

Peace, Pr. Ken

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## Job Opportunity for Youth Director!

We are preparing to fill the Director of Youth Ministry position for Trinity! We are very excited to find a qualified candidate who would be responsible for the faith formation and activities of our youth, grades 6-12. It is a part-time position (10-15 hours/week) with a starting salary of \$16-18/hour depending on qualifications. We would appreciate your prayerful consideration of this position, or for you to forward the job description to someone who you believe would make a great Director! Any questions should be directed to Pastor Jake. Interested individuals should send a resume to Pastor Jake at [prjake@tlckzoo.com](mailto:prjake@tlckzoo.com).

Scan the QR Code for the complete job description!

