2025 JUNE Newsletter



Trinity Lutheran Church

504 South Westnedge Avenue Kalamazoo MI 49007 www.tlckzoo.com T: 269-344-6181

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Trinity Staff

Pastor **Outreach Pastor** Organist/Director of Music Director of Family& Youth Ministry Heidi Albertson Office Administrator Hospitality Host Bookkeeper Custodian

Church Council

President Secretary Treasurer Financial Secretary Christian Education Congregational Life Facilities Service Ministry Stewardship & Finance Worship & Music

Rev. Ken Johnson Rev. Jake Lehman Nathan Mattson Katie Grubaugh Margaret Stevenson Terri Schmidt **Bob Koenes**

Julie Peterson Holly Wohlfert Christina Adams Jerry Molitor Ashley Wineland & Sally Morris Paula Sportel & Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino Max Wineland Rasma McMullen & Karen Jachym Steve Morris & Steve Bittner Jennifer Gatz

Trinity's Sunday Schedule:

Worship with Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11:00am

Choir at 9:25 in choir loft through June

Sunday School classes break for the Summer

Starting in July, Sunday Worship will switch to ONE Service at 10AM.

June 1 – September 1 the Church Office hours will be very limited. Regular hours will be Tues-Thurs from 9am-12pm, but flexibility is need so be sure to call ahead to ensure someone is available.

29 Worship w/ Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 3:25 Church BBQ 12-2	22 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Young Adult Lunch 12:30-1:30	Youth at Stony Lake CAmp	15 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 3:25	Church Council 12:15 Sons of Norway 2-5	8 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Confirmation Sunday Choir 3:25	Choir 3:25 Choir 3:25 First Communion class 3:45 E.M.M.2-4	SUNDAY 1 Worship w/Holy Communion
30 Chirch office closed	23 Church office closed Sacred Harp 6-8		16 Church office closed	Sacred Harp 6-8	9 Church office closed	Church office closed	MONDAY 2 Prayer Shawl 10-12
Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	24 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am		17 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	KRESA Great Start 5:30-7	10 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	TUESDAY 3
	25 Men's Bible Study 7am Rebecca Circle 10 Blood Drive 11-5		ö		11 Men's Bible Study 7am Ladies Lunch 11:30		June 2025 WEDNESDAY
	26 Quilters 9am C.F.T. 5:30-7 Meeting of the Men 5-6:30	C.F.T. 5:30-7	ដ	C.F.T. 5:30-7	12	C.F.T. 5:30-7	THURSDAY 5
	27		28		ដ		FRIDAY 6
	28		21		14		SATURDAY 7



FAMILY MINISTRY & YOUTH MINISTRY



For the summertime, the news is the same, so I combined two pages together.



Youth and Family Ministry Swimming and Picnic at Markin Glen Park Sunday, July 13th noon-3pm

It's hot outside and time for swimming!! Join us on July 13th for some fun in the sun at Markin Glen County Park, 5300 N. Westnedge Ave. Bring a picnic lunch for your family and your beach stuff and we'll hang out by

this beautiful little lake and swim and play! We'll meet there after church, so hopefully we'll see you there! Please note that it does cost each car \$5 to enter the county park. Sign up by Friday, July 11th by emailing me (<u>hmfuerst@aol.com</u>) or on our Facebook page (TLC Family Ministry or TLC Youth Ministry). *If it is raining, then the event will be cancelled.



Youth and Family Picnic and Playing at the Kalamazoo Nature Center Sunday, August 10th noon-3pm

Join us for a relaxing afternoon at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, 7000 N. Westnedge Ave. Bring a picnic lunch for your family and wear

clothes you don't mind getting wet and sandy. We'll meet over by the picnic tables and enjoy our lunch. We'll go explore the Visitor's Center and then walk around outside to the Nature Playground. Let's get back to nature and have a wonderful afternoon together. Sign up by Friday, August 8th by emailing me or on our Facebook page. *If it is raining, then the event will be cancelled.



Middle and Senior High Youth Planning Meeting Sunday, September 14th Noon-2:30pm

Save the Date! This will be our first gathering for the 25/26 school year. We'll plan our events and play a few silly games.



Family Ministry Fall Festival Sunday, September 21st Noon-2pm

Save the Date! We'll gather together lunch and fun afternoon of silly games!





JESUS IS THE

JOHN 14:6

July 23 | July 30 | August 6 6:00-8:00PM

Join us for three fun nights of family-style Vacation Bible School with dinner, games, crafts, and songs. Signup on Facebook or in Fellowship Hall.



From the Christian Education Team:

We thank God for another wonderful year studying His Word together! In classrooms on Sunday mornings, over lunchtime Zoom meetings, even in the local pubs — our congregation gathered to learn together and deepen our understanding and faith.

A special thank you to our volunteer teachers and classroom 'shepherds' who gave their time and energy on Sunday mornings to share the love for God with our children and youth, remaining faithful to the promise that we each make at baptism to help raise our children in the Christian faith. Thank you, Emily Wright, for leading the preschool/kindergarten room, and Ashley Wineland for teaching the elementary schoolers. Along with regular assistants Jim Magerlein and Bess Fitzgerald, they have prayed, played, sung and shared themselves with our youngest saints each week.

We will take a break over the summer but look forward to a few fun nights later in July and August for Vacation Bible School. Sign-ups for families and volunteers will be posted at the church and on Facebook!

Date	Time	Altar Guild	Welcome Team	Lectors	Acolytes
June 1	8:30	Karn Erlandson	Teri Koretsky Beth Belleville	Janet Gullickson	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	11:00		Mark & Erin Sutherland	Sarah Zimmermann	Kiley & Calico Morris
June 8	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Paula Sportel Jason Grubaugh	Steve Bittner	Avery & Nolan Fowler
	11:00	Marianne Fuerst	Karen Jachym Tina Adams	Tim Eschelbach	Elyse Albertson, Emma Zimmermann
June 15	8:30	Karn Erlandson	Janet & Arlen Gullickson	Teri Koretsky	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	11:00	Holly Wohlfert	Sheree Sorensen, Rasma McMullen	Linda Ward	Miryam Greenman, Evelyn Sutherland
June 22	8:30	Joyce Magerlein	Jen & Tim Gatz	Jen Gatz	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	11:00	Gary Kent-Bracken	Julie & Keith Peterson	Nancy Diment	Clare Lehman
June 29	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Teri Koretsky Beth Belleville	Arlen Gullickson	Avery & Nolan Fowler
	11:00	Sheree Sorensen	Greta Decker Pat Mason	Marianne Fuerst	Frederick Thurn, Jacob Zimmermann

Worship Assistants

New Member Interest: If you are 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 this summer!

Confirmation - June 8: We will be celebrating Confirmation during our worship services on June 8th! Avner Grubaugh will be confirmed at 8:30; Avery Fowler and Calico Morris will be confirmed at 11am. Please join the congregation in giving thanks for each of these young people and offering our continued support and encouragement in their lives of faith!

Men's Bible Study - We will meet next on Wednesday June 11 & 25. We will be serving a light breakfast each time. We meet @ 7:00 AM and try to finish around 8:00 AM. All are welcome. "No experience necessary".

Rebecca Circle Looking for a chance to participate monthly in a women's small group meeting for Bible study? Rebecca Circle is an excellent chance to make some new acquaintances while studying God's word. They meet every 4th Wednesday of the month at Trinity and all are welcome! The next Circle meeting will be on Wednesday, June 25 at 10am.

Service Ministry

The TLC Prayer Shawl Ministry meets June 2 at 10am We 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! If you would like more information, please call Sidney Mueller at (269)806-0023.

Prayer Shawls are available for gifting to members of Trinity and their extended families and friends in times of healing, grief, celebration, or any other occasion one feels the need of God's loving presence. To request a prayer shawl, or with questions about our Prayer Shawl Ministry, please contact Sidney Mueller (269-806-0023), one of the pastors, or Julie Peterson, chair of the Caring Ministry team.

Thrivent Grant Request - We are seeking Thrivent Grants! We have several needs between our Service Ministries, Christian Education, Youth and Family Ministries and Congregational Life Ministries that could use your help! With Thrivent Grants, we're able to continue to keep this time welcoming to all. Thank you!

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Sandy Eschelbach, Diane Reau, Linda Ward, David Mason, Ruth Krueger, Bertha Boettcher, Jeannie Grubaugh, Beth Latshaw, Reuben Mellum. <u>Christ Clothes Closet</u>: The Closet needs donations of men's and women's socks of all sizes. Donations may be dropped off in the box located next to the elevator or outside the Fellowship Hall. They are also collecting personal hygiene items :

- Feminine hygiene products
- Toilet paper

- razors
- shaving cream

lotion



Refugee Families in Need! Trinity is working with our local refugee services to help provide for new refugee families in Kalamazoo. If you wish to contribute financially to our Kalamazoo Refugees, scan the QR code to make a donation. We especially need some adults to help clean up an outdoor space and make it safe for one of our families. Contact Pr. Jake (prjake@tlckzoo.com) if you are able to help with that

project. And if you would like to volunteer time to help our refugee families, please contact Bess Fitzgerald (bess.fitzgerald@gmail.com) or the church office.

Emergency Food Box: Trinity is partnering with people in our neighborhood to stock the emergency food box located on Oak Street between Cedar and Lovell. Easy open, ready to eat, non-perishable foods such as cans with a flip top lid, ramen, granola bars, crackers, protein shakes etc. should be put in the box designated Emergency Food Box outside the Fellowship Hall. Call Rasma McMullen (269-349-9429) with any questions.

Volunteer Opportunities

Blood Drives: We are hosting American Red Cross blood drives once again at Trinity in 2025. **The next date is Wednesday June 25, 2025!** Be sure to get registered at

https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/donation-time (Sponsor Code: TLC) or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

We are asking for volunteers to become part of the team to help with registrations/hospitality, some set-up and closing the church at end of the drive. If you are interested/able to do this, please contact Holly Wohlfert at 269-808-3889 or the church office. Thank you in advance for your help.

Please sign up for Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community! Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to provide flowers or host fellowship time for the coming months. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events. (And if you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a fellowship host!) *Altar flowers are \$20 per bouquet and should be ordered one week in advance. Call or email the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to put altar flowers on for a Sunday.

Ladies Lunch will be June 11 at 11:30am at Summer Thyme Cafe on Portage Rd. (3928 Portage Rd, Kalamazoo) This is a fun way to meet with old friends and make new connections with each other. All women are welcome! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Joy Kuhs with questions; hope to see you there!

Faith Refugia Readers! We have another date to get together and discuss the book. We will probably be at different points in the book but there is much that can be discussed. The second discussion will be **Sunday June 8th at 9:45** in between the services. Keep me posted if this date works for you. Maryann Hubbell (<u>mahubbell1@gmail.com</u>) 269-341-2056

Young Adult Lunch! If you're a young adult at Trinity, you're invited to join Pr. Jake for lunch...and the church is buying! We'll meet at Shakespeare's Pub from 12:30-1:30ish on Sunday June 22nd for some conversation and sharing of possibilities for engagement and service with other young adults in the Kalamazoo area! If you can, let Pr. Jake know if you plan to come!

Meeting of the Men - Summer Schedule! 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 one other guys who call Trinity home! This summer we'll plan to meet at the following locations. Come on out and bring a friend!

- Thursday June 26th, 5-6:30pm Bell's Beer Garden
- Thursday July 24th, 5-6:30 Stienspark Biergarten Meeting of the Everyone! (Men...Women... Everyone!...All are welcome!)
- Thursday August 21st, 5-6:30 Latitude 42 (Portage location)



Parking lot Concert is back! After a year off, Trinity is once again partnering up with the Kalamazoo Pipe Band and our friends from Whiskey Before Breakfast to host and evening of live music in our parking lot on Thursday, July 15th from 6-8pm! This will be a relaxed and fun tailgating type event for the whole community so all are welcome to bring some chairs and enjoy the great music offered by these musicians! We will be grilling hamburgers

and hot dogs and will have chips and bottled water available, so invite your friends and neighbors and bring whatever else you'd like to eat or drink! Food will be served starting around 6 and music will begin at 6:30! If possible, sign up in the fellowship hall by July 13th if you are planning to attend so we know how much to grill! **Church wide BBQ June 29!** Mark your calendars for Trinity's popular summer BBQ after service on Sunday, June 29! Trinity will provide the burgers, hot dogs and beverages you bring the delicious sides! This is a great opportunity to socialize and enjoy the tastes of summer!

Downtown Churches Picnic! Save the date of <u>Sunday September 21st</u> because the congregations in the downtown Kalamazoo area are coming together for a picnic! Plans are still coming together, but envision food trucks, dishes passed, games, and fellowship! This will be a wonderful time to celebrate the unity that we share as people of faith!

Men's Retreat - New Venue/format! - Sign up today!

We're mixing it up this year with a new format for our Men's Retreat! From Sept 19-21 we'll gather up North at a hunting cabin connected to a few Trinity men for a time of fellowship and fun. The cabin is near Baldwin, so just over 2 hours away, and we'll enjoy golf on Friday, relaxed tubing/rafting Saturday, worship on Sunday morning, and relaxation, fellowship, and food throughout! Cost is just \$60 each, checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church. Sign up in the fellowship hall at church or by following the link below! <u>https://forms.gle/k2eim9faW6UkyYVD8</u>



Please note through June Trinity's Worship Schedule will remain the same, Sundays at 8:30 and 11:00AM.

Starting July 6 through August 31, Trinity will switch to ONE Sunday Service at 10:00AM.

The church office hours will also be very limited through the summer starting June 1 – September 1. The office will plan to be open on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings from 9am – 12noon. **Please be sure to call ahead if you**

wish to come down to make sure someone will be available!

Greetings from The Green Team!

Did you know that around 30% of what you throw away could be composted? Here are some easy ways to start your own compost pile or bin:

- 1. Pick a spot for your compost bin or pile. Find a spot with good drainage and out of direct sunlight.
- 2. Alternative between green and brown layers. Green layers include things like coffee grounds, fruits, veggies, eggshells, etc... Brown layers include things like sticks, dead leaves, paper, pine needles, cardboard, etc... Your first and last layers should be brown layers.
- **3.** Every few weeks, turn your pile with a shovel, making sure the pile stays moist. Don't be surprised if you see steam, heat is a natural byproduct of decomposition.
- 4. Once the bottom of your pile is a dark, rich brown, it's ready to use! You can use that goodness in your garden and/or flower beds.

Things that are compostable: fruits and vegetables, tea bags, nutshells, non-greasy food scraps (including rice, pasta, and bread), flowers, branches, paper bags, coffee grounds and filters, eggshells, shredded newspaper, cardboard, paper, grass clippings, houseplants, hay, fur, dryer and vacuum lint, cotton and wool rags, wood chips, sawdust, and leaves

Things that are NOT compostable: meats, greasy food scraps, chicken, fats or oils, fish, dairy products, coal, charcoal ash, diseased or insect-ridden plants, pet manure, black walnut leaves, and anything with oil residue on it

The non-compostable items above can cause odor issues, attract pesky rodents and flies, or spread diseased seeds.

The City of Kalamazoo also offers Food Scrap Recycling if you don't want to deal with all that. Find out more information here: <u>https://www.kalamazoocity.org/Residents/Recycling-Waste/Food-Scrap-Recycling</u>

Congratulations Katie! We want to offer our congratulations to Katie Grubaugh, who has been accepted at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary to begin a Masters of Arts program in Spirituality and Social Change! She will begin a distance learning program through PLTS this fall with the goal of being ordained to the Ministry of Word and Service through the Diaconal program of the ELCA.

Katie will begin her program this summer by completing her Clinical Pastoral Education requirement at Bronson hospital. This is a full time position which means that she will need to step away from her role as office administrator for the summer. During that time the office hours will change and we will have volunteers and part time staff fill in the gaps.

We thank you for your flexibility and especially for your support of Katie as she begins this new phase of her life and service!

Thanks From Pr. Megan Floyd:

"Dear Trinity,

I apologize for the lateness of this thank you note. Moving and starting a new call at the beginning of Lent was a serious challenge! But now, I feel like I can settle in and catch up. Thank you for the gift of the gorgeous purple stole, and thank you especially to Chris Allen for making it! It is so incredibly special and I thought of you all each week I wore it.

Things are going very well here at Faith Lutheran in Okemos. The congregation and I clicked so well with each other, it is clear why the Holy Spirit called me here.

Thank you again for being part of my journey and for the stole that will always remind me and connect me back to you.

Peace, Megan Floyd''

North/West Lower Michigan Synod ELCA Bishop Election Results

At the 2025 Synod Assembly, held May 18-20, 2025 in Mt. Pleasant, The Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas was elected to serve as the next bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. She succeeds Bishop Craig Alan Satterlee, who has served faithfully for the past twelve years.

Bishop-Elect Schneider-Thomas will begin serving a six-year term as bishop on September 1, 2025. Schneider-Thomas was elected on the fifth ballot, with 166 votes. The Rev. Dana Hendershot, pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Mount Pleasant, Mich., received 73 votes.

The bishop-elect has served as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church, Comstock Park, Mich., since 1996. She also has been serving Hope Lutheran Church in Rockford, Mich., since 2016.

Schneider-Thomas earned a Bachelor of Arts in religion and philosophy from Adrian College in Adrian, Mich., in 1991, and a Master of Divinity from Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University in Columbus, Ohio, in 1995. Trinity is one of seven ELCA seminaries.

She will take office Sept. 1. Installation details are pending but a service will likely take place in early September.

As the North/West Lower Michigan Synod begins a time of transition, we thank Bishop Satterlee and the Synod Staff for their ministry and dedication to this synod.



If you have not already signed up for our weekly emails, please use the QR code here or visit our website (www.tlckzoo.com) and scroll to the bottom of the home page to sign up to receive weekly updates about what's going on around Trinity!





"In Illo Uno Unum" "In the One, we are One" Saint Augustine, exposition on Psalm 127

On Thursday May 8th, I happened to be home for lunch when news of the white smoke came from the Sistine Chapel. I continued watching on TV as

the new pope was introduced to the world. The native of Chicago took the name of Leo XIV. I was quite surprised and intrigued that an American and an Augustinian was chosen. The Order of St. Augustine is a mendicant religious order of the Catholic Church. One could argue that before Leo XIV, perhaps the most famous Augustinian was Martin Luther... yes our dear Martin Luther. Who excommunicated Luther? Another Pope, Leo X. From what I understand the new pope chose his name based on a much more recent Leo (or perhaps even the first Leo the great).

The new Papal coat of Arms has the above Latin phrase, "In the One, we are One". My fervent prayer is that the church might be ever more unified in Christ, that we might boldly proclaim the Good News as one church, one voice. The Lutheran church and the Roman Catholic Church sometimes feel so close, yet so far. Common understanding of Baptism, very similar liturgy, and so much more. Pope Leo graduated from Catholic Theological Union (C.T.U.) Seminary in Chicago. I graduated from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC) seminary in Chicago. When I attended LSTC these schools were just a 5 minute walk from each other. They are now housed in the same building. No, I did not attend at the same time as the pope and never met him (but six degrees of separation). I did take some classes at CTU, and I am sure that now they share even more faculty/classes as well as a common building.

Even in the New Testament the early Christians struggled with disagreements. Yet over the course of human history the church has still flourished and grown. Yes, membership and attendance ebbs and flows in various countries and ages, yet Christ is still our sure foundation. I pray that Pope Leo can continue to unify the worldwide and varied church, that we can approach the time of the first Leo – a unified church. Let us pray for the new Pope and our Roman Catholic brothers and sisters. Let us pray for all the wonderful expressions of true Christian faith. May the spirit of Pentecost once again unify us, and light our hearts on fire. May we all be drawn closer to the victorious risen Jesus Christ.

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



Trinity Picture Directory!

Our picture directory is available using the QR Code listed here or posted around the church building. Limited copies will be available in the Fellowship Hall; if you would like a printed copy, please contact the church office! Please continue to submit your updated information or pictures to the church office at <u>office@tlckzoo.com</u>.