TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
1314 E Lexington Blvd • Eau Claire, WI 54701

OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

On October 31, Lutherans around the world remember the Reformation — a movement that began more than 500 years ago with Martin Luther's challenge to the church of his day. One of the most famous phrases associated with Luther is, "Here I stand. I can do no other."

There is an important historical footnote: while these words have become closely connected with Luther, historians debate whether Luther actually spoke this exact sentence at the Diet of Worms in 1521. What we do know is that Luther was asked to recant his writings and teachings. He refused, declaring that his conscience was captive to the Word of God. Whatever the exact words, the moment captures something central to the Reformation - faith sometimes calls us to stand firmly in what we believe God is doing.

For Luther, that meant proclaiming the radical grace of God—that our relationship with God is not something we earn through our accomplishments, but something God freely gives through Christ. That remains at the heart of Lutheran faith today. As an ELCA congregation, we are part of a tradition that believes the church is always being called to reform, renew, and listen for where the Holy Spirit is leading.

So perhaps the question for us is not simply, "Where do I stand?" It is also: "What is God calling me to stand for?"
To stand for grace when the world tells us we must earn our worth.
To stand for our neighbors when it is easier to look away.
To stand for welcome when others feel excluded.
To stand for forgiveness when resentment feels easier.
And sometimes, to stand with humility—to admit that we may need to learn, change, and grow.

The Reformation reminds us that faith is not about having all the answers. It is about trusting the God who meets us with grace and continually calls us into something new. So this October, may we remember Luther's courage, but even more, may we remember the grace that gave him courage. Here we stand—not because we have everything figured out, but because Christ has first stood with us. And that is a foundation worth standing on.

Pastor Patrick and Pastor Tom

WITH GRATITUDE

Offering Update as of August 31, 2026.

- Amount Budgeted to Date: $203,747
- Amount Received to date: $155,779
- Expenses to Date: $168,859
- Deficit/Surplus: -$13,080

3 Ways to Give at Trinity:

- Scan the QR code
- Text "GIVE" to 715.468.6800
- Click GIVE on www.trinity-ec.org

Trinity Food Pantry Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday
1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

DO YOU RECEIVE THE WEEKLY E-MAIL BLAST FROM TRINITY?

Scan the QR Code to receive Trinity's weekly e-mail blasts. This is a great way to stay up to date with all that's going on at Trinity.

POST IN THE NEWSLETTER OR WEEKLY BULLETIN

Scan this QR Code and fill out the "Communications Request" Form. This can be used to add info to:

- Newsletters
- Bulletins
- E-News Blasts
- Trinity Website
- Social Media

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

October 4, 2026 at 10:30am
October 11, 2026 at 10:30am

New Member Sunday:
October 25, 2026

Know someone interested in becoming a member here at Trinity? Have them contact the Trinity Office and register for our New Member Classes.
trinity@trinity-ec.org
or (715)832-6601

FRIENDS OF FLYNN

As students and staff return to school, Trinity's Friends of Flynn Committee is already supporting our partner, Flynn Elementary. We appreciate the school social worker, Ann, meeting with us regularly to help determine how we can best support Flynn's students and staff.

School Supplies: Thank you to those people who donated school supplies requested by the teaching staff this year. After a recent meeting, Ann took several bags and boxes of donated supplies back to the school.

Flynn Family Food Pantry: Donations from Trinity members help the pantry purchase nonperishable food to supplement its monthly delivery from Feed My People. In September, Trinity volunteers stocked the shelves with the first order, preparing the pantry to serve Flynn families. Two volunteers also come each week to fill bags of food for students to take home.

We ask you to pray for a safe and productive school year. Interested in volunteering at the school or joining the Friends of Flynn Committee (FOF), Contact the Trinity office, 715-832-6601, to see how you can help.

ANNOUNCEMENT CENTRAL

TRINITY SERVES THE COMMUNITY TABLE

Thursday, October 8, 2026
Volunteer Sign Up in Clipboard Central

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Sunday, October 11, 2026
8:55am & 10:30am in Room 211

ADRC BOOK CLUB

Loving Someone With Dementia
Mondays: October 12 - November 16
12:00pm in the Fireside Room

FRIENDSHIP GROUP MEETING

Wednesday, October 14, 2026
Time: 10:00am
Location: Room 208

FALL ARTS CELEBRATION

Sunday, October 18, 2026
Time: 11:00am - 4:00pm
Location: Trinity Room

GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church - Fireside Room
Time: 10:00am - 11:30am
Dates: Third Wednesday of each month (October 21, 2026)

This supportive and compassionate group is designed for older adults who are navigating grief and loss in any form; death, changes in health, loss of independence, or other life transition. Facilitated by individuals through ARDC.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 25, 2026
2:00pm - 4:00pm in the Trinity Parking Lot

MEN LIVING WITH CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, October 27, 2026
6:00pm - 7:30pm in the Fireside Room

Red Cross Blood Drive at Trinity

Thursday, November 5, 2026
Time: 12:00pm - 6:00pm
Location: Trinity Lobby
Mark Your Calendars
Sign Up at redcrossblood.org



LIBRARY TIDINGS

NEW BOOKS

Four New Fiction

***The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave**
When Owen Michaels vanishes, leaving his new wife Hannah a cryptic note to protect his teenage daughter Bailey, they must uncover his true identity while facing dangerous revelations. (FIC DAV)

***The First Time I saw Him* by Laura Dave**
This sequel is a gripping, rich, and deeply touching novel about the power of forgiveness and picks up right where The Last Thing He told Me left off. (FIC DAV)

***Heartwood* by Amity Gaige**
Heartwood is a suspenseful novel about a 42-year-old nurse named Valerie Gillis who goes missing while hiking the Appalachian Trail in Maine. It is loosely inspired by real-life survival stories on the trail and explores themes of human resilience, relationships, motherhood, and the different ways people become lost and found. (FIC GAI)

***The Road to Tender Hearts* by Annie Hartnett**
This is a darkly comic, warm-hearted novel about a 63-year-old lottery winner named PJ Halliday who embarks on a cross-country road trip to reunite with his high school crush. He brings along his adult daughter, 2 orphaned kids and a cat who can predict death! (FIC HAR)

Two New Non-Fiction

***London Falling* by Patrick Radden Keefe**
This true crime story is a work of narrative nonfiction that investigates the real-life 2019 death of 19-year-old Zac Brettler in London. (364.1 KEE)

***The Nine Devines of Chippewa Falls* by A. Darius Husain and Deacon Jerry Devine**
A true story written by Devine family members is a story of hope, perseverance, the unifying power of sport, and the unbreakable bonds of family. (B HUS)

BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Picture Books with themes of Fall and Halloween

- *The Leaf Thief* by Alice Hemming (++ FIC HEM)
- *The Sun Thief* by Alice Hemming (++ FIC HEM)
- *Millie Fleur's Pumpkin Problem* by Christy Mandin (++ FIC MAN)
- *But I'm a Pumpkin* by Kat Choppy (++ FIC CHO)
- *Birdie's Happiest Halloween* by Sujean Rim (++ FIC RIM)
- *Vampurr* by Justin Colon (++ FIC COL)
- *Spooky Scouts* by Kimberly Shrack (++ FIC SHR)

SEPTEMBER BOOK RECOMENDATION

Book Recommendation from Vicki Deuringer, Trinity Library Committee Member

Culpability by Bruce Holsinger

A family drama exploring moral responsibility in the age of AI after a fatal crash involving a self-driving minivan. The novel follows the Casidy-Shaw family as each family member confronts their own secrets and ethical dilemmas during a week-long recovery vacation. Each member is implicated in the accident in some way, forcing them to question their roles and technology itself. Praised as a thriller that delves into AI, tech addiction, and complex parent-child relationships.

With AI currently in the news, this book will leave you pondering how technology should be used and what ethical boundaries do we impose on that technology. This book is page turner and very thought provoking.

Chippewa Valley BOOK FESTIVAL

The 2026 Chippewa Valley Book Festival, October 19-24. Trinity library has copies of the books featured for these sessions.

- **A History Stretching Across Oceans and Generations:** *Extraordinary Eliana and Astrid & Apollo chapter books* by V.T. Bidania.
- **The Geography of Two Worlds:** *The Many Mothers of Dolores Moore* by Anika Fajardo. (FIC FAJ)
- **Sharing a Hmong American Experience:** *Bamboo Son* by Pao Lor. (B LOR)
- **Replaceable You:** *Adventures in Human Anatomy* by Mary Roach. (611 ROA)
- **Redefining the Underdog**: *The Boys of Riverside* by Thomas Fuller.
- **What is True in Fiction?:** *The Edge of Yesterday* by Rita Woods. (FIC WOO)
- **The Mysterious Ordinary:** *The Reservation* by Rebecca Kauffman (FIC KAU)

Visit CVBOOKFEST.ORG for full event details.

CARE & CONCERN

VACCINE UPDATES

Covid 19 vaccine:

- The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends all infants and children 6 through 23 months of age who do not have contraindications receive 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine. The AAP also recommends a single dose of age-appropriate 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine for all children and adolescents 2 through 18 years of age at increased risk of severe COVID-19, regardless of prior COVID-19 vaccination status. Children 2 through 18 years of age not considered at increased risk of severe COVID-19 whose parent/guardian wants them protected from COVID-19 should be offered a single dose of age-appropriate 2026–2027 COVID-19 vaccine. Any available COVID-19 vaccine appropriate by age and health status can be administered and the most updated version of the COVID-19 vaccine that is available should be used.
- CDC recommends an annual updated COVID-19 booster for all adults, similar to the annual flu shot model. The new formulation targets the most recent circulating variants and is available as a single-dose injection. Adults aged 65 and older or those who are immunocompromised are advised to receive an additional dose six months after their annual booster.
- Remember: Getting a COVID-19 vaccine is a safer, more reliable way to build protection than getting sick with COVID-19.

RSV Vaccine Recommendations

- The CDC recommends a single dose of any FDA-licensed RSV vaccine for all adults aged 75 and older and any adults aged 50 to 74 who are at increased risk of severe RSV illness (such as those with chronic lung or heart disease, diabetes, kidney disease, or weakened immune systems, or those living in nursing homes).

Measles Vaccine:

- As of September 10, 2026, 3,294 confirmed measles cases were reported in the United States in 2026. Among these, 1,433 measles cases were reported by 42 states, including 163 in Wisconsin.
- Measles is very contagious and can be serious. Serious complications, especially in children 5 and under include ear infections, diarrhea, pneumonia and encephalitis. One out of every four people who get measles in the United States will be hospitalized. One or two out of every 1,000 children in the United States who get measles will die from the disease, even with the best care.
- Anyone who is not protected against measles is at risk. If one person has it, up to 9 out of 10 people nearby will become infected if they are not protected.
- Two doses of MMR vaccine provide the best protection against measles with 97% effectiveness.
- Check with your health care professional if you are not sure of your immunity.

Influenza Vaccine:

- Flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and sometimes the lungs. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent flu is by getting a flu vaccine each year.
- Anyone can get flu, including healthy people, and serious problems related to flu can happen at any age, but some people are at higher risk of developing serious flu-related complications if they get sick. This includes people 65 years and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, and children younger than five years.
- The first and most important step in preventing flu is to get a flu vaccine each year. Flu vaccines has been shown to reduce flu-related illnesses and the risk of serious flu complications that can result in hospitalization or even death. Approximately 23,000-24,000 people died from influenza in the 2025-2026 flu season. Everyday preventive actions include staying away from people who are sick, covering coughs and sneezes, masking, and frequent handwashing.

CARE & CONCERN

OCTOBER OBSERVANCES

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day

Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day is an annual day of remembrance observed on October 15 for pregnancy loss and infant death, which includes miscarriage, stillbirth, SIDS, ectopic pregnancy, termination for medical reasons, and the death of a newborn. If you know anyone who has experienced any of the above, please remember and acknowledge their loss. For more information and support the following web sites are helpful: starlegacyfoundation.org and pregnancyafterlosssupport.org

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast cancer awareness month focuses on education, early detection through screenings like mammograms, and support for patients and survivors. Key information includes recognizing signs of breast cancer, understanding risk factors, participating in screenings, and supporting organizations that fund research and provide patient resources. Get your mammogram starting at age 40 or sooner if you are noticing changes in your breasts or high risk.

5 Little-Known Breast Cancer Facts:

1. Breast cancer doesn't always appear as a lump. In its earliest stages it doesn't usually have any symptoms. That's why annual mammograms starting at age 40 are recommended. When symptoms do appear, a lump is typically the most common.
2. However, look for these other symptoms: Swelling in or around your breast, collarbone, or armpit. Redness, a thickening of the skin, or a change in texture (peau d'orange) in or around your breast. Warmth or itching in the breast. Nipple changes, such as dimpling, retraction, scaling or, discharge.
3. Maintaining a healthy weight can reduce your breast cancer risk. Being overweight increases your risk of more than 10 different cancers, including breast cancer.
4. Breast AWARENESS is more important than self-breast exams. That means paying attention to how your breasts look and feel, especially at different times of the month. If you notice any changes while you're dressing, showering, or even scratching, pay attention and report them to your doctor.
5. Drinking alcohol can increase your breast cancer risk.

Mental Illness Awareness Week

October 6-12: Everyone is impacted by mental health conditions – including the friends, family, and coworkers who don't live with a mental health condition themselves. One in five adults in the U.S. experiences a mental health condition each year, which impacts those who know and love them. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) asked Congress to create this critical awareness event. Go to the NAMI web site for important information.

CAREGIVER CORNER

Loving Someone Who Has Dementia: How to Find Hope While Coping with Stress and Grief

A 6-Week Book Club for
Dementia Caregivers

Mondays, October 12 - November 16
12:00pm - 1:30 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church
Fireside Room

Join us for a supportive 6-week book club as we read and discuss *Loving Someone Who Has Dementia* by Dr. Pauline Boss. Each session includes thoughtful discussion, practical takeaways, and a welcoming space to share and listen. To receive your free copy of the book, register by 10/5 at www.adrcevents.org or call the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 715-839-4735. Books will be available for pick up at the ADRC.



Thursday, October 8, 2026

Trinity will travel to St. John's University in Collegeville, MN to see the St. John's Bible. The Bus Trip and Tours will be FREE to members. Participants are asked to bring $20.00 for lunch in the University Refectory.

Here is a Brief Itinerary for the Trip:
7:00am - Meet at Trinity and Leave for Collegeville, MN
9:45am - Arrive on St. John's Campus
10:00am - Presentation and Viewing of the Manuscripts
11:50am - Tour of the Abbey Church History/Architecture
12:30pm - Lunch in the University Refectory
1:30pm - Tour of the Abbey Woodworking & Pipe Organ Studio
2:30pm - Depart Collegeville for a 5:30pm Trinity Arrival

Sign ups are posted in Clipboard Central!

October Calendar at Trinity

Calendar is Subject to Change

Thursday, October 1
8:30am - 9:30am Text Study - 204
10:00am - 11:00am Oakwood Hills Worship
10:15am - 11:15am Worship at the Classic
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
5:30pm - 6:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, October 2
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
1:30pm - 3:00pm Area Parish Nurse Meeting - Fireside

Sunday, October 4
8:15am Traditional Worship w/ Communion
9:00am - 9:45am Praise Team Rehearsal
9:45am Contemporary Worship w/ Communion
10:30am New Member Class - Room 208
10:30am Home Visitor Appreciation Brunch - Trinity Room

Monday, October 5
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open

Tuesday, October 6
1:30pm - 3:00pm FoodPantry Open

Wednesday, October 7
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
1:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jongg-Lobby
5:00pm - 5:50pm Children's Choirs
6:00pm Connections - Room 209
6:45pm Confirmation Orientation - Trinity Room
6:45pm High School Youth Group - Youth Room

Thursday, October 8
St. John's Bible Bus Trip
6:30am Crowded Table - Memorial High
8:30am - 9:30am Text Study - 204
9:30am - 10:30am EC Rug Hooking Group - 208
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
5:30pm - 6:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, October 9
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby

Sunday, October 11
8:15am Traditional Worship w/ Quilt Blessing
8:50am - 9:45am Sunday School
8:55am Blood Pressure Screening - 211
9:00am - 9:45am Praise Team Rehearsal
9:45am Contemporary Worship
10:30am Blood Pressure Screening - 211
10:30am New Member Class - Room 208

Monday, October 12
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
12:00pm - 1:00pm ADRC Book Club - Fireside
1:00pm - 2:00pm Library Committee - Library
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open

Tuesday, October 13
9:00am - 12:00pm Quilters - Lobby
10:00am - 12:00pm Friends of the Library Book Club
1:00pm - 3:00pm Luke 3:11 Clothing - Parking Lot
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
4:30pm - 6:30pm Executive Committee - 506

Wednesday, October 14
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
10:00am - 11:00am Friendship Group - 208
1:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jongg - Lobby
5:00pm - 5:50pm Children's Choirs - Worship Center
6:00pm - 7:00pm Confirmation Class - Trinity Room
6:00pm - 7:00pm Connections - Room 209

Thursday, October 15
Newsletter Deadline
Noah's Ark Closed Fall Break
8:30am - 9:30am Text Study - 204
10:15am - 11:15am Worship at the Classic - Offsite
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
5:30pm - 6:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, October 16
Noah's Ark Closed Fall Break
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby

Sunday, October 18
8:15am Traditional Worship w/ Communion
8:50am - 9:45am Sunday School
9:00am - 9:45am Praise Team Rehearsal
9:45am Contemporary Worship w/ Communion
11:00am - 4:00pm Fall Arts Celebration '26

Monday, October 19
12:00am - 12:00am Noah's Ark Closed Fall Break
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
12:00pm - 1:00pm ADRC Book Club - Fireside
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
6:30pm - 8:00pm Trinity Book Club - 208

Tuesday, October 20
8:30am - 4:00pm Knitting Group - Room 208
9:15am - 10:15am Staff Meeting - Library
9:30am - 10:30am Mary Martha Circle - 204
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
1:30pm - 2:30pm Ruth Circle - Fireside
5:00pm - 6:00pm Council Meeting - 208

Wednesday, October 21
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
9:30am - 10:30am Miriam Circle
10:00am - 11:30am ADRC Grief Group - Fireside
1:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jongg-Lobby
5:00pm - 5:50pm Children's Choirs - Worship Center
6:00pm - 7:00pm Confirmation Class - Trinity Room
6:00pm - 7:00pm Connections - Room 209
6:45pm - 7:45pm High School Youth Group - Youth Room

Thursday, October 22
8:30am - 9:30am Text Study - 204
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
5:30pm - 6:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, October 23
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby

Sunday, October 25
8:15am - 9:15am Traditional Worship
8:50am - 9:45am Sunday School
9:00am - 9:45am Praise Team Rehearsal
9:45am - 10:45am Contemporary Worship
9:45am - 10:45am New Member Welcome
2:00pm - 4:00pm Trunk or Treat

Monday, October 26
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
12:00pm - 1:00pm ADRC Book Club
1:00pm - 2:00pm Library Committee - Library
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open

Tuesday, October 27
9:00am - 12:00pm Quilters - Lobby
12:00pm - 1:00pm Strive Committee - 208
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
3:30pm - 4:30pm Serve Committee - 204
6:00pm - 7:30pm Men Living w/Cancer - Fireside

Wednesday, October 28
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby
1:00pm - 4:00pm Knitting Group - 208
1:00pm - 4:00pm Mah Jongg - Lobby
5:00pm - 5:50pm Children's Choirs - Worship Center
6:00pm - 7:00pm Confirmation Class - Trinity Room
6:00pm - 7:00pm Connections - Room 209

Thursday, October 29
8:30am - 9:30am Text Study - 204
1:30pm - 3:00pm Food Pantry Open
3:00pm - 6:00pm Health Fair - Trinity Room
5:30pm - 6:30pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Friday, October 30
9:00am - 10:00am Exercise Class - Lobby

Constitutional Amendment Voter Guide

Wisconsin voters will consider three Constitutional Amendments on their ballots this November. The Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin has created a Constitutional Amendment Voter Guide with explanations, recommendations, and context about the proposed amendments, made within the framework of the principles values, and commitments of the ELCA's social statements and messages.

The three proposed amendments are:

- Freedom to Gather in Places of Worship During an Emergency
- Government Entity Discrimination Prohibited
- Partial Veto

Visit loppw.org/constitutional-amendments-2026 or scan the QR Code for the Guide!

Free Foot & Nail Clinic



At Grace Lutheran Church

October 12 - 16, 2026

Registration Open Now!
Call (715)836-3636 for an appointment.

Winter Clothing Collection

Collection Dates:
Sunday, October 11 (Before/After Church)
Monday, October 12 (All Day)
Tuesday, October 13 (Until 10:00am)

The items needed are new or gently used coats, snow pants, boots, hats and mittens and new warm winter socks.



Need A Winter Coat? We've Got You Covered!

Luke 3:11 Project will be in the Trinity Lutheran Parking Lot handing out winter coats and other warm clothing to those in need.

October 13, 2026 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm
November 12, 2026 from 1:00pm - 3:00pm

OCTOBER CORNER CUPBOARD

Events

- Friend Fest 2026 - Thank you to all those participating in the second annual dessert auction during Friend Fest. There were 26 fun, clever, and yummy fresh baked items donated and auctioned off from the Trinity family. Over $1,700 was raised for the Food Pantry to help provide food to the community. Thanks again and start testing those recipes for next year.

- Luke 3:11 will be locating in our main parking lot on two days this fall during our pantry times. October 13th and November 12th 1:00-3:00 pm. If you know of anyone needing winter clothing items, please let them know of our dates.

Community

- First Presbyterian Church gardens delivered over 100 pounds of fresh produce again this season. Thanks to the members of First Presbyterian who tend to the garden and deliver to us each week.

- Trinity and Community Members have donated close to 400 pounds of rhubarb, tomatoes, green beans, peppers, cucumbers, and more this season.

Activity / Financial

- Number of families served: 5,800
- Current dedicated balance: $51,800
- Average families served each week: 171
- Total food costs for year of 2026: $38,000
- Total pounds of food distributed: 190,000

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2027

IMAGINE MORE next summer in Minneapolis at the ELCA Youth Gathering! The 2027 Gathering will take place June 28 - July 2, 2027
If you, or someone you know, are interested in attending this life-changing event, please register with Katie Conner by Thursday, October 15, 2027.
Youth participants must be in 8th-12th grade at the time of registration.
Contact Katie Conner at katie@trinity-ec.org with any questions.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

Welcome New Nursery Attendant

We are excited to welcome our new(ish) Nursery Attendant to Trinity! Linnea Aelony is a college student at UWEC and came to the pastors and Katie last year looking to get involved in a church. It didn't take long before she was volunteering in our nursery. This year, we welcome her as official Trinity staff in the nursery!
Nursery care is available on Sunday mornings September through May from 8:00-10:45 a.m. for children ages three and under.

Trunk-or-Treat

Join Trinity, Immanuel Lutheran, and Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd for Trunk-or-Treat on Sunday, October 25, from 2:00-4:00pm! Come to Trinity's big parking lot dressed in your Halloween costumes to see some fun decorated trunks and receive some great Halloween tricks and treat. We will also have some games and activities available.
If you would like to decorate your trunk (and yourself!) and hand out candy, contact Katie Conner at katie@trinity-ec.org or sign up at Clipboard Central or on the CYF bulletin board outside room 408.

Seeking Donations for Trunk-or-Treat

Trunk-or-Treat has become not only a collaborative event with other ELCA churches in Eau Claire, but also with the Eau Claire community. Last year we had over 550 people attend this event! We are seeking donations for treats to hand out at Trunk-or-Treat this year. Donations can include:

- Monetary donations or Thrivent Gift Cards
- Bags of candy (variety bags of chocolate, Jolly Ranchers, DumDums, etc.)
- Boxes of non-candy snacks (fruit snacks, Rice Krispie treats, small bags of chips, etc.)
- Non-candy items (spider rings, glow sticks, temporary tattoos, vampire teeth, etc.)

Items can be dropped off in the CYF Office by October 20. Thank you for your support!

Faithful Fellowship

Starting in November, the first Sunday of each month will look a little different. Instead of having regular Sunday School, our teachers will get the day off and the whole family will get to come to faith formation class! Faithful Fellowship (formerly First Sundays) will meet in the Trinity Room as families will come together to play, learn, and grow in their faith. Regular Sunday School classes will NOT be held on these days. The first Faithful Fellowship class will be held on November 1, from 8:50-9:35 AM and all families are invited!

Trinity Quilters Needs

The quilters meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 9 a.m. in the lobby at Trinity. If you would like to help, please come and we will teach you everything you need to know, share lots of camaraderie, and even coffee and treats.

We are also looking for donations of the following items:

- New or gently used flat sheets (twin through king sized for quilt backs) colored ones are preferred. (Thrift sales are a good source for these or when cleaning your own closets.)
- Large or small cotton or cotton/poly fabric pieces that can be cut into squares that are at least 10 ½" x 10 ½" square and will be sewn into quilt tops.
- Monetary Donations to purchase batting – each roll costs over $150.00 and is used to complete 20 – 25 quilts.
- Regular sewing thread in full or partially used spools – any color.

Other items that are needed:

Comfort Bags for Chemo Patients

- 3 yd. pieces of cotton fabric – dark or bright colors – both solids and prints
- Ball point pens – click top, black or blue
- Small spiral notebooks – 3" x 5"
- Kleenex – purse sized packages

Personal Care Kits for the Homeless

- Colored bath towels and washcloths -new or gently used – no black or white please
- Bar soap – regular size (4 oz.)
- Toothpaste – regular size (6 oz.)

All items can be dropped off in the office at Trinity.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to the quilters, please make your check payable to Trinity with Quilters in the memo area. Through the years, we have figured out how to stretch those dollars (just like the Food Pantry does) so you will get more for your buck by letting us do the shopping.

Also, if you are a Thrivent member and haven't applied for a grant for any other organization, you can apply for a $250.00 grant twice year and that would be a big help to us as well.
If you have any questions about this or any of the above, please call Sheila at 715-832-9686 or Connie at 715-861-3627.

Thank you for your support!!





Every Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Partner has a story to tell—a story of courage, welcome, transformation, and hope. Scan the QR Code to check out this month's RIC Stories of Impact!

LUTHERAN OFFICE FOR PUBLIC POLICY in Wisconsin ELCA

Updates & Opportunities

Cultivating Connection

An Online Book Club Exploring Belonging, Mattering, and Community in Congregations & Beyond

Wednesdays In October
(10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28)
9:00am - 10:00am on Zoom
Register Here!

TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 25
2:00pm - 4:00pm
Trinity Parking Lot

2027 Altar Flowers Sign Up Available at Clipboard Central



Noah's Ark Fall Taco Fiesta Fundraiser

Tuesday, November 10, 2026
4:00–7:00pm in the Trinity Room
Our Fall Taco Fiesta is coming up and we hope you'll join us! We'll be serving dinner in the Trinity Room from 4:00–7:00 PM. There will be a taco bar, silent auction, and activities for the kids. It's a great chance to enjoy a meal, visit with friends, and support Noah's Ark at the same time.

Ticket Information
Children ages 2–12: $5 in advance
Ages 13 and up: $10 in advance
Tickets will be available for purchase between worship services on November 1 and November 8, or during the week in the church office.

We are also looking for people who would be willing to help in the kitchen or sponsor the event. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kim at kim@trinity-ec.org or 715-832-6601 ext. 205. More information about volunteering will be included in the Friday Enews as we get closer to the event. We hope to see you there!

New! Sensory Room

Trinity is very excited to announce our new sensory room! This room is located across from the Sunday School supply room in classroom 406.

A sensory room is a tool for individuals to come and have a safe space to calm down, focus, or explore their senses through various lights, sounds, textures, and activities.

The sensory room is open to anyone who might benefit from a quiet, darker space to help calm their mind and bodies. Whether you are young, old, a child, a teen, or an adult, ALL are welcome to use the sensory room.

For more information on this space, please feel free to contact Katie Conner at katie@trinity-ec.org or visit the bulletin board outside of room 406.

NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL & EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT

"All your children will be taught by the Lord, and great will be their peace." Isaiah 54:13

We are off to a great start to the 2026–2027 school year at Noah's Ark Preschool and Early Childhood Enrichment! We are so happy to welcome 57 children and their families to our programs this fall.

It has been wonderful to see the children settling into their classrooms, making new friends, and getting back into the routine of school. Our days are filled with songs, stories, movement, play, and lots of opportunities to learn and grow. Most importantly, we are thankful for the chance to share God's love with the children in our care.

Thank you to all of our families for being a part of Noah's Ark. We appreciate your support and partnership throughout the year. Please continue to keep our children, families, and teachers in your prayers as we begin another school year together.

In peace, Kim Dewey

Music and Movement & Noah's Ark Preschool Openings

We still have openings in both of our programs and would love to welcome some new families!

Music and Movement:
We have several openings in our Wednesday morning Music and Movement class from 10:30–11:30 AM. This class is for children ages 18–36 months, with a parent or guardian participating with them.

The class is a fun time for little ones and their grown-ups to sing, dance, move, play instruments, and enjoy some special time together.

Noah's Ark Preschool:
We have openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the following classes:
Tuesday/Thursday mornings
Monday/Wednesday/Friday mornings
Tuesday/Thursday afternoons

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Kim Dewey at 715-832-6601 ext. 205 or kim@trinity-ec.org for more information or to register.

WOMEN'S GIVING CIRCLE
Building on the Power of Faith.

You're Invited!

Women's Giving Circle Fall Meeting
October 11, 2026
Immediately Following Second Service
Trinity Room

All women of Trinity are invited to the Women's Giving Circle Fall meeting on October 11, 2026 immediately following the second service in the Trinity Room. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and a light breakfast. We will be presenting the 2025/2026 grant requests and members will vote. If you are not a member, please join us and learn about WGC and how your $250.00 dues benefit Trinity and our local community!
Get more information on WGC at Trinity@trinity-ec.org.

MEMORIALS & GIFTS

Memorial Fund:
In Memory of Phyllis Grohn
- Lisa Tepsa
- Charles & Carol Wallen
- Charles & Janice Lorentz
- Joan Janz
- Fred & Janet Staff
- Diane Bohnstedt
- Linder & Kathleen Benson
- Kathy Nelson
- Robert & Judith Pielhop
- Laura Ripienski
- Patricia Prissel
- Craig & Janet Adams
- James & Lynn Gullicksrud

In Memory of Yvonne Nixdorf
- Pat Garber

Library:
In Memory of Phyllis Grohn
- Karla Halloin

In Memory of Jerry Dow
- Ed & Mary Elworthy

Caring For Creation Committee:
In Memory of Dwayne & Eleanor Peterson
- Gary & Mary Rambo

Children's Bible Fund:
In Memory of Marj Satre
- Jeanne Cooper

Endowment Trust Fund
In Honor of Pastor Jack Olson
- Warren & Mavis Hermodson

Food Pantry
In Memory of Ron Misselt
- Warren & Mavis Hermodson
- Dave & Chris Gessner
- Paul & Sarah Pedersen
- Steve & Sue Marczinke
- John & Nancee Burbank
- Tim & Amy Benedict
- Sharon DeRusha
- David & Krista Hayman
- John & Margie Larsen
- Linda Hall
- Vicki Dueringer

In Memory of Jane Hartman
- Skip Hartman

In Memory of Phyllis Grohn
- Friendship Group
- Jean Manteufel
- Janice Wnukowski
- Barbara Lee
- Marleen Clark

In Memory of Dorothy Kruschke
- Todd & Peggy Munden

In Memory of Yvonne Nixdorf
- Vicki Dueringer

Scholarship Singers:
In Memory of Yvonne Nixdorf
- Lori Juneau

General Fund
In Memory of Yvonne Nixdorf
- David Hayman

Trinity Senior Choir:
In Memory of Yvonne Nixdorf
- Ron Nixdorf
- Paul Nixdorf
- Leo & Judy Ochrymowycz
- Jon & Maureen Homstad
- James & Kathleen Bartl
- Shirley Parr
- Thomas Rouse
- Patia Hargreaves
- Carol Wallen
- Bev Tamke
- Michael & Amy Zipko
- Sandra Jacobson
- Lee Swan
- Anne Finseth
- Charlotte Finseth
- John & Peg Dimpfel
- Kristen Alvarez
- James Bollinger
- Syver & Cathleen Wilson
- George & Lynne McLeod
- Barb Lee
- Jon & Julie Lau
- Dee Schorr
- James & Connie Beck
- Richard & Sally Schuman
- Llyod & Elaine Peters
- David & Sonia Becker

Music Fund
In Memory of Yvonne Nixdorf
- Warren & Mavis Hermodson

"SERVING IN CHRIST'S LOVE AND SHARING THE GOOD NEWS"

STAY CONNECTED

Find inspiration, updates, and ministry news on our Instagram & Facebook pages:

- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Children, Youth, & Family Ministries
- Noah's Ark Preschool

CONTACT & LOCATION

- Phone: (715) 832.6601
- Website: trinity-ec.org
- Location: 1314 E Lexington Blvd Eau Claire, WI 54701

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Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Director
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CYF Ministry Assistant / emily@trinity-ec.org
Kim Dewey - Ext. 205
Noah's Ark Director; ECE Coordinator
kim@trinity-ec.org
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Noah's Ark Teacher / ginat@trinity-ec.org
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Natasha Durnick
Noah's Ark Teacher / natashad@trinity-ec.org
Grace Park
Early Childhood Enrichment Teacher
Jody Anderson
Early Childhood Enrichment Teacher

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Sue Marczinke - Ext. 211
Food Pantry Coordinator / sue@trinity-ec.org

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Tatyana Roberts
Adult Choir Accompanist
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Kris Pressler
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BUILDINGS & GROUNDS TEAMS

Don Peterson

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Tyler Hahn
Communications Coordinator / tyler@trinity-ec.org

WORLD MISSIONS

Jabneh Christian Academy, Grange Hill, Jamaica
Blantyre Lutheran Parish, Malawi, Africa
Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

- Please submit all articles for the Trinity Tidings electronically via this QR code or on the Trinity website on the "Newsletters" page at the "Communications Request" button.
- All submissions must be your own work. Any copyrighted materials (code, images, or otherwise) must include written permission from the original source.
- Deadline for the Newsletter is the **15th of each month.**