



# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



## SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

September has a way of reminding us that life is always moving into something new. Backpacks come out of closets, school buses return to the roads, classrooms fill with students, and families settle into new routines. There is something holy about a beginning.

Scripture reminds us that God is no stranger to new beginnings. Throughout the Bible, God calls people forward into something they cannot yet fully see. And in Revelation, we hear this beautiful promise: "See, I am making all things new." (Revelation 21:5)

Notice that God doesn't say, "I am making all new things." God says, "I am making all things new."

That means God works with what is already here—even the complicated, broken, and unfinished parts of our lives—to bring about new life. This is good news as we enter a new school year and a new season of ministry together.

For children, September brings new classrooms, teachers, friendships, and challenges. For parents, it can bring both excitement and the realization that our children are growing. For teachers and staff, it brings another opportunity to shape young lives. And for all of us, it is an invitation to notice where God might be doing something new.

So as September begins, perhaps we can ask: Where is God making something new in my life? Where is God making something new among us?

We don't need to have everything figured out. We simply trust that the God who has been faithful in the past is already present in whatever comes next. A new school year. A new season. A new chapter. And underneath it all, the same faithful promise: "See, I am making all things new." May God bless our students, teachers, families, and congregation as we begin again. And may we step into this new season with open hearts, trusting the God who is always making all things new.

Pastor Tom Westcott

### WITH GRATITUDE

Offering Update as of July 31, 2026.

- Amount Budgeted to Date: \$101,873
- Amount Received to date: \$62,148
- Expenses to Date: \$86,957
- Deficit/Surplus: -\$24,809

### 3 Ways to Give at Trinity:

- Scan the QR code
- Text "GIVE" to 715.468.6800
- Click GIVE on [www.trinity-ec.org](http://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



# FRIENDS OF FLYNN

Happy New Year!

Yes, happy new year. Some celebrate a new year on January first. Some celebrate a new year at harvest time, or spring, or the end of the rainy season. School staff, families, and students celebrate a new year when classes begin in the fall. Clean shiny hallways, smiling faces, play at recess, and of course the joy of learning are all part of the celebration of the new school year.

At Trinity we have a social service committee that has "adopted" Flynn Elementary School as a partner. What does the Friends of Flynn Committee do? Goals include, providing food for families on nights and weekends, healthy snacks, free books twice a year, emergency clothing/shoes, and staff appreciation. Through an annual fund raiser in the spring, a grant from Trinity's Endowment Trust, and generous donations throughout the year, we strive for an annual budget of \$6,500 which supports these goals.

Does The Friends of Flynn School Committee Need You? Yes! Below are some ways you could be involved.

1. Volunteer to be on the committee. Your voice is welcomed. Monthly Meetings.
2. Volunteer to work with children in the school. This could be reading to children, helping with the compost program, or more. Background checks are done on all volunteers.
3. Donate tissues and markers now or books and sweat pants and socks later. Students benefit from your gifts that are given directly to them.
4. Donate funds. Your donations help provide food, clothing, snacks, and more for the students.
5. Pray. The staff, students, and families work hard and face many challenges.

If you are interested in being involved with Friends of Flynn in any of the above ways please stop into or call the church office at 715-832-6601 and give your contact information. All are welcomed to be part of the Friends of Flynn!

-Kim Phelps

# ANNOUNCEMENT CENTRAL

## FRIENDSHIP GROUP MEETING

**Wednesday, September 9, 2026**

**Time:** 10:00am

**Location:** Room 208

## ELCA Youth Gathering Info Meeting

**Wednesday, September 9, 2026**

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Location:** Trinity Room

The 2027 Gathering will take place June 28 - July 2, 2027 in Minneapolis. If you, or someone you know, are interested in attending this life-changing event, please attend our informational meeting. Youth participants must be in 8th-12th grade at the time of registration. Contact Katie Conner at [katie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:katie@trinity-ec.org) with any questions.

## TRINITY SERVES THE COMMUNITY TABLE

Thursday, September 10, 2026

Volunteer Sign Up in Clipboard Central

## GRIEF AND LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

**Location:** Trinity Lutheran Church - Fireside Room

**Time:** 10:00am - 11:30am

**Dates:** Third Wednesday of each month (September 16, 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.

## Join Trinity's Weekly Text Study

Thursday Mornings starting at 8:30am - Room 204

This Pastor lead text study dives deeper into the current week's worship service readings. All Are Welcome!

## 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](http://redcrossblood.org)



# LIBRARY TIDINGS

## NEW BOOKS

### ***The Mountains We Call Home* by Kim Michele Richardson**

This historical fiction novel serves as a companion/sequel to *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* and *The Book Woman's Daughter*, following the iconic, blue-skinned packhorse librarian Cussy Lovett. Cussy finds a new calling of bringing books to the prisons of Kentucky and the underserved neighborhoods of downtown Louisville. (FIC RIC)

### ***Meet Me in Paris* by Kristin Harmel**

Nine Americans in Paris. Seven intertwined love stories. One City of Light. Over a few spring days, these connected stories follow an unforgettable cast as each person finds a unique path to happily ever after. (FIC HAR)

### ***Country People* by Daniel Mason**

A comic and life-affirming, *Country People* is the story of a family of four who moves from California to a college town in Vermont for an idyllic year in the country. It explores themes of marriage, parenthood, belief, and the power of storytelling. (FIC MAS)

### ***More Than Enough* by Anna Quindlen**

This contemporary novel centers on Polly Goodman, a high school English teacher whose secure life with her veterinarian husband and tight-knit book club is upended when a joking ancestry kit test result links her to a total stranger. (FIC QUI)

## BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### ***Barn In Fall: Festival Fun on the Farm* by Julie Chambræe Griffith**

This board book for young children is a story of togetherness, autumn harvest, and love. It is written in a lyrical rhyming verse meant to help toddlers with language development and rhythm. (++) FIC GRI)

### ***The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!* by Mo Willems**

*The Pigeon Has to Go to School!* is a humorous children's book written and illustrated by Mo Willems and part of his popular Pigeon series. In the story, the grumpy bird protests going to school because he claims he already knows everything. (++) FIC WIL)

### ***The Scarecrow* by Beth Ferry**

This autumn story follows an unlikely friendship between a scarecrow and a baby crow, exploring love, loneliness, and the joy of helping others. (++) FIC FER)

### ***The One and Only Ruby* by Katherine Applegate**

Book 3 in the One and Only Series follows Ruby, the baby elephant from *The One and Only Ivan* as she reflects on her past in a wildlife sanctuary with her friends Ivan and Bob. (FIC APP)

### ***Dog Man: Big Jim Believes* by Dav Pilkey**

This is the 14<sup>th</sup> graphic novel in the Dog Man series. The story follows Dog Man and his crew as they face the return of the Space Cuties from Space to save a drastically changed city (+ FIC PIL)

## SEPTEMBER BOOK RECOMENDATION

Book Recommendation from Suzanne Becker, Trinity Library Committee Member

### ***Land* by Maggie O'Farrell (FIC OFA)**

I love historical fiction – a story that takes me to another time, engaging and entertaining while teaching me about a time gone by.

*Land* accomplished this and more.

*Land* is the story of a family in the years following the Irish Potato Famine that killed more than a million people and left millions more struggling to survive. Tomas is a cartographer hired by the British to re-map Ireland after the tragedy. While Tomas struggles with feelings of betrayal to Ireland

he also must provide for his wife and four children during a time of great scarcity. The story has multiple timelines, looking back to the horrors of the Famine and forward to the differing journeys that family members take in the years following.

Beautifully written, *Land* is dark and heartbreaking yet filled with moments of joy and remarkable resilience. While I was familiar with the Potato Famine, I finished this book with a deeper understanding of the tragedy's far-reaching effects while being moved by the strength of the Irish people. If you like historical fiction, I encourage you to visit the Trinity Library and check out *Land*.

## TRINITY BOOK CLUB

Trinity Book Club resumes for the fall of 2026 with our September book, *Culpability* by Bruce Holsinger.

This book is a thought-provoking novel about a family drama exploring moral responsibility in the age of Artificial Intelligence after a fatal crash involving a self-driving minivan. The book follows the Casidy-Shaw family as they confront secrets and ethical dilemmas during a week-long recovery, with each member implicated in the accident, forcing them to question their roles and technology itself. Praised as a thriller that delves into AI, technology addiction, and complex parent-child relationships.

Join us on Monday, September 21 at 6:30 in Room 208 for what should be a very interesting discussion. Sign-up at Clip Board Central. Everyone is welcome!

## SEPTEMBER CORNER CUPBOARD

WE NEED YOUR FRESH PRODUCE!

Do you ever find yourself with an excess of vegetables from your garden? Your freezer is full, you have run out of canning jars, and your neighbors lock their door when they see you coming with a box of greens? Instead of tossing these fresh vegetables into the compost pile, please consider bringing them to Trinity's Food Pantry.

### EVENTS

Presentations about the food pantry were done to all the VBS kids. The kids (all ages) put together a meal in a bag kit with food donated by our members, purchased thru Feed my People and food purchased with monetary donations for "Chicken Cobbler." The kids put together 150 meal kits nearing 1000 pounds of food. Thanks to all donations that helped make this happen.

The VBS kids collected food donations of 96 pounds and monetary donations of \$430 during VBS week!

What a great surprise for our pantry.

### COMMUNITY

Spirit Lutheran Church Confirmation Class volunteered to work a pantry and allow our volunteers to enjoy an afternoon off.

Northwestern Bank donated a food credit to our account at Feed My People.

Presbyterian Church continues to host monthly food drives and donate fresh produce from their gardens.

### ACTIVITY/FINANCIAL

Number of families served - 5,100  
Current dedicated acct. balance - \$53,300  
Average families served each week - 171  
Total food costs for year of 2026 - \$34,000  
Total pounds of food distributed - 165,000

## FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Volunteer needed to help unload the weekly delivery on Monday Mornings. Must be able to lift heavy items like cans and milks jugs. The position is every Monday for one hour.

Contact Sue Marczinke in interested:  
sue@trinity-ec.org

# CARE & CONCERN

## SEVEN BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS:

In preparing for another school year, ensuring children's safety and well-being is a top priority. Whether your child is heading to kindergarten or high school, here are some essential safety tips for parents to remember as the school year begins.

**Open Communication:** Encourage your child to share with you any concerns about safety, interactions with peers, or unusual incidents. When you know how they are feeling, you can address issues promptly. You may also want to ask the school how your child can report safety concerns.

**Safe Routes:** If your child walks or bikes to school, help them plan safe routes that minimize exposure to busy roads and dangerous intersections. Practice the route together until they are comfortable navigating it independently. Remind them to wait in well-lit areas, cross streets at designated crosswalks, and avoid distractions like headphones while walking near traffic. ([www.saferoutesinfo.org](http://www.saferoutesinfo.org))

**Personal Safety:** Review personal safety with your child, regardless of age. Be careful using the popular term "Stranger Danger" as statistically; most child abductions are committed by someone they know. Provide your child with a list of trusted adults they can contact in an emergency.

**Internet Safety:** For children with access to the internet, educate them about online safety. Teach them to protect their personal information, avoid sharing sensitive data, and recognize potential online threats. Consider installing parental control software.

**Emergency Contacts:** Make sure your child knows their full name, your contact information, and an emergency contact's details. Encourage them to memorize these details in the event they need help and cannot access their phone.

**Bullying Awareness:** Discuss bullying with your child and emphasize treating others with kindness and respect. Encourage them to report any bullying incidents to a trusted adult, whether they are a victim or a witness.

**Emergency Preparedness:** The beginning of the school year will likely include a review of emergency procedures at your child's school. Talk with your child about emergency preparedness to help ensure their safety. By discussing scenarios, creating a plan, and emphasizing the importance of staying calm, you empower your child to respond effectively in unexpected situations.

# CARE & CONCERN

## IMMUNIZATIONS

Revised immunization schedules have been in the news this week. This is a personal plea from an adult who lived through measles, mumps, and chickenpox, who knew people who had polio. Please follow the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations. The AAP immunization schedule provides recommendations that are rooted in science and best for US children. The AAP schedule was endorsed by 12 health professional societies and differs from the CDC immunization schedule.

## September is National Suicide Prevention Month

You can make a difference! The following are risk factors and how you can help a loved one who may be thinking of suicide. Risk factors include the following: Significant life stressors such as legal problems, financial difficulty, relationship difficulties, unemployment, and other highly stressful life events can increase the risk associated with these underlying factors. 1) Major depression or bipolar disorder. 2) Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder or Traumatic Brain Injury. 3) Problems with alcohol or drugs. 4) Unusual thoughts and behavior or confusion about reality. 5) Personality traits that create a pattern of intense, unstable relationships or trouble with the law. 6) Impulsivity and aggression, especially along with a mental health disorder. 7) Previous suicide attempt or family history of suicide attempt or mental health problems.

How to Help: Suicide is preventable and interventions can save lives. Fifty to seventy-five percent of all people who attempt suicide tell someone about their intention. Take all threats of suicide seriously. Those who talk about suicide or express thoughts of wanting to die are at risk and need your attention. Here is how you can help. 1) Asking someone if they are thinking about suicide can help. By providing an opportunity to open up and share their troubles, you can begin to lessen their pain and find solutions. 2) Talk to the person you are concerned about and ask questions. 3) Take the suicidal person to a walk-in clinic or the emergency room, call 988 (emergency suicide prevention line) or 911. 3) Encourage open conversation about symptoms and problems with a physician or mental health provider. 4) Help the person find effective clinical care for mental and physical health and seek treatment for problems with drugs and alcohol. 5) Provide support through the recovery process 5) Help maintain important connections to family, friends and the wider community.

## 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.

## CAREGIVER CORNER

September is Caregiver Self Care Awareness month.

### **Take Care of Yourself:**

“Don’t forget to take care of yourself,” they say, looking pityingly into my dark circle-ringed eyes. I see their Concern, Sincerity, Worry. But I wonder, Do they think it was a reminder I needed?

A few years ago my path crossed with Allison Breininger, an amazing woman who is the caregiver for her husband who has a rare disease. Every month I go to her website: [thenegativespace.life](http://thenegativespace.life) and find the most useful and realistic information for caregivers. If you are a caregiver, you need to take the time to visit her website.

The following are questions from her website for reflecting on self-care. Please take the time to reflect on at least one question.

- What does it feel like when someone says, “Don’t forget to take care of yourself!” What do you wish you could say to that person?
- In what ways has caregiving impacted your physical, emotional, and mental health?
- How does it feel to read that some studies call the caregiver “the next patient”?
- The anchor phrase for this chapter on self-care is “My well-being matters too.” Do you believe that?
- What might happen if you continue on the same trajectory you are currently on?

## VISITATION MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Looking for individuals to make homebound visits to deliver communion and connection.

Contact Pat Garber if interested:  
(715)835-5801 or [garberpa@uwec.edu](mailto:garberpa@uwec.edu)

# ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2027

*To God – whose power now at work in us  
can do immeasurably more than we ask or  
imagine. Ephesians 3:20 (Inclusive)*

**Imagine more love.  
Imagine more welcome.  
Imagine more joy.  
Imagine more courage.**

**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  
attend our informational meeting on  
Wednesday, September 9  
at 6:00 pm in the Trinity Room.  
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'S BIBLE FUND

Each fall, Trinity blesses dozens of children  
with new Bibles as a fulfillment of the  
promise that is made in baptism to  
*"place in their hands the holy scriptures."*  
Please consider donating to the Children's  
Bible Fund. Donate online or by check with  
the memo: Children's Bible Fund.  
Thank you for Giving!

## CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

Trinity will be hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Fall  
Celebration of Arts sponsored by Immanuel  
Lutheran. The Event will be held on  
Sunday, October 18, 2026.  
If you are an artist and are interested in  
displaying or selling art contact:  
Kriss Webert at kriss.webert@gmail.com

## SPONSOR DONUTS & COFFEE

Sign Up to sponsor the Donuts & Coffee  
on a Sunday Morning.



Sponsorship costs  
\$50.00 and can be  
signed up for at  
Clipboard Central.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

## 2026-2027 Faith Formation

Faith Formation opportunities begin in September for children  
preschool age through high school and registration is now available!  
Please register by September 6 at [www.trinity-ec.org/register](http://www.trinity-ec.org/register).

## Be a Faith Formation Teacher!

Consider being part of the team that shares the Good News with our  
children every week! Sunday School teachers are needed on Sunday  
mornings from 8:50-9:35 am. Teaching materials, supplies, and  
support are provided. Because we'll have family faith formation  
classes on the first Sunday of each month, classroom teachers will  
only teach an average of 3 times each month. Teachers are also  
needed for Connections (Pre-Confirmation, grades 5-6) classes on  
Wednesday nights from 6:45-7:45 pm. Faith Formation classes begin  
mid-September and run through April.

Consider finding a partner to share the job! Adults and youth (high  
school age or older) are invited to volunteer as teachers. This is a great  
opportunity to serve in Christ's love and share the Good News! Sign-  
up in the lobby or contact Katie Conner at [katie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:katie@trinity-ec.org).

## Teacher Orientation – Sunday School/Connections

An orientation will be held for Sunday School teachers on Sunday,  
September 6 at 11:00am in classroom 208. Connections teachers will  
have their orientation on Wednesday, September 30 at 6:00pm in  
Classroom 204. Teachers will receive teaching materials, review safety  
procedures, and have time to ask questions. PLEASE make plans to  
attend these important orientations.

## Be a Confirmation Small Group Leader!

This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith while leading a small  
group of enthusiastic students! Confirmation small group leaders are  
responsible for leading a small group of 6-8 students. They participate  
with their group in the large group lesson taught by Pastor Tom and  
then lead a discussion with their small group following the lesson.  
Confirmation meets weekly on Wednesdays, October-April, from  
6:45-7:45 pm. This is a great opportunity to serve in Christ's love and  
share the Good News! Watch for a sign-up in the lobby or contact  
Pastor Tom at [tomw@trinity-ec.org](mailto:tomw@trinity-ec.org).

## Youth Group Kick-Off

On the first and third Wednesday of each month, beginning  
September 2, Trinity will offer a monthly youth group for high school  
students. This group is meant to be a safe place for youth to build  
relationships, learn, and have fun all while growing in their  
relationship with God. Youth of all races, ethnic background, sexual  
orientations, gender identities, economic conditions, and abilities are  
welcome. We love new friends and new faces, so join us in the Youth  
Room (room 306)! No registration is needed.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY

## Trinity Nursery is Open

Sometimes young children (or their caregivers) need a break during worship! Nursery care is available on Sunday mornings beginning September 8 from 8:10-10:45am for children three and under. A trained caregiver provides a safe, nurturing, and grace filled experience for our youngest children.

## Rainbow Bags & Playground Makeover

Our rainbow bags outside of the main doors of the Worship Center and our playground got a small makeover this summer! While you will still find plenty of books to choose from along with coloring materials and many of the typical activities that have been there in the past, we've updated our areas to include items such as: fidget toys, noise dampening headphones, "I Spy" and sensory bottles, building bricks, and more! Children of any age are welcome to use the rainbow bags and playground.

## Engaging Children Initiative

This past spring, Trinity was chosen to be a part of a 10-congregation cohort for the Engaging Children Initiative (ECI). ECI is a program through the La Crosse Area Synod and was created to help equip leaders to creatively engage children in prayer and worshipful experiences through the arts, movement, curiosity, and story. ECI adds connectivity, intentionality, and supportive resources to empower ministry leaders to create spaces where children of all abilities and their families feel truly welcomed in the life of the church. Trinity is one of 5 churches a part of the North Group Cohort (along with Messiah Lutheran in Washburn, Our Saviors in Chippewa Falls, Our Saviour's Lutheran of Holway in Medford, and St. Stephens and St. John's in Edgar). We will be part of ECI now through Summer 2028. To learn more about Engaging Children Initiative, please visit <https://eci.lacrosseareasyndod.org/>.

## 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](http://loppw.org/constitutional-amendments-2026) or use this QR code to access the Constitutional Amendment Voter Guide.



# THE SAINT JOHN'S BIBLE BUS TRIP

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!

## DIRECT LINK TO FALL REGISTRATION FOR CYF ACTIVITIES

Scan this QR code and register for any of the following CYF Activities: Sunday School, Youth Group, Confirmation Classes, Children's Choirs.



## GRIEF CIRCLE

SPONSORED BY NEWMAN PARISH

Six-week Series

Tuesdays from 6:00PM – 8:00PM

September 29, October 6, 13, 20, 27,  
and November 3

Ecumenical Religious Center  
110 Garfield Avenue. Eau Claire, WI 54701

Everyone in the Chippewa Valley is  
welcome to participate.

This group provides a safe place for those experiencing grief and the loss of a loved one. It is a time of learning about grief and the opportunity to share your thoughts, feelings, and concerns with others who understand. The facilitators, Laurie Hittman and Sue Ripp, have experienced the death of parents, a sibling, a child, and friends. The support of others on the same journey can provide a great deal of comfort and healing.

For information or to register, contact:

Laurie Hittman 715-379-4110

[jlhittman1@jlhittman.com](mailto:jlhittman1@jlhittman.com)

Sue Ripp 715-829-3822

[suerippht@charter.net](mailto:suerippht@charter.net)

Registration Due by September 15, 2026

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

## TECH BOOTH VOLUNTEERS

Flexible Commitment: Whether you can volunteer every now and then or a few times each month, your help is greatly appreciated!

Volunteer at either the 8:15 or 9:45 service,  
depending on your preferences!

Email Sue Jensen at [suej@trinity-ec.org](mailto:suej@trinity-ec.org) or  
stop by the tech booth on Sunday  
mornings!

# NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL & EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT

## "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Matthew 5:9

Fall is here at Noah's Ark and in our Early Childhood Enrichment classes! We are excited to welcome children and their families to Trinity through these special ministries. Gina Toutant, Natasha Durnick, Kelly Bruxvoort, Grace Park, Jody Anderson, and I are looking forward to another year of teaching in Noah's Ark Preschool, Come & Play, and Music & Movement. We are excited to welcome the children into our classrooms and share a year filled with fun, discovery, peacemaking, and God's love.

We will begin our Noah's Ark school year September 1-5 with our "Just for Kids" days. These first days will give the children a chance to get comfortable in their classroom, meet new friends, learn our routines, and explore all the fun things Noah's Ark has to offer. We'll spend time creating in our art center, discovering new activities, and enjoying the beautiful fall weather on the playground. It is exciting to think about all the fun, learning, friendships, and peacemaking that will happen at Noah's Ark this year!

Our Come & Play and Music & Movement classes will begin the week of September 8. Families who are enrolled have received letters with information about the start of their classes.

### Fall Class Openings:

Noah's Ark Preschool

Tuesday/Thursday afternoons, 12:45-3:15 p.m.

This class is for children who are 4 years old by September 1, 2026.

The class will have a focus on science, early literacy, and creative arts.

Music & Movement

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

This parent/child class is for children 18-36 months of age. Children will have the opportunity to explore music through songs, dancing, and instruments. We will also have time for free play and discovery, along with some teacher-led activities for parents and children to enjoy together.

If you are interested in learning more about either of these classes or would like to enroll, please contact Kim Dewey, at [kim@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kim@trinity-ec.org) or 715-832-6601, ext. 205.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers as we begin another school year. Please keep our children, families, and teachers in your prayers as we look forward to a safe, fun, and meaningful year filled with learning, God's love, and His promises for each of these precious children of God.

In Peace, Kim Dewey

# MUSIC & PRAISE



Throughout the Bible, we are given instructions to make joyful noises to the Lord, and not just with our voices, but also with instruments and movement! Here at Trinity Lutheran Church, we have many wonderful opportunities to praise God through music. There are opportunities for all ages and talents!

## **Praise Team:**

Trinity's Praise Team helps lead our contemporary worship services with familiar Christian contemporary songs that invite the congregation to praise God together. Each week, singers and instrumentalists—including guitar, bass, drums, and keyboard players—share their gifts in worship. We would love to welcome new voices and instruments to the team! Whether you are able to help for special occasions, occasionally as needed, or on a rotating schedule, there is a place for you. If you're interested, please email Sue Jensen, Praise Team Director, at [suej@trinity-ec.org](mailto:suej@trinity-ec.org), or stop by the band area after worship!



## **Trinity Choir:**

We are eagerly inviting and welcoming singers to sing with the Trinity Choir this Fall as we begin our season with Wednesday rehearsals beginning on September 9, from 6:45 to 7:45 in the choir room (enter through door 1). We invite anyone from confirmation age and beyond to sing in our adult choir. We are in need of singers in all voice ranges. We welcome "snowbirds," singers with busy schedules and occasional conflicts, and offer a special invitation to new members of Trinity. We will be welcoming back our scholarship singers from UWEC who serve as section leaders, cantors, and soloists when needed. If you have questions, please contact Trinity Choir Director, Gary Rambo, at 715-832-4429 or at his new email [gjrambo50@gmail.com](mailto:gjrambo50@gmail.com)



## **Totally Joyous Christians:**

Totally Joyous Christians (TJC) is a choir for children in 3rd-8th grade. We meet in the choir room on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-5:55. We give thanks to God through singing! We build community with each other too! If you love to sing, this group is for you. We sing a few times each semester and put on a musical in April! Soli Deo Gloria!

Director: Corinne Gransee Paral [corinne@trinity-ec.org](mailto:corinne@trinity-ec.org)



## **God's Little Singers**

God's Little Singers (GLS), led by Kris Pressler, is a choir for children in 4K-2nd grade. The choir meets in room 402 on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-5:55. Children learn about God's love through music, story time, and fun activities. GLS sings at the 9:45 service a few times throughout the school year and joins with TJC to put on a musical in the spring! If you have any questions about having your child participate in the choir, please email Kris Pressler at [kris@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kris@trinity-ec.org)



## **CrossWord:**

CrossWord is Trinity's youth band, led by Andy Hofer. Students in 7th-12th grade will practice Christian contemporary songs to lead worship music one Sunday a month during the school year. CrossWord is a great stepping stone for students who are learning musical instruments and want to eventually play with the praise team. If you have a student who is interested in joining the CrossWord youth band, please contact Andy at [andyhofer31@gmail.com](mailto:andyhofer31@gmail.com).



## **Trinity Tollers:**

Trinity Tollers is Trinity Lutheran's handbell choir. The Tollers meet Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm in the Worship Center to rehearse. The Tollers learn beautiful arrangements of classic hymns and play once a month during traditional services. All are welcome, no experience necessary! The Trinity Tollers handbell choir is open to youth going into 7th grade to adults of all ages. If interested in joining, please contact Heidi Wildes at [heidi@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heidi@trinity-ec.org).



# MEMORIALS & GIFTS

## Memorial Fund:

In Memory of Jerry Dow

- Pat Garber
- Don & Jane Krump
- Bev Page
- Kathy Strauch
- David & Susan Sie
- Ron & Yvonne Nixdorf
- Jon & Erica Munger
- Doug & Luann Waller
- Joseph & Megan Munger
- Jeffery & Eileen Munger
- Lawrence & Lynn Block
- Jon & Maureen Homstad
- Dona & Jim Collins
- Rich and Cindy Feldt
- Gloria Crossman

In Memory of Marj Satre

- Franciscus Family
- Scott & Andrea Jadeke
- Donna Gilbertson
- Family & Friends of Marj
- Don & Laura Talley
- Steven & Anne Josephson
- Marg Hanson
- Sandre Jacobson
- John & Sally Snyder
- Jeff & Lisa Goetz
- Brian & Cheri Fochs
- Patricia Henke
- Kevin & Joy Potter
- Joel & Mary Roesch
- Michael & Michelle Richards
- Robert & Beatrice Frazee
- Mark & Marti Hofer
- Cynthia Hofacker
- Todd Tischer
- Jon & Maureen Homstad

In Memory of Phyllis Grohn

- James Urness & Dorothy Sorlie
- Jennifer Gullicksrud
- Pat Garber
- Paula Ovaska
- Konrad & Sandra Thorson
- Cathy & Jeff Reitz

In Memory of Ginny Lien

- Jeanne Cooper

In Memory of Doreen Barberg

- Laura Rapienski

In Memory of Marlene Larson

- Jon & Maureen Homstad

## Endowment Trust Fund:

In Memory of Marj Satre

- Barb Tischer

In Memory of Jerry Dow

- Dennis & Peggy Larson

## Food Pantry

In Memory of Jerry Dow

- Susan Schaefer
- James & Marilyn Bollinger
- Gale & Jan Otterholt
- David & Christine Gessner
- Ron & Marilyn Thompson
- Gary & Mary Rambo
- Ronald Hoepner
- Tom & Sheila Zahorik
- Lou Kelsey

In Memory of Marj Satre

- Todd & Peggy Munden
- Sharon DeRusha
- Gary & Mary Rambo
- Tom & Sheila Zahorik

In Memory of Phyllis Grohn

- Ron & Marilyn Thompson
- Steve & Sue Marczinke
- Mary & Gary Rambo
- Sharon DeRusha
- Todd Munden
- Lou Kelsey

In Memory of Charlie Ellis

- Steve & Sue Marczinke

In Memory of Rhonda Chapek

- Steve & Sue Marczinke

In Memory of Ron Misselt

- Lou Kelsey
- Bruce & Sue Strangfeld

## Friends of Flynn:

In Memory of Marj Satre

- Erik & Kim Phelps

## Community Table:

In Memory of Phyllis Grohn

- Shirley Parr
- Paul & Amber Moltzau
- David & Krista Hayman

## Quilters:

In Memory of Jerry Dow

- Beverly Tamke

## Children's Bible Fund:

In Memory of Jerry Dow

- John & Nancee Burbank

## Library:

In Memory of Jerry Dow

- Loreen Juneau
- Susan Schaefer
- Jeff & Vicki Dueringer
- Mark & Suzanne Becker
- Warren & Mavis Hermodson
- Ron & Mary Doering
- Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- David & Sonia Becker
- Mary Dixon
- Norbert & Helen Wurtzel
- Barb Lee
- Sandra Jacobson
- Erik & Kimberly Phelps
- Paul & Amber Moltzau

In Memory of Marj Satre

- Loreen Juneau
  - Jeff & Vicki Dueringer
  - Mark & Suzanne Becker
  - Norbert & Helen Wurtzel
  - Barb Lee
  - Paul & Amber Moltzau
  - Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In Memory of Phyllis Grohn
- Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

## Advent Tea:

In Memory of Phyllis Grohn

- Scott & Andrea Jadeke

## IM Church:

In Memory of Phyllis Grohn

- Paul & Sarah Pedersen



# Friendfest 2026

**Sunday, September 13, 2026**  
11:00am - 1:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church



Music by Paul Bontemps



Dessert Auction

(Free-will Donation Welcome)

## Food for All

Hot Dogs & Brats  
Chips & Snacks  
Ice Cream Sandwiches  
Lemonade & Water

## Games & Activities

For Kids: Bubble Bash, Toddler Bouncy  
Obstacle Course, Mini-Carnival Games  
Competitions: Gagaball, Pickleball,  
Cornhole

## Dessert Auction:

Starts at 11:30am  
Featuring Homemade Cakes & Pies with  
proceeds to benefit Trinity's Food Pantry

## Worship:

One Combined Sunday Morning Worship  
10:00am Friendfest Worship Service



Hot Dogs & Brats

**Trinity Lutheran Church - 1314 E. Lexington Blvd. Eau Claire**

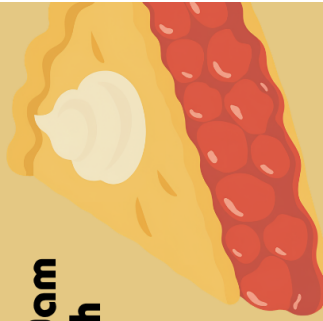
# Dessert Auction Friendfest 2026

**Sunday, September 13, 2026**

**Auction Begins at 11:30am**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**

*You're Invited to the SWEETEST  
part of FriendFest!*

*This mouth-watering event will feature homemade cakes and pies lovingly donated by church members and friends from the community. From Grandma's apple pie to triple-layer chocolate cake, you never know what delicious treasures you'll find.*



**All Proceeds Benefit**  
**Trinity's Food Pantry**

Want to Donate a Dessert?  
Sign Up at

trinity-ec.org/FriendFest

Dessert Delivery Dates:

Saturday, September 12 from 10:00am - 12:00pm  
Sunday, September 13 from 9:00am - 9:45am  
(Deliver to Trinity Room)



**Trinity Lutheran Church - 1314 E. Lexington Blvd. Eau Claire**

# "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](http://trinity-ec.org)
- Location: 1314 E Lexington Blvd  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

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**Grace Park**  
Early Childhood Enrichment Teacher  
**Jody Anderson**  
Early Childhood Enrichment Teacher

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**Tatyana Roberts**  
Adult Choir Accompanist  
**Gary Rambo**  
Trinity Choir Director / [gjrambo50@gmail.com](mailto:gjrambo50@gmail.com)  
**Heidi Wildes**  
Trinity Tollers Director / [heidi@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heidi@trinity-ec.org)  
**Andy Hofer**  
CrossWord Director / [andyhofer13@gmail.com](mailto:andyhofer13@gmail.com)  
**Corinne Gransee Paral**  
TJC Director / [corinne@trinity-ec.org](mailto:corinne@trinity-ec.org)  
**Kris Pressler**  
GLS Director / [kris@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kris@trinity-ec.org)

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**Mike Hollars**

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## 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 **15<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

