

TRINITY TIMES

September 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Trinity Lutheran Church Brooks AB



trinity_brooks_ab



Brooks Trinity Lutheran Church - YouTube

Pastor's Note



Do you recognize this sign? Agonizing over my pastor's letter for September I took a break and meandered through the fellowship hall as I do when I hit writer's block. I looked up and noticed (again) that the left side of this banner was coming loose. And in that wee observance I knew what this letter should be about – God's purpose for our church and how long it has been since we have spent quality time wrestling with (striving over) what that means for us today.

These banners went up many years ago and a great deal of time, prayer, faith and wrestling went into the final product. This is the way of God's people – praying, believing, wrestling and affirming our walk with Christ as a gathered community of faith, even as we are always changing and re-arranging. We are held to Jesus' own words as to what it is we are to be about as His body, the Church. He is very clear in Matthew 28:16-20, as He begins with these words – "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations". A disciple is one who believes in and assists in spreading the teachings (doctrine) of another. One definition of a Christian disciple is one who has been made a new creation in Christ, who is following Christ and who is committed to the mission of Christ. Jesus told his followers on the mountain as He prepared to return to His Father, 'go' and 'make' disciples of all nations. As they returned to their daily lives and as they went to new places, they had a mutual purpose, a calling, a commissioning by Christ to be making disciples. And here is the phenomenally cool thing about this – we do too!

How? How is this done, this disciple making? Who has that kind of power or authority to 'make' someone be something? Jesus goes on to tell them how this will be accomplished. "Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." Disciples are made in baptism and nurtured through the teaching of God's two Words of Law and Gospel. God by His Holy Spirit working through baptism and the efficacy of God's Word makes disciples – transforming sinners into children of God, who are also heirs of salvation and bearers of the Gospel, the Good News of Christ. God nurtures and sustains His people at the table of the Lord where we receive forgiveness of sins through Christ's own body and blood given in, with and under bread and wine. This is us – the body of Christ called and commissioned.

Now back to our sign which is drooping! When was the last time we gathered and wrestled with God's purpose for us here at Trinity? Think about it. When did you last give of your time and your gifts to join your faith family in taking stock and re-affirming the Lord's vision for our ministry here in Brooks. In Proverbs 29:18 we read, "without a vision the people perish." Fall is the beginning of a new season. Each of our families are 'visioning' what this coming year will look like for them. What sports will be played, what extra-curricular activities will happen, which exercise class to take, what trips will be taken and what projects undertaken. This all requires visioning – looking forward into the future where time keeps on slipping. It needs planning, commitment and follow-through with intentionality or it WILL NOT HAPPEN.

Consider the sign above. Does it speak clearly about whose we are and what we have been commissioned to do? Is God's purpose for our church to 'love one another' only? Are we a congregation faithful and eager for worship, for study, for fellowship and service? I believe we are, yet I know we would benefit greatly from some wrestling and intentional effort in our follow-through. The power to make disciples who then grow in trust and faith is always God's. God has chosen to work through the means of Word and Sacrament. It is uncanny how our faith deepens when we are consistently in His Word, with His people and dining at His table. It is a God designed thing actually! When we are distracted by so many other things we are the ones who miss out on all God has in store for us.

(Continues on page 3)

**BAPTISM TALK-ABOUT
&
BRUNCH WITH YOUR PASTOR**

Baptism is God's precious gift to us. Many have asked me how one goes about being baptized – awesome question. If you are not baptized and would like to have more information and a chance to talk about what God's Word says about this phenomenal gift of God's grace and what it means for you, then please join Pastor Maggie for lunch on Sunday, **September 28th following outdoor worship** at Veteran's Park. Let's do **Denny's (bar side)** for yummy brunch at 11:45 am. Bring your questions, bring yourself, bring your appetite and let's dig into some good talk about Jesus, baptism and you. (It is one of her favourite things to talk about)



**WORSHIP
IN THE PARK**

Veteran Park -
Downtown Brooks

10:00am

September 28

All are welcome at
Worship!
Bring a friend, your
lawn chair and dress
for the weather.



Mark Your Calendar



**Confirmation/Youth
September 5-7**

We will have the Sacrament Retreat at SABC (Southern Alberta Bible Camp). This is a fun weekend of study and activities. All confirmands are required to attend to be confirmed. Teens are also invited to join in the fun. Registration forms are at the church or follow the blue QR. **We leave at 4:45pm**



Starts September 14

That's right Sunday school is starting back up. This year the times are as follows:

- **Grade 5 - Adult at 9:00am**
- **Age 3 - Grade 4 during Worship following Children's Story**

Both adult and youth training **needs to be done annually** even if you have done it before you must attend one this year,

**Youth Grade 7-12
September 12**

OHYO is holding their annual backyard Bash at Ropp's on the Duchess highway. It runs from **7-10pm**. We invite you to come have some amazing fun with your friends and meet new friends while being encouraged and inspired for this school year. There will be human foosball, giant billiards, 9-square, hay rides, music, food, laser tag, God talk and much more! Follow the orange QR to register or get more information.



Collecting until September 14

Trinity is doing a back to school drive for school supplies to give to teachers so that they have them on hand for kids who don't have them. We have talked to teachers and gotten a list of the most needed items and there are flash cards at the church office with items you can pick up or we also have an Amazon wish list which you will find when you use the QR code below. Let's help set up teachers and students for a great year ahead.



Ladies

The next Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) meeting
September 17 at 1:00pm
All women are invited

AGAPE (Ladies Bible Study)

Wednesdays at 9:30am

Starts September 10

Ladies of all stages of life are welcome.

Quilters

Quilting begins again September 9th.

Tuesdays 10:00am - 3:00pm



It is a come and go when you can. All levels of experience are welcome. Talk to Sue Armstrong if you have any questions.

Ladies & Mens Study

Here are a few options to dig deeper into the word:

Ladies : Wednesdays at 9:30am

Men: meet Wednesdays at 7:00pm

(Talk to Harold about start up date)

Young adults: Talk to Liam or Maddy

All Adult: Sundays at 9:00am

Thursday Sept 18 & 28 at 6:30pm



Youth

Sunday at 9:00am

Starting September 14 study for grade 5+ will begin. Come and meet your teachers and dig into God's Word.

Confirmation

Confirmation will start up again September 10 at our regular class time of 4:30pm -6:30pm.



SAVE THE DATE September 5-7 we will have the Sacrament Retreat at SABC. All kids are required to attend to be confirmed. We leave at 4:45pm



Youth Campfire & Wide Games

Sept. 20 @ Kroschel's

5:30pm-8:30pm

Join us for an evening filled with laughter, wide games, and s'mores around a crackling fire.

Talk to Liam or Maddy if you need directions.



Youth Game Time

Sept. 28 @ the church

1-3pm



Get ready for an afternoon of fun Mario Kart and Board Games!

(Continues from page 1)

As Fall begins, I ask you to be ardent in prayer about the following. What are the current needs in our community? Who are those that need our love and service? Where might we 'go' and make disciples by sharing the Gospel? How might we do that? Come and share your thoughts and ideas.

Let's also take stock individually. If you are not involved in a weekly Bible study, then ask yourself 'why am I not'? Is your response to all of God's good gifts to you minimal or sacrificial? Are you willing to gather and wrestle with Trinity's future directions? How do we move forward into the unknown together? Come and share your wrestling with me – that's what pastors are for! Let's pray together. Share your ideas with members of Council. In the last verse of Matthew 28:16-20 Jesus shares a command with a promise. His command is for us to 'remember', to never lose His final words, "I am with you always, to the end of the age." In this promise is the strength, courage and hope that enables us to indeed vision together, to 'go' as He leads us and to 'make disciples' as Jesus commanded – baptizing and teaching. We who are known by Christ are to be ever open to and busy with all the ways in which we may share the Gospel and make Christ known to others. If we are not moving forward, then we are standing still, and the word 'go' clearly warns us from complacency.

It is indeed a new season coming – of crisp mornings and glorious colours, of school buses and activities galore. May we be open to where the Lord is leading us and bold to step out in faith proclaiming Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again, Come Lord Jesus! In God's grace and faithfulness day by day, humbly yours, PM, sinner and saint

NOTE FROM CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

As your Church Council President and also as the Chair of the Transition Team, I would like to update you on some of the exciting things that have been happening over the last few months. As you are aware, the Transition Team was formed about six years ago with the purpose of searching for a lead pastor for our congregation. At that time, Pastor John indicated that he would like to move towards retirement with a reduced workload, and Pastor Maggie was called to become our Pastor while we looked for a Senior Pastor. She was willing to become our Pastor with the plan that when a Senior Pastor was called, she would step into an Assisting Pastor role, and we would thus have two pastors for our congregation. Our congregation certainly is large enough to warrant two pastors.

While the Transition Team has been very active in looking for a pastor to call, many things seem to have been in our path. The Covid Pandemic certainly interfered with any pastor being open to move to a new congregation. There is a severe shortage of pastors these days, and God has not to this date led us to one who would be willing to relocate and who was a fit for our needs.

While we continue to search for a pastor to call, we have also looked at other ways that the congregation's needs can be met.

These are the things that have happened which we pray will help us to grow as a congregation and to follow Jesus's direction to bring the good news of a Saviour to our community.

- Sarah Summach is in the position of Worship and Communications Minister. Sarah is involved in planning worship services, ensuring that our communication to congregants is current and available, and coordination and planning with the music and sound room volunteers. She has an amazing capacity to ensure that our worship services and other activities are coordinated with Pastor Maggie. We are so very blessed to have Sarah's wisdom and knowledge at work in our congregation!
- Maddie Anderson has been our Parish Worker for most of the past two years. In a part time position, she has been assisting with youth programming, visiting members at home and working with newcomers in an English as a Second Language program. Maddie is a graduate of CLBI (Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute). We are blessed to have her in our congregation and appreciate her quiet and loving approach to all she does.
- Rebecca Saltvold- VBS and Youth ministry for the Summer 2025: Rebecca was with us for three weeks to help with VBS and other Youth related activities. We are thankful for Rebecca's willingness to help us during a very busy time of the year!

- Erin Haag, who has been a member of our congregation for several years is now married and living in Kamloops. She has made the prayerful decision to begin her education with ILT (Institute of Lutheran Theology), a US based Lutheran online education that will give her a Master of Divinity on completion. We were able to assist her through our TLC Scholarship Fund. Our prayers are with Erin as she begins this exciting journey in her life.
- Liam Anderson, has indicated an interest in furthering his education through CLBI (Canadian Lutheran Bible Institute), focusing on Youth Ministry. This program requires that the student have a host congregation and mentors in that congregation. Liam will be hosted by our congregation and will be mentored by Pastor Maggie and Pastor John. Liam also has received support for his tuition through the TLC Scholarship Fund. While Liam is working on his courses he will be employed part time by our congregation to be a Ministry Intern (Youth and Family). You will see him working with the Youth and involved in worship services. We are so fortunate to have Liam in our midst, full of energy and willing to be ministering to our Youth!
- Pastor Ed Skutshek, who lives in Kelowna, has been the Transition Team's advisor and guide. He has helped us to interview potential pastoral candidates for call and has been a wise resource as we work through the challenges of our search. We are thankful for his guidance and wisdom. And just an interesting note, he is currently the serving Pastor for the Kamloops St. Andrew's Lutheran Church and is Erin Haag's mentor for her studies with ILT!
- Pastor Maggie and Pastor John are our current pastoral team. Pastor Maggie is our Senior Pastor and Pastor John is Pastor Emeritus. We are so blessed by God to have them as our pastoral team! Pastor Maggie gives countless hours preparing for our worship services, caring for our congregation in sickness and in health, and in guiding us as we move along the path that God has for us. Pastor John continues to assist with needs in our congregation and support for Pastor Maggie.

As you can see, we are a busy congregation. Although God has not seen it as time to provide us with a pastor to call, He has guided us into different ways to meet the needs of our congregation and community. We are contributing to the training and education of future pastors, and that is such an important thing for us to do!

Please ask questions of me, your Council, and Transition Team. We need your prayers and your input into the plans for our congregation. God is leading us and in confidence we will continue to move forward!

With God's Blessings. Leona Ferguson

Have you ever committed Bible Roulette?

Have you ever opened your Bible and asked the following or similar questions: What does this passage really mean? How does it apply to my life?

[These questions are from a study Bible (in this case the Life Application Study Bible). While there are many study Bibles, I would recommend the Lutheran Study Bible as the perspectives in it reflect the teachings of our church more closely.]

I contend that many of us stop reading the Word of God on a regular basis and thus play the guessing game (Bible roulette). What we really need is to dig deeper into striving to hear the Creator and understanding His Word to us! Because of the many pressures in life many of us haven't taken advantage of daily reading of the Scriptures, often and with good reason called devotions.

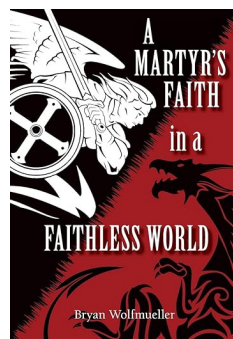
God urges us to rely upon and apply His Word in passages such as 1 Corinthians 10:11, Romans 15:4 and 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Even so some stop with accumulating Bible knowledge. Having Bible knowledge is a good thing but it's even better when that knowledge is used to share its application and to exhort us to put it into practice. The study and application of God's Word is a usual part of one's relationship with Him. The difficulty we may often have in understanding and applying the Bible to our lives is not the Bible itself. It usually reflects the reader's inability to bridge the gap between the past and the present, the conceptual and the practical. It is important to understand that it isn't up to us to create an understanding of the Word. God the Holy Spirit supplies the grace and ability to do so through the Word itself, providing the interpretation of His meaning through the whole Bible. That is, the Bible interprets itself!

Hopefully this is an encouragement to engage in God's Word both at Trinity (especially through the women's, men's, adult and youth group studies) and within our families and community. Wishing you God's blessings as you read and study,

Harold Stedel



Links to [Lutheran Study Bible App](#)



Adult Study

Thursdays
SEPT 18 & 25
OCT. 9, 16 & 23

Starts at
6:30 – 8:30 PM
LED BY PASTOR MAGGIE

Who are your heroes? Your answer says a lot about you. "We live in the shadows of our heroes. We look up to them. We try to live like them. Our heroes encourage and inspire us."

We will explore our own heroes and consider the heroes of our time. We will take a deeper look at Heroes of the Faith biblically and across the ages. The study will be divided into 5 parts as follows:

- Part 1: The World is always opposed. (Chapters 1-4)
- Part 2: The Bird is the Devil (Chapters 5-12)
- Part 3: The Assault of Suffering (Chapters 13-16)
- Part 4: In the Weeds (Chapters 17-19)
- Part 5: Good Dirt (Chapters 24-27)

PREPARATION FOR THIS STUDY:

1. Have a copy of the small but impacting book above. (Use the QR code below to go to Amazon. Also available on Kindle & Audio Books)
2. Read Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; and Luke 8:4-15

WHO IS THIS STUDY FOR?

Adults who are eager (and/or are experiencing a need) to dig deeply into God's Word.

"The goal of each Christian is to make it to the end of life still trusting in God's promises." – pg. 15 in the book.

In this study we will consider Stephen, Perpetua, Polycarp, Romanus, and Agatha, along with other heroes in the faith, and grow in understanding that they are not defined by their achievements, but by the power of faith that God worked within them. These martyrs demonstrate the heroism of following Christ with humble hearts in the face of affliction and suffering. Each martyr stands as a testament to the bold rejection of sin, patient endurance through affliction, and firm grounding in the ultimate hope and joy of heaven. Wolmueller expertly combines practical principles, Church history, and a rich use of Scripture to provide encouragement for the Christian's struggle against suffering and sin. We pray to grow in strength and the ability to look to Christ, who completed the greatest act of heroism in His saving death and resurrection.

QR to order book



WORSHIP SERVICES SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER DUTIES

September 7 10:00 am with Communion
Acolyte:
Lector: Kristen N
Storyteller: Julie
Sound: Vince
Video: Joey
Worship Assistant: Doug
Ushers: Brad & Kristen Niznik
Scripture Readings: Deut 30:15-20 Philemon 1-21

September 14 10:00 am
Acolyte: Noah D
Lector: Anna M
Storyteller: Pastor
Sound: Dennis
Video: Hazel
Worship Assistant: Brenda
Ushers: Brent Altwasser Family
Scripture Readings: Ezekiel 34:11-24 1 Tim 1:(5-11)12-17

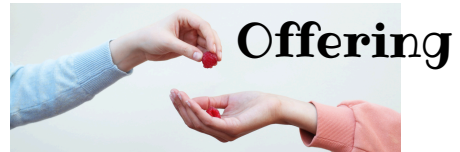
September 21 10:00 am with Communion
Acolyte: Ila D
Lector: Brenda O
Storyteller: Brianna
Sound: Ryan
Video: Joey
Ushers: Elgersma Family
Scripture Readings: Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-13

September 28 10:00 am Outdoor Worship
Acolyte: NA
Lector: Hush R
Storyteller: Julie
Sound: Randy
Video: NA
Ushers: Anne M/Leona F
Scripture Readings: Amos 6:1-7 1 Timothy 3:1-13



Steve Schekk Sept 04
 Leonne Stuart Sept 11
 Leta Babb Sept 15
 Faye Altwasser Sept 17
 Dale Ferguson Sept 17
 Sharon Jensen Sept 18
 Raymond Flatla Sept 20
 Renate Jaspersen Sept 20
 Eileen Criebardis Sept 24
 Lorene Nichols Sept 27
 Marie Garthwaite Sept 28
 Helen Dumontel Sept 30

Jason & Erin Roberts Sept. 03
 Jim & Jeanie Culligan Sept. 04
 Earl & Joy Christman Sept. 05
 Blaine & Kari Bolen Sept. 05
 Jacoby & Lindsay Ernst Sept. 07
 Chris & Aimee Blanch Sept. 07
 Branden & Jade Mitchell Sept. 08
 Jesse & Chantelle Murray Sept. 14
 Travis & Melissa Lutes Sept. 15
 David & Kayla Moore Sept. 18
 Rob & Leiza Clow Sept. 21
 Coltan & Rowan Bosman Sept 21
 Randy Hofer & Joey Armstrong Sept. 22
 Mark & Melanie Altwasser Sept. 24
 Brent Altwasser & Tilly Gamble Sept. 26
 Matthew & Meagan Erlandson Sept. 28



Responding in trust and faith please remember the following ways of supporting your church.

- E-Transfer: tlcoffering@gmail.com (no password required)
- Auto Debit: Contact the church office to receive a form.
- Snail Mail: Mail your cheque to 811 Cassils Road W, Brooks, AB, T1R 0E4

SEPTEMBER

2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 9:00am Worship @ Patricia 10:00am Worship 1:30pm Church of God Worship	1	2 5 8:00pm AA	3 5:30 Board of Ed	4 2:00pm Funeral 8:00pm AA	5 Confirmation/Youth to SABC 4:45pm Gather to leave on Retreat	6
7 10:00am Worship with Communion 1:30pm Church of God Worship Confirmation/Youth to SABC	8 Office Closed 5:00pm Deacon Meeting	9 10:00am Quilting 10:00am Commune at Newbrook 11:00am Commune at Orchard 8:00pm AA Pastor Maggie away	10 9:30am AGAPE 4:30pm Confirmation	11 9:00am NCC Meeting 8:00pm AA	12 7:00pm Backyard Bash	13
14 9:00am Ed Hour gr 5+ 10:00am Worship 1:30pm Church of God Worship 6:00pm Membership Class	15 Office Closed Pastor Maggie off	16 10:00am Quilting 7:00pm Council 8:00pm AA	17 9:30am AGAPE 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Confirmation	18 6:30pm Adult Study 8:00pm AA	19	20 Pastor Maggie off 5:30pm Youth Night
21 9:00am Ed Hour gr 5+ 10:00am Worship with Communion 1:30pm Church of God Worship 6:00pm Membership Class	22 Office Closed Pastor Maggie off	23 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Quilting 8:00pm AA	24 9:30am AGAPE 10:00am Staff Meeting 4:30pm Confirmation	25 6:30pm Adult Study 8:00pm AA	26 Pastor Maggie off	27 Pastor Maggie off
28 10:00am Outdoor Worship 11:45pm Baptism info Brunch 1:00pm Youth Games 1:30pm Church of God Worship	29 Office Closed	30 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Quilting 8:00pm AA	1 9:30am AGAPE 4:30pm Confirmation Pastor Maggie away	2 8:00pm AA	3	4



TRINITY



ADULT STUDY



Thursdays
SEPT 18 & 25
OCT. 9, 16 & 23



Starts at
6:30 - 8:30 PM

LED BY PASTOR MAGGIE

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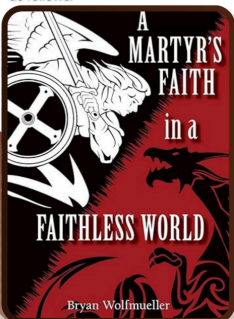
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Preparation for this Study:

- Have a copy of the small but impacting book. (the QR below takes you to amazon.ca)
- Read Matthew 13:1-23; Mark 4:1-20; and Luke 8:4-15

Who is this study for?

Adults who are eager (and/or are experiencing a need) to dig deeply into God's Word.
"The goal of each Christian is to make it to the end of life still trusting in God's promises." pg 15



403-362-4259

brookstrinity.ca

QR to order book



Thinking about being baptized but have some questions?

BAPTISM TALK-ABOUT & BRUNCH WITH YOUR PASTOR

SEPTEMBER 28TH

11:45AM

DENNY'S (BARSIDE)

Bring your questions, bring yourself, bring your appetite and let's dig into some good talk about Jesus, baptism and you. (It is one of her favourite things to talk about)



BACK TO SCHOOL

School Supplies Drive

Collection of donations at Trinity
August 3rd- September 14th

QR code to
Amazon wish list



YOUTH CAMPFIRE & WIDE GAMES



Join us for an evening filled with laughter, wide games, and s'mores around a crackling fire. Talk to Liam or Maddy if you need directions.

20 SEPTEMBER

5:30 - 8:30PM

Kroschel's

brookstrinity.ca

QR code links

Weekly bulletins.



SCAN ME

Weekly blog.



SCAN ME

Monthly newsletter.



SCAN ME

Use your phone camera and tap the link.

YOUTH GAME TIME

Get ready for an afternoon of fun Mario Kart and Board Games!

SUNDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

1-3pm

Talk to Liam or Maddy if interested

