



Weekly Update

Friday, May 15, 2020
Trinity Lutheran Church Tea, SD

Dear Beloved of Trinity,

Each week seems to bring news developments in our Covid pandemic. Our world is changing as restaurants and stores decide how to safely open, as school is winding down for the summer and as churches are exploring reopening. Our Church Council is working diligently to evaluate and plan. We will always keep you informed on what is happening for Trinity.

At times, the news, people's comments on social media, various interviews becomes information overload. We can become overwhelmed with what is truth and what is not. Even the experts change their minds. I don't have an answer for all of that except I know the one thing that does not change...the one thing that is constant. That is the Triune God.

Hebrews 13:8 ⁸Jesus Christ is **the same** yesterday and **today and forever**.

Psalm 102:27 ²⁷But you remain **the same**, and your years will never end.

God is faithful to us always. He remains with us and brings us to a calming peace.

Cling to these promises, my friends. Memorize these 2 verses so they remain in your hearts.

If you are feeling you need a listening ear, please contact either Pastor Tom or me and we can be a listening ear and have a prayer. We love you and care for you.

Be at peace,

Deacon Christie

Tea Area High School Baccalaureate

Thank you to all the graduating seniors and other adults who helped Trinity host the virtual Baccalaureate service for Tea Area High School this week. Each May, one of the local congregations hosts the service. This year was Trinity's turn. Trinity member and TAHS teacher, Mr. John Niesen, gave the message. We could not have presented such a beautiful service without the help of many! All the participants' names are listed in the credits at the end of the video. You can follow this link to see the service on the Trinity Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/teatrinity/videos/296547618013940/>

You can also follow the Facebook page to see the senior spotlights that are highlighting our beloved graduates from all of the high schools that Trinity members attend.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday—5/17 10:30am Worship via Facebook Live

Wednesday—5/20 7pm Sr. High meets via Google Meet

Thursday—5/21 4-6pm Covid –19 Food Giveaway

Sunday—5/24 10:30am Worship via Facebook Live

COVID-19 FOOD RESPONSE

Since we had a successful first food give away through our Covid-19 Food Response, the team has decided to offer it every first and third Thursdays on the month. Our next food give away will be Thursday, May 21 from 4:00 – 6:00pm at Trinity Lutheran. We are happy to be partnering with Feeding South Dakota as we can have access to their commodity food boxes. We are very excited that on May 21, there will, in addition to the regular boxes, there will be fresh produce available in boxes as well. We are still in need of monetary and food donations as we supplement the commodity boxes with additional food items. Thank you for your faithful support of the Food Pantry and in particular, the Covid-19 Food Response. It fills a need for many families during this pandemic.

Friends of Trinity —

A few short months ago, I was standing in front of you expressing my desire to go back to Uganda. Through this education and leadership internship, I was going to spend six weeks serving alongside the staff and friends of AsOne Ministries. As many of you faithfully donated to this experience, I wanted to give an update regarding how my experience has been impacted.

Due to the unfortunate and unexpected rise of the Coronavirus worldwide, as well as the indefinite closure of the Ugandan borders, AsOne Ministries was forced to cancel all travel operations, including their Internships, for the summer of 2020. While this was certainly a difficult decision to arrive at, AsOne believes it was the best decision to ensure the health and safety of their participants, staff, and the communities we serve in Uganda.

However, AsOne Ministries still plans on hosting me in Uganda on a similar Internship experience in the future. With my agreement, AsOne has extended this opportunity through the end of 2022 and will honor all of my fundraising efforts and the donations I have received, including your generous contribution. Once the borders reopen to Uganda - and AsOne has the utmost confidence they can protect the health of their participants to the best of their ability - we will work to reschedule a comparable experience and service opportunity for me in Uganda, one that focuses on my background and desire to serve in education, as well as my own leadership development and formation.

Thank you for your understanding and partnership with me and the ministry of AsOne in Uganda. Please contact me directly with any further questions or concerns. Stay well, Zach Gors 605-212-3755 zach.gors@gmail.com

Week of May 10

\$8,500 Adjusted Weekly Total Expenses

\$9,276 Actual Weekly Total Giving

\$ 776

Thank you for your continued support of our Trinity ministry. Adjusted expenses are what it costs to operate our church during the current pandemic. It does not include costs for any benevolences or programming we have paused. Without in-person plate offerings for the foreseeable future we ask you to find other ways to give.

- On-line Giving: <https://teatrinity.breezechms.com/give/online>
- Text Giving: (605) 777-7223
- Envelopes: Mail to the church at PO Box 37 or slide under the church office door