



Trinity Lutheran Church
605-498-2343
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www.teatrinity.org

TRINITY CONNECTION

OCTOBER 27, 2023

Dear beloved of Trinity,

This Sunday is a big day for us Lutherans. We not only recognize the anniversary of the Reformation but it is also a Milestone Celebration of Confirmation.

A little over 500 years ago, a monk named, Martin Luther, posted on the castle church doors (a common place to post announcements) 95 talking points that he wanted to engage in with the religious leaders of his day. These 95 theses were not received well and essentially, Martin Luther, after a trial, was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church. This was never his intention as he loved the church. But he also couldn't agree with the church as to what constituted forgiveness. Was it an indulgence, a purchased piece of paper or was it a total gift of grace? He was firm that it was grace alone through faith alone.

He never intended to leave the church, only to reform it and that he did. Many agreed with him and those people became known as "Lutherans". Martin Luther did not like that moniker as he did not want to draw attention to himself but to always give God the glory. But the name stuck and we are still called Lutheran today as a result of the reforming that took place.

I am so proud of our 9th graders who are confirming their baptismal vows this Sunday. They have attended 2 years of Confirmation instruction, studying the Small Catechism and other pertinent topics of faith. They have reflected and written a faith paper stating what it is they believe in. They boldly proclaim that they believe in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Confirmation is the launching of their faith as an adult in the church. They become voting members and are expected to continue to grow in faith and contribute to the life of the Trinity family. Many of these confirmands are involved in High School youth group.

I ask 2 things of you this week. Pray for our confirmands. When there is a baptism, I always like to pray, "may they grow in faith as they grow in years." Pray that pray for our 9th graders. Also, pray for the church as a whole. Barna Group has studied the intersection of faith and culture for nearly four decades, with an emphasis on generational trends. They have found that only 1 in 4 Americans is a practicing Christian. (<https://www.barna.com/research/changing-state-of-the-church>) The church across denominations, is in decline. Our prayer this week is that faith is ignited and relationships in Jesus are renewed or created. We are blessed by the growth we experience at Trinity. We are an anomaly. Keep lifting up all ministries and in all things, give thanks.

Thank you, people of God, for your faithful service. Together, we are team Trinity.

In Faith,
Deacon Christie

Church Calendar

Tuesday, October 31

Directory Photos Orders Due

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)

4:00-5:00 pm: Trick or Treat at Trinity

Wednesday, November 1

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

9:00 am: Quilting Group

5:45 pm: Band Rehearsal

6:30 pm: Worship

7:15 pm: Bell Choir Practice, Wednesday Men's Group, KFC - 5th & 6th Grade, Confirmation, High School Milestone

Thursday, November 2

8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)

9:00 am: Over 55 Lefsa Making

11:15 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery

5:30 pm: TOPS

Friday, November 3

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Saturday, November 4

4:00-7:00 pm: Turkey Dinner

Sunday, November 5

8:00 am: Worship, High School Milestone Celebration

9:15 am: Coffee and Cookies; Sunday School; Adult Bible Study; 5th Grade Milestone

10:30 am: Worship (online and in person)

6:00 pm: Men's Choir Rehearsal

7:00 pm: Mixed Choir Rehearsal

Monday, November 6

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

7:00 pm: Bible Crash Course

Tuesday, November 7

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)

7:30 pm: Executive Committee Meeting

Upcoming Important Dates

Nov. 10: Church office closed due to holiday

Nov. 13: Bloodmobile

Nov. 23-24: Church office closed due to holiday

Nov. 30: Trinity Serves at The Banquet

Attendance

Wednesday, Oct. 18 **Sunday, Oct. 22**

6:30 pm: 118

8:00 am: 84

10:30 am: 224

Church Finances

Week of October 22, 2023

Total Operating Cost: \$13,205

Actual Total Giving: \$ 8,671

Difference of: \$ 4,534

Outstanding Expenses: \$35,674

October Globe Offering \$ 582

Total operating cost represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Margaret Larsen at 605-351-8561.

Ways to Give

Online Giving: www.teatrinity.org/donate

Text Giving: (605) 777-7223

Envelopes: In-person or Mail to the church

October Globe Offering

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Prayer Requests

- Sonia Ensz ▪ Ken Kahl▪Greg Myrmoe▪ Ray Kelly
- Melva Hilmoe's brother & Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Michael Schmidt's uncle Larry Schmidt
- Gordon & Dorothy Fritz's son Carl
- Delores Wells' brother-in-law, Jerry Boellaard
- Amy Kuhnert's family member, Jeremy Josephsont
- Larry Panning & Jo Garner's siste
- Melva Hilmoe's friend, Fred Carpenter
- Doug Mette sister and brother-in-law, Gene and June Neises
- Dawn Arp's mother, Darlene Sheeler r-in-law, Pam Panning and niece, Alyssa
- Shirley Oltmann's brother, Kevin Schoffelman
- Gordon Bergjord's family member, John Markstrom
- Rex & Clem Boyd's sister-in-law, Dodie

Trick or Treat at Trinity

Tuesday, Oct. 31
4:00 - 5:00 pm
Trinity's Office



Trick or Treat at Trinity! We invite all ghosts, goblins, super heroes, princesses and everything in between to stop into the office and show us your costume. We can't wait to see you all!



Quilters Group

Wednesday, Nov. 1
9:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall

Join us as we continue to work on putting together more quilts together. No sewing or quilting experience is necessary. All are welcome.

Milestone Ministry

High School Milestone—Balancing Work, School and Play

Lesson : Wednesday, Nov 1

7:15 - 8:15 am

in the Loft

Celebration: Sunday, Nov 5 at 8:00 am or 10:30 am or Wednesday, Nov 8 at 6:30 pm worship

Join Deacon Christie and learn about how to balance work, school and play!

5th Grade Milestone - First Communion

Lesson #1 Sunday, Nov. 5

9:15 - 10:15 am

in the Fellowship Hall

Lesson #2: Sunday, Nov. 12

9:15 - 10:15 am

in the Fellowship Hall

Lesson #3: Saturday, Nov. 18

9:00 am - Noon

in the Fellowship Hall

Celebration:

Sunday, Nov. 19 at 8:00 am or 10:30 am worship or Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 pm worship

Join Deacon Christie and learn about what communion means. In the Lutheran Church, we have 2 sacraments, Holy Communion and Baptism. Each is a gift from God. Communion is not a reward for the completion of these sessions but instead a gift to explore what Holy Communion means to us as believers.

Turkey Dinner and Country Store

Saturday, Nov 4

4:00—7:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

Adults: \$12 | Kids (6-14): \$5 | Kids (5 and under): FREE

Dine in or Carry Out

Join us for our annual WELCA Trinity Turkey Dinner. We will be serving turkey, dressing, corn, mashed potatoes, gravy, coleslaw, dessert and drink. We will also have the Country Store for your favorite homemade baked goods, canning or crafts! There are many areas you can volunteer or you may make a monetary donation to help purchase supplies. Please note "Turkey Dinner" in the check memo line.

The Country Store is also accepting donations of homemade baked goods, canning or crafts.

Trinity Lutheran Blood Drive

Tuesday, November 13
9:00 am - Noon and 1:30 - 5:00 pm
in the East Parking Lot

We will be hosting a Blood Drive once again. The blood bank is looking for a big turnout to boost their low levels. Call the church office to signup!

College Student Care Packages Donations Needed

Donations due to the church office: Sunday, Nov. 19

The Board of Outreach is needing donations of snacks (individual size) to help fill their care packages that will be sent to Trinity's college students! Monetary donations will also be accepted to help buy additional snacks and postage. If you have questions, contact the church office at 605-498-2343

Anniversary Card Shower

Please join us as we congratulate Arlin and Joann Olson on 60 years of marriage!
They were married on Oct. 26, 1963. Anniversary greetings may be sent to:
Arlin and Joann Olson
PO Box 41, Tea, SD 57064

Winter gear now available and accepting donations!

Items most in need:

- **Adult coats (sizes XL, XXL, XXXL)**
- **Kids boots (all sizes)**
- **Kids coats and snow pants (all sizes)**



Board of Outreach is collecting new and gently used cold weather gear in the east entrance of the church and is available to the public. We are currently collecting coats, jackets, snow pants, hats, gloves, and boots that will be made available to our neighbors in the community. Used items are accepted, but please launder before you drop them off. We accept new items as well. Simply drop off the items in the bin in the Gathering Space. If you have questions, contact the church office at 605-498-2343

October Food Pantry Donation: Grape Jelly

With the raising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when shopping to help those in need! In the month of October we will be collecting grape jelly. Donations can be dropped off in the Gathering Space. If you have questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact the church office or call Ruth at 605-321-7325.

Trinity: In It

God has been very generous to the community of Trinity Lutheran Church, and we are grateful. Over the next several weeks we will gather around the theme Trinity: In It Together, with an invitation to reflect and make decisions about how each individual and family will be able to contribute to our shared ministry in the coming year. The important ministries of Trinity are stronger when we are In It Together.

Each year the Board of Stewardship plans a time for us to learn about what scripture teaches about giving and to help us celebrate and support the ongoing and growing ministries of the congregation. As part of this stewardship education, Pastor Tom and Deacon Christie will preach about generosity as an act of worship, as our duty and delight, and as an intentional way of life.

- Here are several practical ways you can take part:
- Read the packet of information that has been sent to households in your email or in a letter that will be in your mailbox this week. Review your Giving Statement updating you on your giving over the past twelve months with a Stair-Step Chart about how members have been giving. You will be invited to move to the next step as you are able. [Click here to view the Stair-Step Giving Chart.](#)
- You will be invited to intentionally think about what you plan to give in the coming year using an Estimate of Giving card that will be provide to each household. [Click here to fill out the form digitally.](#)
- If you give through electronic means and haven't changed your giving in several years, [click here for the authorization form that can help you make any changes.](#)
- As many people have moved away from carrying cash, you now can make financial gifts during worship or at any time through the Venmo app [@teatrinity](#)
- If you are retired and have an IRA, did you know that you can make tax free charitable contributions with the help of your financial advisor?
- If you would like to learn additional skills about being a good steward of all your finances including how to tackle paying off debt, the Board of Stewardship will be offering the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University class this winter. There will be ten full scholarships for this course available. [Click here if you are interested in participating in this course.](#)

Sincerely,
The Board of Stewardship

Trinity Directory Prints

When will I get my photos or printed directory?

- **Photo orders placed after Oct. 31** will be shipped to your home address for a fee.
- **Photo Prints:** The photo prints will be delivered to the church mid-November as a bulk shipment unless otherwise noted in your order. Just in time for Christmas
- **Photo Directory:** The photo directory will be delivered to the church beginning of December as a bulk shipment.
- **Digital Photo Download:** You can download the photo immediately after the photographer releases the order.

What is a Digital Directory?

This is a new option Trinity is offering a digital version of the directory that you can access on your computer, tablet or phone! This will be available mid to late November. Watch your email for more information in the coming weeks.

Having trouble ordering?

- **Sunday Mornings:** Volunteers will be available on Sunday mornings between services to help order your photos, print directory or just ask questions about pricing. Look for the "Church Directory Photo Signup" table in the Gathering Space.
- **By Appointment:** Contact the office and you can set up an appointment, call 605-498-2343.

I didn't get my photo taken, can I submit my own?

Yes! We will accept submitted photos, however they may not be included in the printed directory due to the tight timeline to produce the printed directory. If you would like to submit a photo, please your name and photo to info@teatrinity.org or contact the church office.

Trinity's Wednesday activities are in full swing with KFC, Confirmation and High School Youth!

