

Trinity Lutheran Church

August 2023

Newsletter

Worship Services

9:00 AM, Sundays

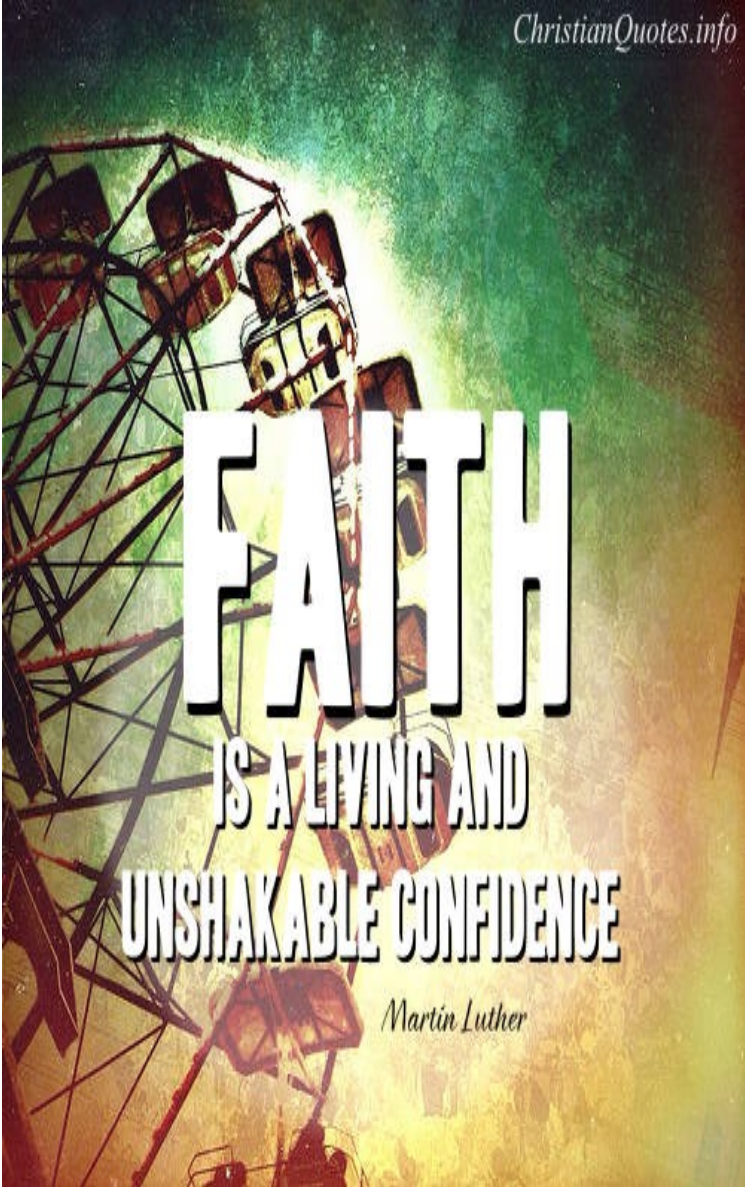
5:30 PM, Wednesdays

Holy Communion at all services.



Don't Keep it to Yourself!

ChristianQuotes.info

A painting of a Ferris wheel with several passenger cars, set against a background of green and yellow. The Ferris wheel is the central focus, with its intricate metal structure and the circular arrangement of the cars. The background has a textured, painterly quality with a gradient from green at the top to yellow at the bottom.

FAITH
IS A LIVING AND
UNSHAKABLE CONFIDENCE

Martin Luther

Walk to Fight Suicide



Out of the Darkness Community Walk: Albert Lea

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Trinity Lutheran Church
Registration at 9am

Register at
afsp.org/albertlea



American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention



OUT OF THE
DARKNESS
Community Walks

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



Sunday, August 20th

9:00 AM Worship Service

Students, teachers, school staff, and everyone who carries something every day to work or play are invited to bring their backpack for a special blessing to start our the school year.

Ruby's
PANTRY

*Please follow the signs
and stay in your
vehicle*

Next drive - thru pantry is:

Saturday August 5th
8:45 am - 10:00 am

For a \$25 cash donation, people can receive an abundance of food. There are no income or residency requirements.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ALBERTLEA
702 HWY 69 S, ALBERT LEA, MN, 56007

Volunteers Needed: Call 507-373-8233



**Mark your calender's
Rally Sunday
September 17th
Nel's Diner will be here!**



Council President

Since our last church newsletter in June, we have had some staff changes at Trinity. Deb Lunn, our Office Manager for the past nine years, resigned her position in July for health reasons. On behalf of the congregation, I want to sincerely thank Deb for her service and dedication to our members. It was a difficult decision, but we wish her the best moving forward. She will be missed.

Also, our Family Ministry Director, Jill Hagen, retired the end of May. She will be spending more time with her family and doing more quilting. However, she has offered to help us with some projects if needed. Jill is a volunteer coordinator for this year's joint August Vacation Bible School. She will be missed on Wednesday evening and Sunday morning. Thank you for your ministry at Trinity.

What does our ministry at Trinity look like moving forward? That is a good question. Do we keep our present staff structure, or do we look at something different? We have been approached by the Synod to explore some shared ministry opportunities with Glenville's First Lutheran Church. The executive committees from our respective churches have met twice in preliminary discussions. No decisions regarding this and future staffing needs have been made, or will be, without congregational input and outreach.

In the meantime, rest assured that the ministry needs of Trinity will be met by Pastor Eileen, current staff, church council, and the many volunteers at church. "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." Galatians 6:10

Blessings,
Ron Petersen
Council President

Finance

A smokey August is upon us, I feel for those who are more affected by the dirty air we have experienced this year because of the wildfires in Canada. Hopefully the air improves as we move to fall. This fall we will have all three of our teenagers at ALHS with my oldest, Stella, being the chauffeur. It is crazy to think back to the Sundays of hauling “the boys” into church service with one of them in a car seat on my lap with a bungy cord tied to it so I wouldn’t drop them. Looking at my letter from last August, this year we are about \$6000 ahead of 2022. We see this as a blessing as expenses are still high, meaning our members have stepped up to support our mission at Trinity.

The finance committee would like to extend a big thank you to all of you. Our online giving showing an uptick in use each month. It is a great tool to use for directing funds to our church. It has a low monthly fee that the church pays and a \$0.30 per use fee that you can offset at the time of donation. Please consider setting up for online giving either on our website at www.tlc-al.org or at <http://myeoffering.com/>. If you are interested in online giving and need any help, do not hesitate to contact me.

May financial overview:

Total Receipts \$20,548.87 Total Disbursements
\$23,729.14 (Shortfall) (\$3,180.27)

June financial overview: Total Receipts \$22,876.92
Total Disbursements \$22,761.92 Cushion \$115.00

YTD financial overview: Total Receipts \$134,890.31
Total Disbursements \$148,016.08 (Shortfall)
(\$13,125.77)

s/Chris Skogheim

Pastor Eileen

The Newsletter Article I write after our church celebrates the Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation) of our young adults is one of my favorites. If you remember, we celebrated with 9 young people on May 28th as they Affirmed their Baptisms. They said “Yes!” to all the promises that God had given them at their baptisms. It was a wonderful day of worship and celebration. It was a joy to have Bishop Regina Harsanally with us that day to preach and preside.

This article is one of my favorites because I don’t really write it. Our students, with the help of the Holy Spirit, do the work. As part of their final project I ask them three questions: 1. What is your Bible verse and why?, 2. What is your favorite Jesus story and why?, and 3. Share your faith statement. Here are some excerpts from their answers:

“I believe in Jesus because without him and what he did we would be living such a different life. In the verse John 3:17, it says, ‘that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him,’ and that means whoever believes in Jesus is promised eternal life. God promised that, and he won’t break his promises.”

“My favorite story is when Jesus calms the storm. I chose this because I like how much more it made the disciples trust in him and allowed them to replace fear with faith.”

“I believe Jesus died on the cross for mine and many others sins.”

“My favorite Bible verse is Proverbs 3:3-4; “Let love and faithfulness never leave you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. In the sight of God and man.” I love that verse because it is telling us to always love, and be faithful towards others, and God. That is what I always want to try to do. Also, someone very important to me told me that verse.”

“My favorite Jesus story was when Jesus’ disciples were on a boat and it was a stormy night. They were struggling and they saw Jesus walking on the water. One of Jesus’ disciples wanted to walk on water with him and Jesus told him to take a step onto the water and he listened while looking at Jesus. He took a few steps and once he looked down he started to doubt and fell into the water. Jesus grabbed him and asked why he started to doubt his faith. This resonates with me because if you focus on Jesus your faith will be immovable but once you lose your focus you’ll start to lose it and start to doubt and eventually fall.”

“I believe the Triune God. The Father will always protect me with the Son guiding me and the Holy Spirit being in me so that I can feel the good presence of God. I can only hope for everyone to see God in me when I do my actions and that when I shine God shines brighter than me.”

This is not everything, but it is a good representation of the faith of our young adults. Please continue to keep our children and youth adults in your prayers as they navigate the world around them.

Calling all 6th—9th graders:
Be on the lookout for information about Confirmation Classes and Pre-confirmation classes!





Announcing Operation Restoration VBS !

Area Local Churches are hosting a Vacation Bible School called **Operation Restoration: Mending God's World.**

During this exciting weeklong program, kids learn to be menders of the universe as they explore the daily themes of Feed, Heal, Forgive, Pray, and Rest.

Operation Restoration is scheduled at the location Ascension Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Highway 69, Albert Lea, MN.

From the dates August 7th through August 10th.

Each daily session starts at 5:30pm with a meal and ends at 8:30pm.

This VBS is open to all kids (and parents) who have just finished grades Kindergarten through 5th grade.



VBS – “Destination Restoration”

Trinity is partnering with other community churches to provide Vacation Bible School to Albert Lea. Mark your calendar for Monday, August 7th through Thursday, August 10th in the evening. We will be sharing God's love at Ascension Lutheran Church (1101 US-69).

There will be something for everyone. We start with dinner. The VBS is for children age 5 through incoming 6th graders. There will be Bible Stories, art, music, games, and lots of fun. Adults, that are not assisting with VBS, will have some fun and informative time together too.

***Trinity Lutheran Church Women
LeAnn Juveland and Linda Olson***

Because we live in a fallen world, we experience negatives in our lives. Heartache and disappointment will come our way. We experience “stuff” we don’t deserve, don’t want, and can’t send back. It’s ours. But thanks be to God, nothing happens in this world and He doesn’t know about and that He can’t handle.

Thelma Wells

Hard to believe it is August already. If you have a garden hopefully it is producing great things! O there is Farmer’s Market. It is also time to start thinking about the Health Kits and School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Check your TLCW books for the list of items to purchase. Any extra school items will be given to Albert Lea schools. Thank You in advance! Watch for the sales!!

August Calendar of Events

August 2st	TLCW Board Meeting	9:30 am
August 9th	Sewing Day	9:00 am
August 16th	Combined Bible Study	9:30 am

In Jacobsen Hall

Just a heads up—Circles will resume serving Coffee Hour after church on September 3rd.

Trinity’s Mission Statement

We are a fellowship of believers in Christ, sustained by God’s Word, led by the Holy Spirit and committed to God’s vision of caring!

Premises Committee August 2023

Here is a list of items that we have been working on so far this summer. I can't believe it is already August.

- Our list of items needing attention from the fire department inspection is complete except for one item. They requested we install a key lockbox by our office entrance door. This will give them the ability to enter the building without breaking down a door in case of an emergency. The part is backordered and hopefully will arrive soon.
- A corner of the runner roof over the front entrance was blown loose from the wind and the last rain we had a leak. Our roofing contractor came the next day and repaired the roofing where it was loose. Looking good and no more leaks. They also did an inspection of our entire roof and did some minor repairs on the runner roofing section.
- We have a professional carpet cleaner contracted to clean the carpet in Trinity Hall. This will happen sometime in the middle of August.
- A special thanks to Car Boelter for taking care of our garden by the south entrance to the church. She takes care of this area every summer and has it looking so great as always. Thanks Char! Check it out.
- Our lawn mowing crew Bob and Dell continue to keep the grass mowed. There were several weeks when we did not mow because the grass wasn't growing. But after the rain it needs attention again. Thanks guys. If you have any concerns or suggestions, contact Jeff or Steve. Or any council member.

Lutheran World Relief

Back to school supplies are now on sale. We will again pack school, personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. We need the following items for each kit.

School kit supplies:

Notebooks 8" x 10-1/2" ruled paper, 70 sheets

Blunt scissors

Rulers (inches and centimeters)

Pencil sharpener

New pencils with erasers

Ballpoint pens (no gel ink)

2-1/2" eraser

Box of 24 count crayons

Personal care kits:

Bath towels—light to medium weight (approx. 52 x 27)
dark colors preferred

Bath size bars of soap (**4 oz**) *any brand*

Nail Clippers

Toothbrushes

Sunday, August 20th is
Noisy Sunday Offering
This offering helps bridge the
gap in food costs for the
people of our Albert Lea
Community.



Memorials Given in Loving Memory of...

Altar Guild

Barry Oliva

By friends and family

Undesignated

Sonja Zieske

By Bob and Pat Goldman

By John and Cheri Butler

By Joe and Marcia Scublewski

Richard and Lorraine Anderson

By John and Cheri Butler

By Linda and Steve Olson

Arden Berglund

By Fern Rockwell

Family Faith Formation

Sonja Zieske

By Earl and Gayle Neist

Music

Sonja Zieske

By Mike and Andrea Jensen

By Lance Skov

By Michelle Sorensen

By Shorty and Nancy Jensen

General Improvements

Sonja Zieske

By Eleanor Schou

By Joan Mattick

By Glen and LeAnn Juveland

Lorraine Anderson

By Glen and LeAnn Juveland

Dick Tavis

By Glen and LeAnn Juveland

Shirley Berg(Ashley Hovendick grandma)

Scholarship Fund

Sonja Zieske

By Dale and Gloria Jensen

Lorraine Anderson

By Dale and Gloria Jensen

Parking Lot

Dick Tavis

By Lance Skov

By Michelle Sorensen

By Jan Drews

Wednesday Night Meal

Serving Time: 5:00 to 5:30 PM

Trinity Hall

No Cost

Join us for a meal and fellowship

Trinity Lutheran Church

501 S. Washington
Albert Lea MN 56007

Phone: 507-373-2466

E-mail: office@tlc-al.org

Web Site: www.tlc-al.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tlc

Pastor Eileen Woyen

Pastor Eileen's email: ewoyen@gmail.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 230
Albert Lea, MN

August 2023 Newsletter