



THE TORCH

TrinityLCPV.com
Facebook.com/Trinity LCPV

Email: office@trinitylcpv.com
Youtube.com/@TrinityLCPV

July 2024
Sunday Worship
9:00 AM

Trinity Lutheran Church • 18137 Criswell Street • Bettendorf, Iowa 52722 • 563-332-5188
Pastor Stephen Nilsen 563-332-6432 (office) 319-540-1172 (cell) snilsen@trinitylcpv.com (email)

Hello there, Helpful Inhabitants,

The past several weeks have included a lot of excitement around the building here at Trinity: children from around our community joined in for a great week of Day Camp with counselors coming down from Ewalu Bible Camp, we blessed around 50 of the newborn care kits that will be sent to Global Health Ministries to be distributed around the world, and the sides and back of the Fellowship Hall got a much needed paint job: the bright joy has been felt all around us. I fondly thought of this as we gave thanks to all that God does in our psalm we read at worship on June 16:

*"It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord,
to sing praise to your name, O Most High;
to herald your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night;
For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord;
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.
Those who are planted in the house of the Lord
shall flourish in the courts of our God;
they shall still bear fruit in old age;
they shall be green and succulent;
that they may show how upright the Lord is,
my rock, in whom there is no injustice."
– Psalm 92:1-2, 4, 13-15 (ELW Translation)*



There are times when we give thanks to God, and times when we cry out for help. As much as I give thanks for such wonderful volunteers who help during projects like our Day Camp, the garden ministries, Share-A-Meal, and all manner of other help needed around the building, I continue to cry out for help from God for our direction to be made clear. What is it that we tell people that Trinity Lutheran Church is all about? When we think about a mission statement like ours, how do we live that out and steward the resources (including our building and space around the property) in faithful ways?

I often am reminded of the challenges that all churches face around buildings, when I meet with other pastors and leaders in congregations around the area. People share stories of "well, the boiler went out, so we're gonna have to figure out what to do with that," or "we wish we could figure out how to rejuvenate the old Sunday School rooms," or even "sometimes it feels like the building is just this albatross around our collective neck, that we are stuck with while we want to go do wonderful ministry." These worries are made all the worse when we think about the devastation that can quickly happen in places like Apple Grove Lutheran Church in Argyle, Wisconsin (recently destroyed by a tornado) or Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Tucson, Arizona (recently flooded by the monsoon-level rains there).

As we continue to give thanks, I ask that you join in the prayers for help: help for these other congregations (impacted by natural disasters near and far), help for this congregation here at Trinity (that we may continue to be faithful stewards of the building and space around us, and help for our ministry to continue to flourish amid times of stress and anguish.

Continued on the next page

Trinity Office Hours Tues, Wed, Thurs - 9AM-1PM
Pastor Stephen's Office Hours Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs -10AM - 2PM

Pastor's message continued:

When we pray, I hope that you continue to listen: what is the Holy Spirit calling forth in you to be part of here at Trinity? What other creative ideas might be stirring up here in this place? What things might we look at wondering "could that really happen here?" Then months or years later think "how did we ever doubt that God would be with us when we ventured into _____?!" What things might we someday give thanks for in words like the psalm at the beginning of this article?

Praying, hoping, and listening,

Pastor Stephen Nilsen

LETTER FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

As we move into the summer and school being out, it was nice to see the church alive with lots of youth energy from June 10-13. At the June council meeting it was reported that there were 3 Camp Counselors that provided programming, lessons, crafts, activities, and plenty of recreation to over 20 kids ranging in age from 5-11. Day Camp at Trinity was a lot of work and effort to make happen, so a huge thanks go to anyone who was involved in the preparation, event, and clean-up. Your efforts do not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Thank You!!

Financial giving has slowed down and we are slightly behind the budget for 2024. That is typical during the summer months as attendance can tend to dip a bit. There is no reason to panic at this point as we are confident the numbers will trend upwards as we move into fall. No funds had to be transferred to cover the deficit.

A large part of our meeting was centered around the Food Pantry. We wanted to make sure we as a council were on the same page. I want to communicate to everyone that the Trinity Council wholeheartedly supports the concept of a Food Pantry running out of our basement. We understand there are still lots of unanswered questions and "What If's" to work through. However, in order to make this come to fruition we need a "Champion of the Food Pantry". This would simply be a contact person for Trinity to coordinate the outside volunteer help with the internal volunteer help from Trinity. How quickly things move and the frequency and length of time the pantry is open would really be up to the contact person here at Trinity in coordination with the outside volunteers. If this is something you would be interested in, please let me, Pastor Stephen, or any member of council know.

Justin

YEAR TO DATE THROUGH MAY 2024

Collections to date	\$74,474.37
Expenses to date	\$77,618.17
Net to date	(\$3,143.80)
No funds have been transferred from Stewardship Reserves year to date.	

ATTENDANCE TOTALS FOR JUNE

June 2	62
June 9	87
June 16	62
June 23	62

WANT TO CONNECT THE WITH WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY?

Sign up for our weekly email bulletin that will let you know what's happening in the week ahead and have other great upcoming announcements, as well as the weekly bulletin for worship. Call (332-5188) or email (office@trinitylcpv.com) Paula in the office to sign up!

BIRTHDAYS

3 Steve Aguilar	15 Cassie Vining
3 Peggy Claussen	18 Lois Schurr
5 Sarah Paul	20 Kris Rupp
8 Bonnie Murphy	22 Barb Paul
8 Morgan Ven Horst	29 Miles Paul
8 Diane Holst	30 Dane Crist
9 Abby Mattson	30 Maeva Denain
9 Judy Reber	
12 Connie Short	



JULY

ANNIVERSARIES

20 Randy & Debi Goslin
31 Dane & Michelle Crist

Happy Anniversary

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28	August 4
Altar Guild	Cathy Newman	Lois Schurr	Diana Mayes	Linda Busch	Diana Mayes
Communion Assistant	Sally Morrow	Claudia Neumann	Diana Mayes	Michelle Crist	Diana Mayes
Lector	John Newman	Henry Marquard	Ellen Opperman	Jo Ann Hogenson	Dawn Brick
Usher Greeter	Ron Morrow Connie Short	Chris Kaul Barb Paul	Paul Opperman Travis Brunsvold	Dane Crist Al McIlrath	Deb Anderson Diane Cook
Worship Video Livestream Producer					
Fellowship	Barb & Darrell Paul	Connie Short & Family	Jo Ann Hogenson Sally Morrow	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed

If you would like to help us in our Sunday Gathering by doing any of the above tasks, please contact the church office to be added to the list of volunteers.

TRINITY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Thursday, July 25 - 6:30 PM

vs. Cedar Rapids Kernels



Trinity Night at the Ballpark Coming July 25!

"Take me out to the ballgame!" We'd love to have you join in with our special night out at the Quad Cities River Bandits on Thursday, July 25. First pitch is at 6:30 PM, and tickets are \$13. If you're interested, you can sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or see the weekly email to sign up on the form online.

Trinity Lutheran Feeding Ministry Garden Volunteers Needed

With some rain this week, there's been even more growth in our garden, we'll be blessed with many tomatoes soon. We're blessed by the help we've received and can always use more assistance with watering the garden, harvesting the veggies, and cleaning the produce once it has been harvested. See Tom Shelton or Dane Crist for more info on this great ministry opportunity!



Share-A-Meal with Churches United



Thursday, July 25, 5 PM
Zion Lutheran Church
1216 W 8th St, Davenport, IA

Contact Deb Anderson (563 289-4969) if you can help with cooking or serving the meal for our next time helping with the Share-A-Meal through Churches United. Trinity will be serving on Thursday, July 25 at Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport.

Scott County Library's Bookmobile with New Times for the Summer!

The Scott County Library Bookmobile will stop by the church parking lot through the summer on Tuesday afternoons every three weeks. Anyone with a library card from a library in Scott County can check out books and other media. We'll have snacks and drinks available in Fellowship Hall.

4:40—5:10 PM on July 16, August 6



AMITIE

Amitie will meet July 8 at 12:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Bring your sack lunch and drink. Dessert will be provided. We will be tying another baby quilt for the Edgerton Clinic, which serves mothers and young children in need. Please come and enjoy this time of fellowship and worship.



Rudella Eberlein, Convenor



Choir Rehearsals Coming Up!

Every other Wednesday and Sunday

Any who are interested in singing in our renewed choir music ministry are invited to join in on Sunday at 8:00 AM for our next rehearsal with our new director, Chelsea.

The upcoming rehearsals will be:

Wednesdays 6:30 PM July 10 & 24.

Sundays 8:00 AM July 14 & 28.

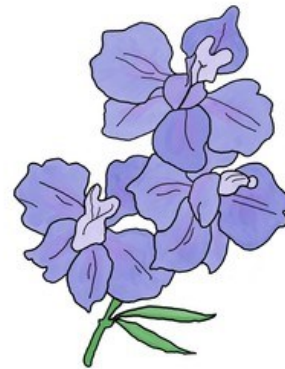
Altar Flowers



Do you have a birthday or anniversary you'd like to commemorate? Starting in January, we will have Altar Flowers that you can sign-up to sponsor for any of the worship services throughout the year. The bulletin board will be by the door between the narthex and hallway.

Questions?

Call or Email Paula at
563-332-5188 or
office@trinitylcpv.com



shutterstock.com · 2033594150

BIBLE Study

WEDNESDAYS AT 10 AM

Join us for a **weekly** Bible study centered around the texts for the upcoming week's worship service as we find what God is up to in the text and our lives this week



WEEKLY READINGS

07/07 Ezekial, Psalm 123,
2 Corinthians 2-10, Mark 6:1-13

07/14 Amos 7:7-15, Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark 6:14-29

07/21 Jeremiah 23:21-6, Psalm 23,
Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

07/28 2 Kings 4:42-44, Psalm 145:10-18
Ephesians 3:14-21, John 6:1-21



New Photo Directory Here!

Thank-you for your help in sending in updated photos and contact information. You may now pick up the new Church Photo Directory in the Narthex or the Church Office. Alternatively, you may call or email the office if you would like someone to send or drop off a copy of the directory. Thanks for sharing in our church family!

CARD CRAFTING MINISTRY MEETING MONTHLY

Trinity's card ministry reconvened a few months ago. We meet monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 1:00 pm in the basement of the church. July's meeting will be July 10 1:00 PM. **All are welcome to join us- no experience necessary!**

Each month we make and deliver cards to the residents of Aspire of Pleasant Valley Nursing and Rehab (Formerly River Manor). We also make and mail greetings to members and friends of Trinity. In addition, the committee has been working to replenish the supply of greeting cards for sale in the Fellowship Hall. All cards are \$2.00.

Thank you for your support of this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Kaul, Linda Busch, Claudia Neumann, Cathy Newman, Marcia Brunsvold or Pastor Stephen.



CRISWELL STREET REHABILITATION

The City of Bettendorf has selected Criswell Street from Valley Drive to Forest Grove Road for rehabilitation as part of the City's Community Improvement Program. Contact information along with a construction schedule will be sent as soon as a contractor has been selected. Work on this project is expected to commence on or after April 22, 2024 and be completed by September 1.

There will be no changes to solid waste collection, school bus routes, mail delivery or emergency services.

If you would like to discuss how this project will affect your property, or access to your property, please don't hesitate to contact the city Assistant City Engineer. Patrick Lynch, PE. 563 344-4062 plynch@bettendorf.org. For more information: <https://bit.ly/BettCriswellStRehab>

TIME & TALENTS

Survey



Check your weekly email update and the Narthex for surveys to collect your input into the life of our congregation. Everything from Worship volunteers to help around the property to hospitality will be surveyed, and we'd love to find out what gifts our congregation can share. Surveys are available at trinitylcpv.com/timetalents and in the Narthex. Even if you are not checking boxes from an area, it helps to get as many surveys back as possible.

Seeking Help with Livestreaming Worship

Our worship services are available to view on both our Facebook page (facebook.com/TrinityLCPV) and our YouTube channel (youtube.com/@TrinityLCPV). As we continue to provide this ministry for those who are unable to join us in worship in-person, please consider helping with the livestreams. After much work from dedicated volunteers, our live-stream set-up is very easy to operate. Please contact Pastor Stephen or Randy Goslin (rgoslin@mchsi.com) if you would like to help.



Global Health Ministries Newborn Kits

Global Health Ministries last year sent 7,200 Newborn Kits to hospital clinics on three continents, attempting to connect with mothers and their newborns for perinatal care to help teach important health care. This year GHM has set a goal of 10,000 Newborn Kits! Last year TLC delivered 55 Newborn Kits to the warehouse in Minneapolis, MN and our Endowment Fund sent money to ship the kits to the clinics where they were needed.

TLC Social Ministry Committee has decided to be a part of this goal in 2024! The dates that we will be collecting items for the Newborn Kits are May 19 through July 7. Please place all items on or under the table in the Narthex. Also, please reach out to your neighbors, family, and friends to be a part of this caring project.



NEWBORN KIT ITEMS (new or gently used items)

- ~1 bath towel (around 52" long)
- ~1 washcloth (not microfiber)
- ~1 bath size white Ivory soap bar
- ~1 newborn/'onesie' cotton t-shirt size 0-3 month
- ~1 newborn stocking hat (very small)
- ~1 baby cotton or light flannel receiving blanket (around 30"x30" or (40"x40").

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

“...And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” Hebrews 13:16 NIV

Trinity’s Endowment committee is gearing up for another year of giving. Each year, 5% of the investment fund is distributed according to the Mission Endowment Agreement. In 2024, the distribution will be \$16,000. The breakdown is as follows:

20% Council Discretionary Fund	\$3,200
20% ELCA Affiliated Programs	\$3,200
20% Community Service Programs	\$3,200
40% Miscellaneous	\$6,400

Over the next few months, the Endowment Committee will be working to make its recommendations for the use of these funds. Congregational input is important to the committee. Members of the congregation are invited to suggest possible uses. Written suggestions are encouraged and all suggestions will be seriously considered. Last year funds were given to new organizations that were suggested from our congregation.

Please consider your recommendations and submit your requests to the committee soon. Request forms are available on the bulletin board in the narthex, or by contacting the office or committee member. We are asking that your suggestions be submitted by July 31.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any of the committee members, Alan Diers, Diana Mayes, Susan Varilek, Sheila Vining, Mitch Sussex, Treasurer and Marcia Brunsvold, Council Representative.



Trinity Lutheran Endowment Committee
Congregational suggestions for Endowment Fund Distribution

Congregation members, committee members or groups seeking resources to support a program. Organization, ministry or mission are invited to submit to the endowment Committee request for use of Endowment Distributions. All requests must be submitted in writing and received by July 31 for the current year's distributions.

Your name_____

Your contact information phone _____ **Email** _____

Organization you recommend for Donation_____

Please provide information about the organization, ministry and suggested use.

Suggested donation amount_____

(Please note that the committee is not bound by this suggestion, but your input is appreciated.)

For questions, please contact Committee Members: Alan Diers, Diana Mayes, Susan Varilek, Sheila Vining, Mitch Sussex, Treasurer or Marcia Brunsvold, Council Representative.

Completed forms can be turned into the office or emailed to brunsvoldmarcia@gmail.com



July 2024 – God’s Work, Our Hands

It’s nearly that time of year again – God’s Work, Our Hands! Though the official day is in September, it’s not too late to plan how your congregation can engage with GWOH Day. One of the best ways to practice GWOH is through volunteering. At LSI, we have volunteer opportunities for individuals of nearly every age, ability, and schedule. Additionally, we offer group volunteer projects – the perfect opportunity for this upcoming day of service. If you are interested in volunteering with LSI for God’s Work, Our Hands, talk to your pastor and have them contact philanthropy@LSIowa.org.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI’s Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.



God’s Work, Our Hands at Trinity

If you or someone you know has a project in mind for a great way to connect our congregation’s hands to God’s work in our community, please let Pastor Stephen or someone from the Social Ministry Committee know.

This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life — flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. For more info on God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday, visit ELCA.org/DayOfService

July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 4:30 Worship & Music	3 10 Bible Study 3:00 Social Ministry	4 Office closed Happy 4th of July	5 Pastor's Sabbath	6
7 9:00 Worship 10:00 Property	8 12:00 Amitie 6:30 Council	9	10 10 Bible Study 1:00 Card Ministry 6:30 Choir	11	12 Pastor's Sabbath	13
14 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship	15 6:00 Stewardship	16	17 10 Bible Study	18	19 Pastor's Sabbath	20
21 9:00 Worship	22	23	24 10 Bible Study 6:30 Choir	25 Share A Meal Trinity Night at the Ballpark	26 Pastor's Sabbath	27
28 8:00 Choir 9:00 Worship	29	30	31 10 Bible Study			