



TRINITY TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER
2018

612 North Water Street - Sparta, Wisconsin

608-269-5081

www.tlcsparta.org

God's Love-Our Hearts-God's Work-Our Hands

MINISTRY COORDINATION WITH TONY

Harmonize!

Hi everybody!

First, thank you to everyone who participated in this summer's "Dinner Church." If you weren't able to check it out, fear not. Dinner Church has been scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of each month, making September 26th the next appointed date. Also, many thanks to those who came to communion 101. It was an enriching and fun class led by Pastor Mark. Another class will be available this fall, so if you missed it, another opportunity abounds.

Second, and speaking of classes, summer is done and it is time to set our minds on education! I would like to encourage focusing on your prayer life as we enter this season together. Not just for our children, but for our adults as well. My prayer is that young and old will be refreshed and energized, that all are prepared to grow, learn, and teach discipleship as commissioned by our Lord!

Romans 12:2 says; Do not conform to the patterns of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-His good, pleasing and perfect will. Let's set a goal. Let's renew our minds together. Let's allow God to transform us, and be present with us. But how? How do we renew our minds?

1. By reading scripture. Described as "food" for our spirit.
2. Praying. We Talk to God a lot.
3. Preaching. God helps us understand His word, and how to apply it by hearing.
4. Share your faith. Talk, study, and learn with others.

September 9th marks our return to two Worship services; 8:15 and 10:30. Sunday School also begins September 9th. This service is known as Rally Sunday. We get geared up for the school season with a blessing of the backpacks. We will also be blessing briefcases and other work related items for adults! There will also be healing prayer at this service. The following Sunday, September 16, the stewardship committee will be starting a new bible study series "Giving to God" between services. September 23rd, and the 4th Sunday of every month, will be "Family Worship" at the 10:30 service. This Service will be led by our Sunday school children!

Ephesians 4 speaks of the gifts God gave the church, and the responsibility to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church. Therefore, let's enter this season together as the body of Christ, looking to build. Into our church, into our youth, and into each other. Come and SEE!

NEEDED WEEKLY TO MEET BUDGETED MISSION - \$6754.07

July 8th

9:00 am - 167

General fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$6632.45

Designated fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$692.00

July 15th

9:00 am - 101

General fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$2379.25

Designated fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$1218.27

July 22nd

9:00 am - 135

General fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$7306.75

Designated fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$1599.59

July 29th

9:00 am - 122

General fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$3022.50

Designated fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$140.00

August 5th

9:00 am - 119

General fund giving, including
Simply Giving is \$8237.05

Designated fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$1405.00

August 12th

9:00 am - 142

General fund giving, including
Simply Giving is \$4430.86

Designated fund giving, including
Simply Giving, is \$768.62

PROGRESSIVE DINNER

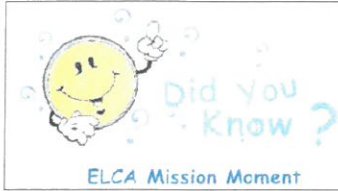
Progressive Dinner: October 27th - Please join us in a night of fellowship. Attendees go to a host's house for appetizers, then to another house for the main meal and end at the church to enjoy dessert together. We need at least two more people willing to host in their home. If you host, you will not be responsible for cooking, the guests bring appetizers and the fellowship committee provides the main course. Please contact Renee Gavilan at 608-269-0387 or reneeib@hotmail.com if you would like to be a host.

If you just want to participate and not host, sign up is available in the Narthex.

MONROE COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Monroe County Habitat for Humanity asked for help on 'A Brush With Kindness' build on the 10th, 11th, and 12th of August. It probably was the hottest weekend of the year but due to the diligent hard work of our volunteers, we got most of it done that weekend. We finished it on the 18th. Brian Graber was our site supervisor and he kept us on task but made it pleasant. A big thank you to Anita Jensen, Aaron Jensen, Althea and Les Stanley, Kathleen Sumrall, Gorden Bakken, Jim Moorhead, Laura Graber, and Scott Naeseth. If you missed the fun, please consider helping us on our next project.

MISSION MOMENT



La Crosse Synod Companion Synod--Southeastern Synod

The La Crosse Synod has a companion synod in the U.S. Located in Atlanta, Georgia, the Southeastern Synod covers four entire states: Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee. The Southeastern Synod is made up of 160 congregations and new starts across Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee. In the last decade the synod grew by sixty congregations. Two congregations, in Nashville and Atlanta are Swahili language congregations. Less than 0.2% of the population is Lutheran; yet they have 83 active candidates for ministry (*The La Crosse Area Synod currently has three*).

The ELCA Southeastern Synod engages in companionship with four church bodies around the world: Augustinian Lutheran Church of Guatemala (ILAG); the Lutheran Church in Malaysia; the Lutheran Church in Singapore; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria.

It is also called the “disaster” synod, because it borders the Gulf, the Atlantic, and contains the southern tornado alley. Preparing for and responding to disasters in the Southeast Synod and around the world is a significant part of its shared ministry in partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) and Lutheran Services of Georgia and the congregations across the synod.

Read more at: <https://www.elca-ses.org/>

MATCHING FUNDS FOR COLLEGE GRANTS

Thank you to everyone who contributed in some way to the Matching Funds for College Grants Fund! For the 2018 – 2019 school year Trinity has one student benefiting from the Matching Funds program. Caleb Kvale is a Senior at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and received a \$750 grant which Luther College will match.

The Matching Funds for College Grants Fund program is a cooperative venture between participating ELCA Lutheran colleges and congregations. The colleges agree to match grants given to students from local congregations up to \$750 per student each year.

Please continue to support the Matching Grants Fund throughout the year through special gifts, memorials or honorariums and by recycling your aluminum cans in the can cage by the garage.

LOOSE CHANGE - SEPTEMBER

SPARTA SCHOOLS BACKPACK FOOD PROGRAM

The Sparta Schools Backpack Food Program is a community/volunteer run program that sends backpacks filled with donated food home with students of the Sparta School District to help fight hunger. The schools involved are Cataract Elementary, Lakeview Montessori, Lawrence-Lawson Elementary, Southside Elementary, and Maplewood Elementary.

The Monroe County Nutrition Coalition is currently coordinating the Sparta Schools Backpack Food Program. Volunteers are needed to help with packing the backpacks and delivery to the schools. If interested in volunteering, contact Kayleigh Day at kayleigh.day@co.monroe.wi.us Please donate to the Sparta Schools Backpack Food Program with your loose change!

What's Happening at Trinity

Important Notice

FROM THE OFFICE...

October Tidings articles are due by September 18th

Be joyful always,
Pray continually,
* Give thanks in all *
circumstances for
* this is God's will for *
you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

faith



The office will be closed on **Monday, September 3** in observance of Labor Day. The office will reopen on **Tuesday, September 4 at 9:00 am.** Thank you!

READERS NEEDED

Can you Read? If you're still with me, I guess the answer is YES! Can you speak? Another YES! Yay! Now the hard part. Trinity needs your help with Sunday worship by reading the lessons. Yes, I know that standing up in front of a group of people that large can be scary. But it is important that people, and young people especially, see that the word of God is for everyone - all ages, sizes, shapes and personalities. You can be proof of that. Besides, everyone at Trinity is part of your family - church family - and just as self-conscious about the process as you are. You will receive the lesson earlier in the week so you can practice if you like. And if you muff a pronunciation, no one will know (except Pastor Mark and he won't tell). So please call or e-mail or send passenger pigeon into the office this week to tell Myrt that you want to be put on the list to read at least once or on an ongoing basis, which is about once every third month.

Shalom, Carol Glaman

FAMILY FUNDRAISING FOR SUMMER CAMP WITH KWIK TRIP SCRIP PROGRAM

Reminder about an opportunity to earn money for summer programs at Sugar Creek Bible Camp and FCA Camp. The program allows Trinity to purchase Kwik Trip, Inc. gift cards for a discount. Members can then purchase the cards or sell them to friends and family at the face value. The profit will be put in an account at Trinity to be used for the summer camps. Also, there is an additional rebate when the cards are used to purchase in-store merchandise. If you don't have children participating in the summer programs, you can designate your profit to a specific family or to a general fund, which will be used to help those in need of assistance.

A letter explaining the program in detail will be mailed out in the coming weeks. If you would like to

ACCOMPANIST NEEDED

Needed: A piano accompanist for the Alleluia Choir. We are a fun loving group and we have a great time rehearsing together, but it will be difficult to rehearse without an accompanist. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings. If you play piano and think you could help out in this way, please contact Ann Kvale of the Music and Worship Committee at 608-633-7643. Thank you!

TO BE CONTINUED.....

SEPTEMBER, 2018

What's Happening at Trinity

LITTLE DRESSES 4 AFRICA

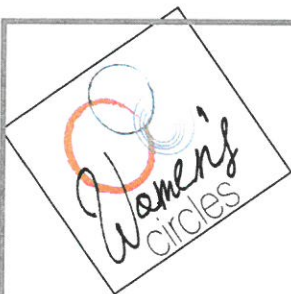
Thanks to all the many caring sewers (who said they had a LOT of fun), 102 pillowcase dresses were delivered to the Beaver Dam Nancy's Notions store who will send them on to Rachel O'Brien in Michigan for her almost-10 year mission to clothe girls in, now, not just Africa but other third world countries, with another 12 already finished by Linda Winterton for a shipment later this year. If you would like to add to this by sewing at home, kits of 5-10 pillowcases plus supplies, are available in the back-door coat rack area. Until the need to hang coats, the finished dresses may be hung there for all to enjoy your beautiful creations.

Again, thank you to Katie Loeffelholz, Sharon Clemmerson, Mary Madison, Maleya Erickson, Maryann Bolstad, Audrey Zebell, JoAnne Benning, Marie Grewal, Donna Boland, Sarah Nelson, Cheryl Roscovius, Luella Greeno, Kathleen Sumrall, Betty Berchman, Adell Morton, Linda Winterton, Twilah Holloch, Alice Olson, and those I've failed to know who are helping.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The first day of **Sunday School** will be **September 9th!** If you haven't already done so, please register your child/children. You will find a registration form in this newsletter. Please fill it out and return to the church office as soon as possible so that we may start planning to ensure we have enough supplies for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Michelle Jaeger at 269-0712.

CIRCLES



Mary Circle - Monday, Sept. 17th at 6:30 pm - Shalom Room

Shalom Circle - Thurs., Sept. 13th at 1:30 pm - MaryCrest

Joy Circle - Thurs., Sept. 13th at 9:00 am - Shalom Room

If you would like more information about joining a Women's Circle, please contact one of the following women and they will gladly assist you.

Shalom Circle - Kathleen Sumrall 487-2799

Joy Circle - Jean Hays 269-6121

Mary Circle - Deb Bassett 487-0960

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



JAM (Jesus & Me/4-years - Grade 5): Bring your family as we kick off our year together on Wednesday, September 5, starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The main dish & dessert will be provided. Bring a side dish to share (appetizer, salad, fruit, veggies, etc.). There will be games, food, a project, & worship! Join us as we give thanks to God for all He has done for us!



FAITH FORMATION (Grades 7-9) & Parent(s): Join us as we start our year together on Wednesday, September 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Whether you have been a part of Faith Formation, or this is something new to you, we welcome you with open arms. We are excited to have you as we walk alongside you on your faith journey!



4G (God, Girls, & Guys R GR8T!/Grades 7 – 12): Come join us on Sunday, September 9, at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Room for face-to-face time. Enter into this space with an open mind & heart as we shut off our screens, & enjoy breakfast pizza, fellowship, & Devo time together. This is the time where we get to focus on God in our lives & all of the AMAZING things He is going to do in & through us!

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

“A Prayer When the Waters are Rising Lord, all around us the waters are rising. I feel so helpless, for I cannot stop the rain from falling or the waters from rising. I feel so powerless, for the current is strong and my body is tired. I feel so empty, for our possessions are floating away or anchored in the muddy water. Lord, all around us the waters are rising. Grant me your strength, since mine is somewhere downstream. Grant me your patience, since mine is drowning. Grant me your perspective, since my loss is in replaceable things, not irreplaceable grace. Give me eyes to see how precious your gifts are: family and friends, faith and mercy. And Lord, when the waters rise around me in my spirit, and my faith and hope are swept downstream, help me to remember how you got me through this flood.

In Your Son's name. Amen”.

(The Rev. John G. Hamilton, FPC, Rochelle, Ill.)



Any additional articles from Michelle will be in the upcoming bulletin announcements as due to the recent flooding, Michelle has been needed at home to clean up the damages that their farm has encountered. Please keep Michelle and her family, as well as all others that have encountered damages from this devastating storm, in your prayers!



SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION 2018-2019

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

GRADE (THIS FALL) _____ **BIRTHDATE** _____ **PHONE #** _____

Parents/Guardians Name _____

Siblings _____

E-mail address (if you use regularly) _____

Does your child have any health problems or allergies that Sunday School teachers may need to be aware of? _____

If yes, please explain _____

Will your child be with another parent some Sundays? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, how many Sundays a month can we typically expect your child to be with us? _____

Are you willing to be a: Sunday School teacher? _____ Substitute teacher? _____ Helper? _____

_____ I'm registering my child in Sunday School

_____ I'm not registering my child in Sunday School at this time

_____ Would like to talk to a pastor before registering my child for Sunday School, and I will call the church office.

Comments: _____

STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE



Receptivity to Care

Most people are much more open to giving care than to receiving it. When a person is giving care he or she is in a position of strength, stability, and authority. When a person is receiving care, he or she is acknowledging weakness, insecurity, and vulnerability.

As a result, there are countless people today who, though they really could benefit from a Christian friend who would listen and care for them, instead tough it out on their own. They remain the strong silent type, or wear a smile across a face that is holding back a flood of tears. Society encourages this (particularly for men). To ask for help is to admit weakness. To show weakness is to admit inferiority.

But God did not create us to be independent. We were created to be interdependent. God's Word is clear on this all the way back to Genesis: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him" (Genesis 2:18). The New Testament underscores this theme with more than 50 verses that contain the words "one another." These verses include admonitions such as "love one another", "build up one another", and "pray for one another."

What these verses don't say is that we alone are to love, encourage, build up, and pray for other people. The "one another" wording gives them a reciprocal meaning. It also tells us that we are to allow other people to love, encourage, build up, and pray for us!

It is most difficult for people to ask for help. Whether it is because of guilt, shame, inadequacy, or fear of rejection, many would much prefer to suffer alone than ask for help.

But suffering alone is not God's intent for us. Jesus promises, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). We can receive this promised rest when we turn to one another for comfort and help.

Our Stephen Ministers know all about receiving care. Some of them have been on the receiving end of care at an earlier point in their lives--something that has motivated them to give care now. They know how difficult it is to ask for help, but they also know the great personal and spiritual growth and healing that follow. They know how to respond in a loving, caring, and nonjudgmental manner. They are equipped, ready, and waiting to provide the comfort and care God very much desires you to have.

If you find yourself now or in the future facing difficulties in life, don't succumb to society's norm of remaining strong and suffering alone. Take the courageous step of seeking help. Open your heart to receiving God's love and grace through another person. Our Stephen Ministry offers the opportunity for a very confidential relationship with someone who will listen to you and provide you with the care and encouragement you need, while Christ works inside to bring rest to your weary, burdened heart.

For more information on Stephen Ministry, please contact Pastor Mark Kvale, Nancy Sikorsky, or Jan Jenkins.

MEMORIALS

Bell Choir

In Memory of Russ Thayer from Debbie Bassett

Building Fund

In Memory of Russ Bennett from Alice Olson

In Memory of Russ Bennett from Sharon Engel

Endowment Fund

In Memory of Roger Strom from Wayne & Connie Slotten

In Memory of Roger Strom from Alton Ask

In Memory of Roger Strom from Judy Schure

In Memory of Russ Bennett from Lois Harr

Youth Fund

In Memory of Roger Strom from Karen Edwards

World Hunger

In Memory of Roger Strom from Jean Hays

Milestone Ministry (for Faith Chests)

In Memory of Gerald Bassett from Debbie Bassett

Altar Fund

In Memory of Russ Bennett from Al & Jan Jenkins

In Memory of Russ Thayer From

Ronald & Pauline Haug

In Memory of Roger Strom From

Roger and Carol Thorsen

Stan and Rita Bernette

Paul and Nancy Oswald

Dave and Lori Stigen

Lois Harr

Don and Shirley Vandervort

Thomas Schauer and Maureen Sullivan

Edith Habhegger

Cynthia East

Joyce L. Barlow

Kenneth Snow

Ann Sprain

In Memory of Buzz Zimmerman From

Denise Rohleder

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Russ Bernett From

Edie Habegger
Paul & Reyne Larson
Ole & Janice Knutson
Kris Hanson
Sparta Lions
Marie & Gretchen Grewal
Cindy Simpkinson
Roger & Judy Johnson
Jim & Patti Syverson
Ron & Karen Wall
Katy Schaitel
Betty & Gary Peterson
Kristin Geier
Dave Olson
Paul Amundson & Paulette Widener
Elizabeth Roehm
Nora Rueckheim
Bob Bowen
Glenn & Audrey Zebell
Clarice Oswald
Rosella Jenkins
Jim & Barb Moorhead
Bob & Cindy Wise
Roger & Carol Thorsen
Ken & Leona Rhymer
Ralph & Judy Osborne
Mark & Julie Erickson
Gyneth Nesse
Paul & Nancy Oswald
Nick Hagen
Tim & Cindy Shiroda
Bill & Mary Herrman
Dave & Lori Stigen
Bruce Olson
Bev Brandau
Ronald & Pauline Haug
Anita Jensen
Gary & Lorene Edwards
Bev Lisney
Jean Hays
Carol McClain
Jim Liska
Rod Wegner
Bob & Jean Oswald
Ernest & Jeannette Woods

Sept. 2
9:00 am
Reader - Debbie Bassett
Communion - Kathleen Sumrall - Larry & Nila Larson
Greeter - Diane & Phil Dammen

Sept. 9
8:15 am
Reader - Brenda Degenhardt
Communion - Rita Bernette - Janice Janzen - Chuck Hogan
Greeter - Austin & Brenda Degenhardt
10:30 am
Reader - Deb Bonello
Communion - Stacey Markuson - Doug Dengel - Gary Peterson
Greeter - Julie Ender - Lynn Herrman

Sept. 16
8:15 am
Reader - Julie Ender
Communion - Dave Stigen - Barb Selbrede - Anita Jensen
Greeter - Linda Erickson - Linda Frei
10:30 am
Reader - Gretchen Caron
Communion - Ann Kvale - Diane & Phil Dammen
Greeter - Deb & Michael Bonello

Sept. 23
8:15 am
Reader - Adell Morton
Communion - Jan Jenkins - Shawn & Amy Stoffregen
Greeter - Carol & Dennis Glaman
10:30 am
Reader - Doug Dengel
Communion - Karen & Ron Wall - Tony Gasner
Greeter - Tony & Annette Guldenaar

Sept. 30
8:15 am
Reader - Chris Milne
Communion - Chris & Kim Milne - Cindy Thesing
Greeter - Carol & Gary Haskins
10:30 am
Reader - Tony Gasner
Communion - Dawn Jacobson- Deb Bonello - Julie Ender
Greeter - Dawn & Matthew Jacobson

MUSIC

September 2 - Pianist - Ann Kvale
 September 9 - Pianist - Virginia Bolin
 September 16 - Special Music - Bells/Pianist - Adell Morton
 September 23 - Special Music - 8:15 - Praise Team
 10:30 - Sunday School
 Pianist - Praise Team
 September 30 - Pianist - Deb Larson

ALTAR TEAM

September - Pauline Haug - Barb Selbrede
 October - Linda Erickson - Kevin & Sarah Nelson
 November - Alice Olson
 December - Ann Kvale - Mary Herrman

OFFERING COUNTERS

September 4 (please note date change)
 Tootie Bernett - Rita Bernette - Nancy Oswald
September 10
 Fred Olsen - Nancy Oswald - Carol Thorsen
September 17
 Janice Janzen - Dave Olson - Diane Dammen
September 24
 Alton Ask - Audrey Zebell - Bill McClain
October 1
 Pat Hesper - Alice Olson - Gary Peterson

BULLETIN DELIVERY

September 7
 Morrow Home - Sharon Amundson - Karen Edwards
 Rolling Hills - Alice Olson
September 14
 Morrow Home - Marie Grewal - Barb Selbrede
 Rolling Hills - Dave & Lori Stigen
September 21
 Morrow Home - Nancy & PJ Sikorsky - Gary & Betty Peterson
 Rolling Hills - Tony & Annette Guldenaar
September 28
 Morrow Home - Phil & Diane Dammen - Joyce Morrell
 Rolling Hills - Alice Olson

FOOD PANTRY

September 5
 Carol Glaman - Gary Nelson
September 12
 Dennis Glaman - Les Stanley
September 19
 Audrey Zebell - Alice Olson
September 25
 Karen Wall - Mary Herrman
September 26
 Anita Jensen - Julie Erickson

PEW RESTOCKING

September - MaryAnn Bolstad
October - Adell Morton
November - Cora Aschwander
December - Kevin & Sarah Nelson

FLOWER DELIVERY

September - Cora Aschwander
October - Diane & Phil Dammen
November - Laurel Brandt
December - Carol & Dennis Glaman

Thank You