

TRINITY TRIBUTE

"We believe there is no person or created thing which is outside the active love and grace of God shown so clearly in Jesus Christ. And through the active love and grace of God, we, as a body of Christ, are called to invite, welcome, and care for all."

Trinity Lutheran Church-ELCA Cook, Minnesota
trinitycook.org info@trinitycook.org

October
2026
Newsletter



October Star Word Prompt: Are there any actions, habits, etc. that you've decided need to fall by the wayside as you've reflected on your star word?

Trinity will be welcoming a new pastor this October, with her first Sunday of worship with us on October 11, 2026.

Pastor Susie Modrow is a Minnesota native and A graduate of Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.



She holds degrees in medical administration, youth ministry, and divinity. Her experiences in healthcare and youth ministry have helped to shape her pastoral identity. She deeply values relationships. She seeks to create opportunities for all ages to engage in their faith, to build relationships across generations, and to care for creation.

Pr. Susie is the mother of three and is currently practicing her empty nesting skills. She enjoys exploring the natural world, knitting, and painting with watercolors. She's looking forward to meeting the people of Trinity and discerning where God might be calling us next.

Welcome, Pastor Susie!

Trinity's 2026 Annual Congregational Meeting has been set for Sunday, October 18, following the morning worship service. Please plan to attend, as several important items will be discussed and voted upon, including the proposed 2027 budget and new council members.

It was a beautiful, crisp, sunny day at Little Fork Lutheran Church in Field Township on Sunday, September 13, for Trinity's annual service. There was a full house and lots of fellowship to go around. Music accompaniment was provided by David Moberg on guitar and Brenda Tibbetts on flute. Special music was also shared by siblings Bill Scott and Lola Scott Lindberg, and Norma Thomas on accordion. As always, it was a special service and a joy to see so many joining in and worshipping..



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

October 22, 2026

Served Drive-Thru or Eat-In

4:00 - 5:30 pm (or until gone)

October's Menu Includes: Tator Tot Hotdish, Green Beans, Roll and a Cookie.

Please note that there will be **NO** Community Meals in November or December, due to holiday season.

Meals will resume on January 28, 2027.

BIG Thanks to all who have volunteered time, energy, or donated funds to this Trinity ministry. You are helping us meet a need in our community.

Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, December 5, 2026

Trinity's 12th Annual Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner is coming!

Planning has begun and more information will soon be available...stay tuned!



Semi-Annual Highway Cleanup

A small, but dedicated crew of volunteers spent the breezy morning of September 23 walking the busy shoulders of Highway 53 to help keep the Northland beautiful. Thanks to Duane Gustafson, who once again organized and lead the group from the back parking lot to Trinity's designated roadside just north of Ryan's Rustic Rails. At least the sun was shining!



L to R: Bruce Garbisch, Judy Posch, Dan Folkvord, Sue Gustafson, Duane Gustafson. Thanks, ALL!



Deacon Kari

With the crisp mornings and beautiful colors beginning to emanate from the trees, Autumn is definitely in the air. Of the four seasons, this is my favorite. The crispness in the air, tree branches bending with the weight of fresh apples, beautiful Fall colors followed by the crunching of the leaves on the ground all make me smile inside and out. As does putting on cozy flannels and sweatshirts and just smelling the air. Fall also means that kids are back in school and a return to Fall activities. AND Pastor Susie Modrow will be joining us on October 7. All things to be grateful for!

- **Bible Quest**, our Wednesday After School Program for Pre-K – 6th grade, begins on Wednesday, October 21. Our theme this year is *“Compassion: Learning to Love Like God.”* Bible Quest will meet on Wednesdays after school until 5 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact me. Registration forms are available at the church and North Woods School. I can also email one to you.
- **Confirmation Class** for youth in 7th - 9th grade will begin in November. We will meet on Wednesdays. It’s a little later start this year, but that will give Pastor Susie some time to settle in.
- **The Well** – Mondays from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. At The Well we strive to create a space for people to gather as they are for spiritual renewal, prayer, companionship, and support. It is a place where we come to be refreshed by living water. We meet for about an hour and hot tea is always available. Generally, we begin with introductions, followed by a time of silence for centering. Then we have a brief check-in (only share if you want to), guided spiritual practice, and prayer. The rules at The Well are simple: come as you are, share as much or as little as you want, listen to others with no fixing or advise-giving, and keep confidentiality. Hope to see you there.
- **Walking Together 2026** – *“Connect: Walking, Working, and Learning Together.”*
Saturday, October 10, 2026, First Lutheran Church, Brainerd
 Every year on the second Saturday in October, congregational members of our synod are invited to gather for an event called “Walking Together.” We use this title intentionally, recognizing that as members of the over 120 congregations in Northeastern Minnesota, we walk together in ministry. This event is a chance to gather, share ideas with each other, and come home with resources to help our congregations grow in ministry. If you would like to join us, please let Deacon Kari know and she will register you with the group
- **All Youth Gathering** (7th – 12th grade) at Cragun’s – **Save the date! Nov. 20-21 or Nov. 21.** Registration forms and more information will go out soon.
- **ELCA Youth and Young Adult Gathering - Summer 2027 in Minneapolis – *Imagine More***
 It's hard to imagine, but the ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis is (nearly) around the corner! **Registration opens October 21!** (\$175 deposit due at registration). More information will be available soon.

When you called me as your deacon five years ago, I was called to a half-time position to work alongside the pastor. Since we have been without a pastor, my hours have been adjusted to full-time. As we welcome Pastor Susie and transition to having a full-time pastor, my position will transition back to half-time. During the month of October, I will remain full-time; in November and December I will be at three-quarter time; starting on January 1, I will go back to half-time.



Looking forward to continuing ministry with you!

Deacon Kari Olson (she/her)



Trinity Lutheran Church - Giving in Grace - Financial Report

General Fund

Budget Receipts	8/31/2026	\$24,804.37
Budget Expenditures		\$16,608.06
Checkbook Balance		\$10,417.70

2026 Budget = \$301,336.92

Offerings Needed

Monthly = \$25,111.41

Sunday = \$5,794.94

<u>Income</u>	<u>August Receipts</u>	<u>Monthly Anticipated Budget</u>	<u>YTD Received</u>	<u>Anticipated YTD Budget</u>
Envelope Offering	\$ 19,187.37		\$ 169,988.92	
Loose Offering	\$ 5,317.00		\$ 13,513.67	
Church usage	\$ 300.00		\$ 1,065.00	
Total Regular Income	\$ 24,804.37	25,111.41 **	\$ 184,567.59	\$ 200,891.28

Mission Support

	<u>August paid</u>		<u>YTD Paid</u>	
NE Synod	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00	\$ 5,080.00	\$ 5,080.00
VLM	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00	\$ 648.00	\$ 648.00
Total Mission Support	\$ 716.00	\$ 716.00	\$ 5,728.00	\$ 5,728.00

Expenses

Education	\$ 403.54	\$ 375.01	\$ 1,488.62	\$ 3,000.08
Wellness Ministry		\$ 12.50		\$ 100.00
Stewardship	\$ 89.83	\$ 125.00	\$ 739.09	\$ 1,000.00
Mental Health & Wellness		\$ 41.67	\$ 212.42	\$ 333.36
Social Outreach Ministry	\$ 488.62	\$ 166.67	\$ 2,080.20	\$ 1,333.36
Worship	\$ 631.33	\$ 833.16	\$ 6,274.44	\$ 6,665.28
Church Operations	\$ 6,422.79	\$ 9,575.46	\$ 80,604.28	\$ 76,270.32
Pastoral Salary & Bene		\$ 4,512.59		\$ 66,193.36
Congreg Care Minister Sal & Bene	\$ 7,855.95	\$ 8,274.17	\$ 62,847.57	\$ 36,100.72
Misc & Moving Expenses		\$ 479.17	\$ 453.21	\$ 3,833.36
Total Expenses	\$ 16,608.06	\$ 25,111.40	\$ 160,427.83	\$ 200,557.84

August

Aug 2	85
9-Aug	84
16-Aug	75
23-Aug	95
30-Aug	83

Attendance

Receipts for the month BELOW budget by \$307.04. Receipts, are BELOW budget for the year \$16,323,69.
Expenses are BELOW budget for the month by \$8,503.35. Expenses are BELOW budget for the year \$40,463.45.

Memorials received this month in memory of:

Given by:

Paula Swanson

Philip & Julie Styrlund, Norma Thomas, Ron & Mickey Maki,

Bill & Bailey Conger

Marilyn Jenkins

Leo & Lindy Wilenius

Mike Naughton

Mike & Lorene Enzmann

Regular offerings keep Trinity going;
Thank You for continued support.
Whether worshipping in person or online, TLC ministries and missions are dependent on faithful giving.
If you would like to set up regular electronic payments contact Sue for more information at 218-666-5965 or email sue@trinitycook.org.

transferred to camperships

<u>GIFTS</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Submitted-YTD</u>
Noisy Offering		\$591.03
Cook Food Shelf		
Social Outreach Ministry	\$168.00	\$1,021.50
Pastor's Discretionary Fund		
Salvation Army		
Lenten Offerings		\$1,258.41
Mental Health and Wellness		\$2,695.00
Cook Lions Club-flood relief		
Camperships		\$6,231.41

VancoMobile link



Submitted by Sue Carstens, Bkkp

GENEROSITY TOGETHER



The Generosity Team has an opportunity for you...and that opportunity is to add something to express yourself on the sheet in the entryway.

*Think about JOY. What makes you joyful?
What is joyful for you? What is joy?*

About living with God... or the coming of Autumn...or family...

There are marker pens available to either draw pictures or write words that show or describe what brings joy to your life. Feel free to add your thoughts or images...or just stop by and see what brings joy to others.

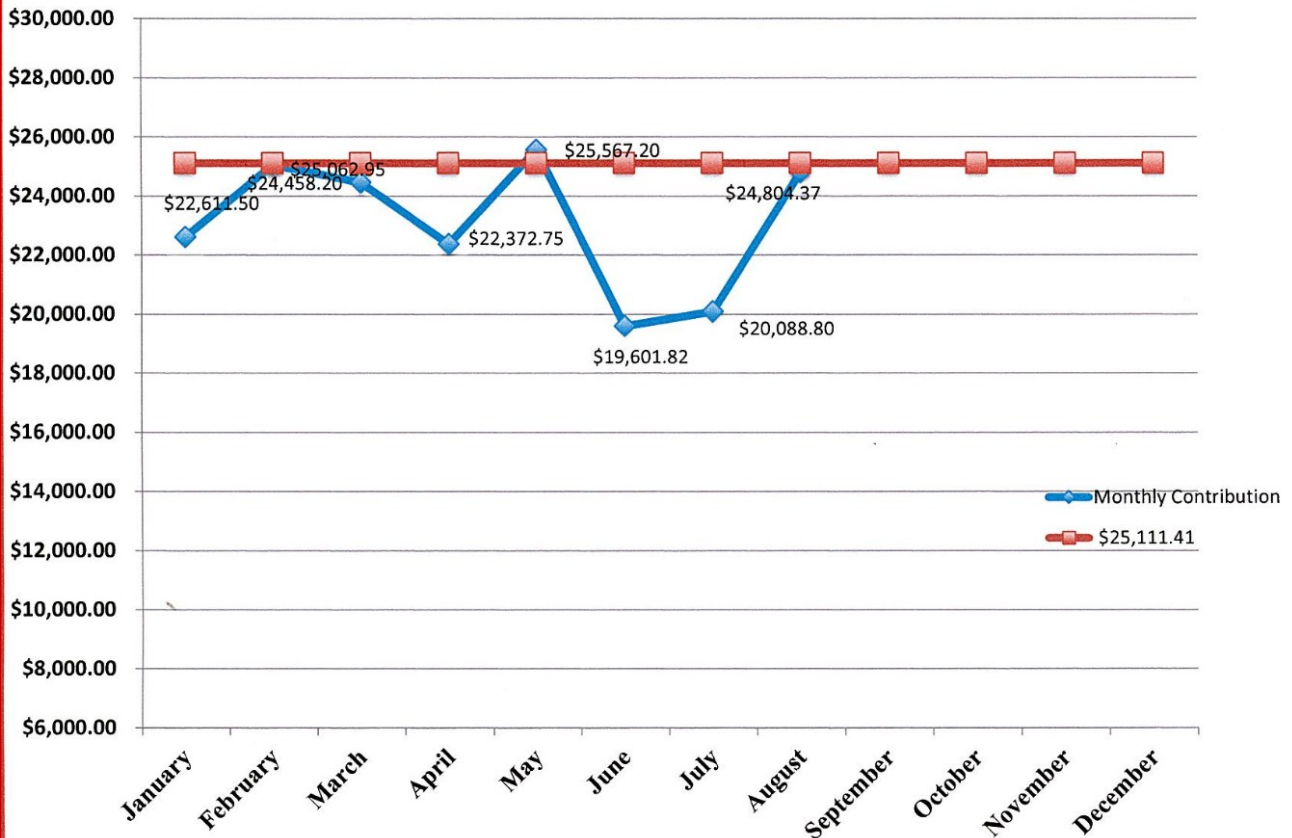
**Experience Community.
Experience Giving.**

The Generosity Team includes: Deacon Kari Olson, Elizabeth Storm, Laure Maki, Steve Maki and Crystal Whitney



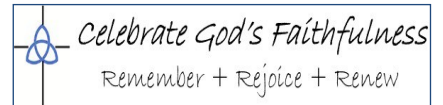
Giving in Grace

2026 General Fund Offerings August 31, 2026



THE CORNERSTONE

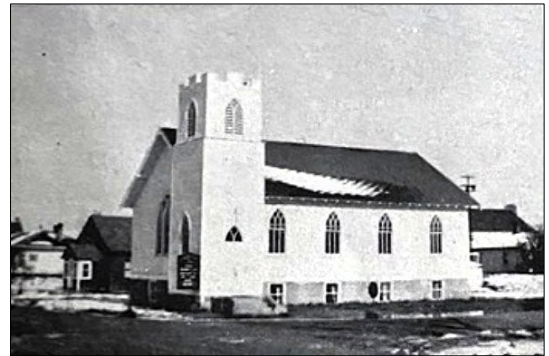
"So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostle and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone." - Ephesians 2:19-20



Trinity Lutheran Church is celebrating 100 years of God's Faithfulness! In September, we remembered the importance of worship to our founding family of God members who were led by the Spirit to form the Norwegian Littlefork Lutheran Church in Field Township as well as Trinity Lutheran Church in Cook. Those early conversations, prayers and planning for Trinity took place in the home of Lars & Christina Leding which led to legal incorporation of the church in 1926.

When you walk into the current Trinity Lutheran Church entryway, you can see a large cornerstone with the date 1927 carved into it. This cornerstone came from the first building that was built in Cook and where Trinity's family of faith worshiped, taught the faith, married, baptized, and buried their loved ones. All the cycles of life which human beings experience in a community had been offered up to God in prayers of thanksgiving and intercession down through the years.

That first building built by those early pioneers in the faith changed ownership when the congregation outgrew its building and moved to its current site in the early 1950's. It had fallen into disrepair down through the years. This past summer (100 years after Trinity's incorporation) it was torn down by the city.



However, the original cornerstone remains as do the memories of God's faithfulness and as does the Trinity Lutheran Church community of faith. Thanks be to God for Trinity Lutheran Church's foundation of Jesus Christ as our true cornerstone!

- Brenda Tibbetts member of TLC's 100th Celebration Steering Committee

Coming in October:

- * A specially designed logo to Celebrate God's Faithfulness these past 100 years!
- * Your opportunity to share your thankfulness for God's faithfulness on index cards!
- * Prayer team (see Brenda if you would like to be a part of this ministry.)
- * Watch your weekly eblast and bulletin updates for additional ways to participate!



Annual Worship at Little Fork Lutheran Church in Field Township. Thanks to musicians Lola Lindberg, Bill Scott, David Moberg, Brenda Tibbetts, Norma Thomas, and of course all of YOU who joined us for this special service!



Birthdays

3	Dale Foss	18	Lorraine Carlson
	Andrew Hartway	19	Audrey Armagost
6	Leigh Zika		Philip Simensen
9	Gage Aune	21	Rich Holm
10	Jeanie Wilson		Hunter Midthun
13	Kayla Palm	22	Gail Anderson
14	Barb Brenna	26	Glenn Aune
15	Irv Gustafson		Steve Maki
	Mickey Maki		



Anniversaries

12	Darrel & Betty Lindgren
15	Rob & Kim Marwick
17	Brian & Gail Anderson

Prayers for those needing healing and comfort:

Gary Groves, Ryann Lee, Lois Reing, Cam Nicholas, Steve Amundson, Pastor Brian Burton, Mary & Jeffrey Thomas, Janet Miller, Augie Carstens, Claire Stachovich, Tracy Rusinyak, Betty Tuuri, Roni Sarazine, Walter Putney, Bruce & Judy Anderson.

Family and friends of Tom Soderberg, who passed away on September 9, 2026.

For healing, strength and understanding for our nation, community, and those elsewhere who are feeling confusion, disruption, anger and insecurity; those facing medical testing, life challenges, and in difficult situations; those serving in the armed forces; and those seeking Jesus Christ in their lives.

*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayers*

Trinity's Women of the ELCA

Will meet Wednesday, October 14 at 9:30 am and will have a short Bible study from *Gather* magazine. All are welcome!



* * * * *



A BIG Thank You from the quilters for the Noisy Offering donation! It is appreciated very much! October will be here soon and that means we will be quilting! Join the fun Tuesdays in October, beginning on the 6th, with a "few" already completed and others ready and waiting to be tied.

The group meets from 8:45 – 11:00 am, with a coffee and fellowship mid-morning break. Most quilts will be going to Lutheran World Relief, but some are also donated to the Salvation Army, and there are always some available here for any local needs that may arise.

The Noisy Offering collected on Sunday, August 30, during the worship service was donated to WELCA for quilting supplies.

\$375.56 will be put to very good use.



Scripture Readings October 2026

October 4

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

October 11

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm 23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

October 18

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9[10-13]

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

October 25

Reformation Sunday

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

OCTOBER SUNDAY COFFEE

SERVERS

10/4/26	Lauren & Garrett Simensen
	Barb Brenna
10/11/26	Kim Martinsen
	Chad Hutkowski
	Lorraine Carlson
10/18/26	Lacey & Cody Bixby
	Sue & Duane Gustafson
10/25/26	Susan & Peter Stone
	Jenifer & David Moberg

NOVEMBER SUNDAY COFFEE

SERVERS

11/1/26	Sue & Augie Carstens
	Beth Sprouls
11/8/26	Julie & Dale Horihan
	Vickie & Mark Page
11/15/26	Kathy Leppert
	Judy Vaughn
11/22/26	Bob Walker
	Alberta & Gary Whitenack
11/29/26	Suzie & Darren Holter
	Brenda & Bill Tibbetts

Please be sure to check the Fellowship Hall table for monthly coffee list updates/volunteer opportunities. Let Leigh, Lindy or the office know when kitchen supplies are running low on Sunday coffee supplies...paper plates, napkins, coffee, filters, Kool-Aid, etc., so it can be restocked. For more information or to volunteer, please call or text: Leigh Zika (218-780-1769) or Lindy Wilenius (218-780-4644) or the office at 218-666-5965.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

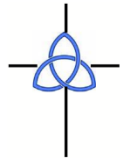
Friday

Saturday



 October 2026				1	2	3
4	Worship 9:30 am w/ communion AA / Al-Anon 6:30pm	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Well 9:30 am	Quilting Begins 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am	Grace Notes 5:15pm Choir 6:30 pm		
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11	Welcome Pr. Susie Worship 9:30 am w/ communion Potluck 10:45 am AA / Al-Anon 6:30pm	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Well 9:30 am	Quilting 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am	WELCA 9:30 am Grace Notes 5:15pm Choir 6:30 pm		
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18	Worship 9:30 am w/ communion Annual Meeting 10:45 am AA / Al-Anon 6:30pm	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Well 9:30 am	Quilting 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am	Bible Quest Begins 3:45 pm Grace Notes 5:15pm Choir 6:30 pm		
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25	Worship 9:30 am w/ communion Hot Dog Brunch 10:45 am Council Mtg 11 am AA / Al-Anon 6:30pm	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED The Well 9:30 am	Quilting 8:45 am Bible Study 9:30 am NEWSLETTER DEADLINE NOON	Bible Quest 3:45 pm Confirmation 6 pm Choir 6:30 pm		
26						
27						
28						
29						
30						
31						

Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA
P O Box 1196
231 Second Street SE
Cook, MN 55723



TRINITY
TRIBUTE



October
2026

Trinity Lutheran Church Information

Pastor: Rev. Susan Modrow
Congregational Care: Dn. Kari Olson
Financial Manager/Bookkeeper: Sue Carstens
Music Director: Bailey Conger
Secretary: Beth Sprouls

*Trinity Lutheran
Church*



Sunday Worship 9:30 am

(Holy Communion Most Sundays)

Livestream Available on
Facebook & YouTube

Office Hours

Mondays by appointment
Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Phone: 218-666-5965

Email: info@trinitycook.org

Website: www.trinitycook.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/TLC.Cook.MN

YouTube: www.youtube.com

The Trinity Tribute newsletter is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the Trinity Lutheran Church community.