

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

July Star Word Prompt: How has your star word surprised you so far?



INK & IVORY STORIES TOLD IN DUET

On Tuesday, June 24, the Friends of the Cook Public Library hosted a unique event as a fundraiser.



Retired music educator, Bailey Conger, and retired media center specialist, Marjorie Miller, presented a musical duet program combining their love of books with their talents and love of music. From fairy tale to biography to science fiction to poetry to autobiography to drama...they shared songs and information linking movie soundtracks and recordings to books and back.

Prior to the concert, the Friends had their annual meeting and snacks available while attendees signed up for door prizes, bid on many baskets and accepted donations. All proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the Cook Public Library, as they move forward with repairs and reopening fulltime following the major flooding last summer.



June 22 was Pollinator Sunday, observed throughout the NEMN Synod. It celebrated God's creation through the pollinators, on whom we all rely in order to have abundant life. Members of the synod Eco-Faith Leadership Team from Trinity are co-chair Rev. Kristin Foster and Bruce Garbisch. Worship that day concluded with the congregation moving outside to the plot across from the main doors. Bruce and Day Camp attendee, Bradley, installed the peace pole that was decorated as a project during the synod-led camp the previous week.

Dn. Kari blessed the plot and concluded the service before welcoming all back inside for coffee and lots of delicious goodies.

(Pictures, pg. 6)



CELEBRATE! June 8 was a very special day at Trinity. In addition to Pentecost, the congregation welcomed eight new families and Deacon Kari performed two baptisms. It was a busy, happy day. And...there was cake! Blessings to all; please introduce yourselves to and welcome the newest additions of the Trinity family. (Pictures, page 5)



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

July 24, 2025



Meals are served Drive-Thru or Eat-In
4:00 - 5:30 pm (or until gone)

July's menu: chicken salad on a croissant, diced cantaloupe, chips, cookies.

Thank you for your continuous generous donations that help feed our community.

Contact Julie Horihan for further information on how you can help.



Pastor Denise Scheer

Please keep Pastor Denise in prayers as she and her family continue to mourn the death and celebrate the life of her mother, Marian Scheer, age 98, who passed away earlier in June. After spending time with her family and taking time for herself she will be returning to Trinity mid-July. May our prayers of comfort and love sustain her as she heals and hold her fast to her mother's memory.



Deacon Kari

During our last gathering of The Well before taking a break until August, the following prayer resonated with those in attendance. Maybe it's a prayer that you need, too.

Peace and love to you,
Deacon Kari (she/her)

A Prayer for the Tired, Angry Ones by Laura Jean Truman
from the book [A Rhythm of Prayer](#), edited by Sarah Bessey

God, We're so tired.

We want to do justice, but the work feels endless, and the results look so small in our exhausted hands.

We want to love mercy, but our enemies are relentless, and it feels like foolishness to prioritize gentleness in this unbelievably cruel world.

We want to walk humbly, but self-promotion is seductive, and we are afraid that if we don't look after ourselves, no one else will.

We want to be kind, but our anger feels insatiable.

Jesus, in this never-ending wilderness, come to us and grant us grace.

Grant us the courage to keep showing up to impossible battles, trusting that it is our commitment to faithfulness, and not our obsession with results, that will bring in Your *shalom*.

Grant us the vulnerability to risk loving our difficult and complicated neighbor, rejecting the lie that some people are made more in the image of God than others.

Grant us the humility of a decentered but Beloved self.

As we continue to take the single step that is in front of us, Jesus, keep us from becoming what we are called to transform. Protect us from using the empire's violence—in our words, in our theology, in our activism, and in our politics—for Your kingdom of peace.

Keep our anger from becoming meanness.

Keep our sorrow from collapsing into self-pity.

Keep our hearts soft enough to keep breaking.

Keep our outrage turned towards justice, not cruelty.

Remind us that all of this, every bit of it, is for love.

Keep us fiercely kind.

Amen.



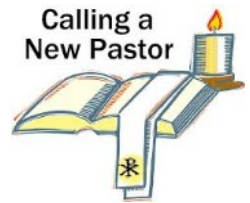
*Praying Together: A Ritual
Remembering the One Year
Anniversary of the Flood*

Grace



Trinity Lutheran Call Committee - Marching ahead one step at a time...

This week's Temple talk described how the Congregational input is vital to complete an honest and thorough Ministry Site Profile (MSP).



The information that we are gathering will be documented into the MSP and structured in a way that:

- 1 - Clearly defines our purpose as a Congregation
- 2 - How our Congregation lives out our purpose through our mission (what we do)
- 3 - Provides a vision on how our Congregation will live our mission into the future.

In summary, this information will be used to describe to Pastoral candidates who we are as a church and the leadership needed to launch us into our next chapter.

When the Call Committee completes the MSP, it will be presented to the Trinity Church Council for review and then on to the Synod for final approval.

A special thanks goes out to those who attended the roundtable, fireside room meeting held after church service June 22. The attendees provided knowledgeable insight on helping us create the MSP. The diverse backgrounds of the attendees, along with those of the Call Committee, made it a very productive discussion.

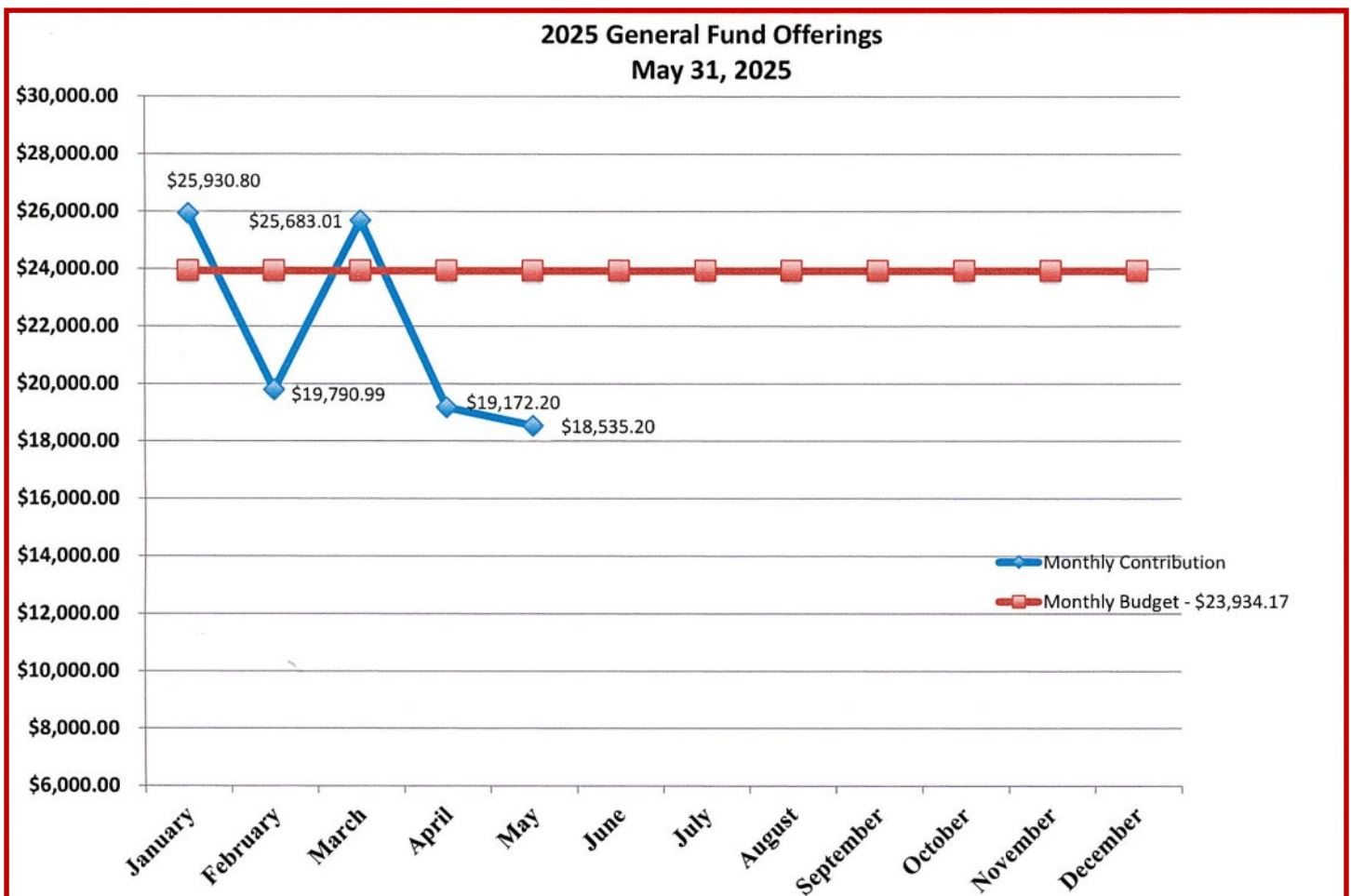
Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1. Feel free to reach out to any of the Call Committee members if you have any questions.

Your prayers and patience during these summer months are appreciated. With the guidance of God and strong Pastoral leadership, we feel the best of Trinity Lutheran Church is yet to come! We hope you feel the same way!

Sincerely,

Nick Nicklow - Call Committee Member (Ugh...I just swatted another mosquito 🦟)

Call Committee Members include: Bob Walker, Kate Cheney, Laurin Glass, Nick Nicklow, Jane Kujala, Ashley Skorseth, Lauren Simensen



General Fund

Budget Receipts	\$18,535.20
Budget Expenditures	\$19,716.90
Checkbook Balance	\$6,388.27

5/31/2025**2025 Budget = \$287,207.99****Offerings Needed**

Monthly = \$23,934.17

Sunday = \$5,523.26

<u>Income</u>	<u>May Receipts</u>	<u>Monthly Anticipated Budget</u>	<u>YTD Received</u>	<u>Anticipated YTD Budget</u>
Envelope Offering	\$ 17,825.20		\$ 102,410.44	
Loose Offering	\$ 335.00		\$ 5,606.76	
Church usage	\$ 375.00		\$ 1,095.00	
Total Regular Income	\$ 18,535.20	23,934.17 **	\$ 109,112.20	\$ 119,670.85

<u>Mission Support</u>	<u>May paid</u>		<u>YTD Paid</u>	
NE Synod	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00	\$ 3,171.00	\$ 3,175.00
VLM	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00	\$ 405.00	\$ 405.00
Total Mission Support	\$ 716.00	\$ 716.00	\$ 3,576.00	\$ 3,580.00

<u>Expenses</u>				
Education	\$ 350.01	\$ 1,039.02	\$ 1,750.05	
Wellness Ministry	\$ 12.50	\$ 62.50	\$ 62.50	
Stewardship	\$ 111.47	\$ 100.00	\$ 588.04	\$ 500.00
Mental Health & Wellness	\$ 41.67	\$ 208.35	\$ 208.35	
Social Outreach Ministry	\$ 166.67	\$ 1,059.57	\$ 833.35	
Worship	\$ 1,117.24	\$ 827.60	\$ 4,397.72	\$ 4,138.00
Church Operations	\$ 8,330.60	\$ 8,711.88	\$ 50,369.76	\$ 43,559.40
Pastoral Salary & Bene	\$ 1,353.22	\$ 7,090.53	\$ 6,756.10	\$ 35,452.65
Congreg Care Minister Sal & Bene	\$ 7,580.37	\$ 5,892.30	\$ 35,231.68	\$ 29,461.50
Misc	\$ 508.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 1,380.05	\$ 125.00
Total Expenses	\$ 19,716.90	\$ 23,934.16	\$ 104,397.94	\$ 119,670.80

Growing In Grace(3)

Total loan	\$786,660.31
Current Balance	\$0.00
Pledged	\$183,603.00
Pledges Received	\$191,613.95 (48 giving units)
	104.40% thru 5/31/25

<u>May</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
May 4	47
11-May	80
18-May	71
25-May	78

Receipts for the month BELOW budget by \$5,398.97. Receipts, are BELOW budget for the year \$10,558.65.
 Expenses are BELOW budget for the month by \$4,217.27. Expenses are BELOW budget for the year \$15,272.91.

Memorials received this month in memory of:
 No memorials given in May.

Given by:

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.

<u>GIFTS</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Submitted-YTD</u>
Noisy Offering		\$968.06
Cook Food Shelf		
Social Outreach Ministry	\$242.00	\$1,015.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund		
Salvation Army		
Lenten Offerings		\$1,076.00
Mental Health and Wellness		\$2,695.00
Cook Lions Club-flood relief		
Camperships		\$2,005.00

VancoMobile link

Submitted by Sue Carstens, Bkbp

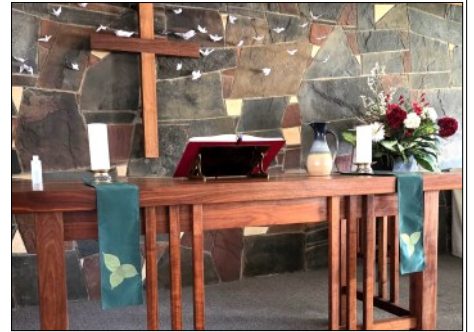
Reminder: Trinity's Women of the ELCA meet the second Wednesday of each month (this month, July 9) at 9:30 am, including a short Bible study from *Gather* magazine.



Sue Gustafson and Norma Thomas with the beautiful new Pentecost banner that they pieced together for the worship space.

A BIG THANK YOU goes to Mark and Barb Schmidt for volunteering to transport all the boxed quilts and newborn kits to Grand Rapids for the WELCA conference on June 16 - 17.

Thanks also to Leo, Jody, Bruce, Gerry & Norma for their assistance in loading the boxes.



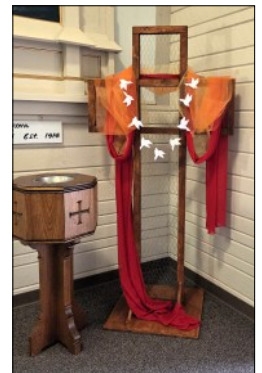
Thanks to Lois Garbisch for creating the new paraments for Ordinary times. If you have not seen them up close, please check out the detail of the leaves.



New members welcomed into the Trinity family on Pentecost Sunday included:



Nicole Hed
Jennifer & Tom Kinler, Savannah & Zoe
Krissi Kotnik, Tyler
Mike Lee & Caitlyn Bogue, Ryann
Kathy Leppert
Julie Lesemann, Bradley
David & Jenifer Moberg
Caroline Roesch, Sully



Two of the newly welcomed members were also baptized during the service: Bradley Winans & Ryann Lee

Extra special music for Pentecost included Julie Holien (*clarinet*) and Ray Jacobson (*tuba*) joining Bailey Conger to accompany the choir for "Just a Closer Walk with Thee".



The Lutheran Youth Organization of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod refers to any and all youth who are connected to the synod through a local congregation. The LYO Leadership Team is made up of those youth who have attended Youth Leadership Camp, which was at Camp Vermilion June 8 - 11, led by Reverend Taryn Montgomery, Synod Minister for Discipleship & Christian Community. After camp, she and 11 youth came to Trinity to lead a Day Camp for K-6 kids. They were all kept very busy, did lots of activities and had a great time (pictures, pg. 6)



Dn. Kari Olson, Rev. Taryn Montgomery





A Good Time was Had By All!
Thanks to the
LYO Youth Leadership Team &
Lindy, Nicole, !

It takes dedicated workers and lots of time and patience to get the gardens into shape each spring. Thanks to all the flower crew who spent a busy day organizing, weeding, planting, and watering the beds and pots for the season. Thanks to the Watering Can for assistance with plant choices and advice. There is a volunteer sheet in the Fellowship Hall for weekly watering duty, if anyone would like to help.



Jody Bixby, Margaret Nicklow, Lindy Wilenius, John Swieg, and Nick Nicklow.



So what is a pollinator plot?

A “pollinator plot”

- is a dedicated area of land planted with a mix of native wildflowers and grasses
- is specifically designed to attract and support pollinators like bees, butterflies and hummingbirds
- provides a continuous food source throughout the growing season by including plants that bloom in spring, summer and fall
- is free of chemicals, insecticides and commercial synthetic products
- has a diverse population of plants to appeal to insects who may have specific needs. (Monarch butterflies need milkweed; rusty patch bumblebees need goldenrods and/or mint.)
- has no plants or seeds that have been treated with pesticides including chemicals such as neonicotinoids
- is left intact throughout the winter to provide shelter for nesting insects and food for birds



Bixby, Nick & Margaret Nicklow, Lindy Wilenius, Kim Marwick, Judy McGlynn, Lynn & Steve Polich, John & Claire Zwieg and others. And of course, Diane & Gina at The Watering Can, who help with choosing the right plant or flower for each space.

With it being such a beautiful and inviting place, Trinity offers up the space for all, including community members who would like to sit on a bench or at the table to rest, to eat their lunch, to visit with friends or to just relax and breathe in the peace that God brings to our souls. Please let your friends and family know it is a place for all to enjoy and everyone is welcome.

We have many blessings at Trinity and our summer gardens are just two of them. We have our Pollinator Garden that we just celebrated, but our garden by the bell tower deserves a shout-out as well.

It was created with monies donated by Rich Holm in honor of his wife, Donna, who passed away in 2012. Rich provided much of the prep work at the site to get started. With additional help from Diane Pascuzzi, Gina Nukala, and Patty & Gary Carlson, we were on our way.

Today there are many who join in planting, watering, weeding and nurturing our gardens. They include Jody & Dale



Birthdays

3 Hendrix Smith
Maverick Smith
8 Ollie Simensen
10 Erin Bryson
Luke Cheney
Mike Naughton
11 Claire Stachovich
12 Bailey Brunner
13 Judy McGlynn
14 Elsie Danielson
16 Barb Schmidt
17 Brittin Lappi
18 Bobbi Halverson
Greg Wilson
20 Hope Simpson
21 Mariah Scholler

23 Jim Enzmann
Marvin Pearson
Lindsey Stachovich
24 June Simensen
25 Jennifer Barr
28 Steve Anderson
30 Roger Esterby
Jeff Pearson
31 Laurie Chilcote

Anniversaries

3 Irv & Sue Gustafson
7 Mark & Diane Pascuzzi
Bruce & Lois Garbisch
11 Tom & Nicole Hed
16 Tony & Amanda Pascuzzi
30 Don & Cindy Aune
Tim & Beth Sprouls
31 Brad & Michelle Arvila



Gotta love and appreciate all the youngsters helping out and making us smile each week.



Lord, Hear Our Prayers for those needing healing and comfort:

Lord,
HEAR OUR PRAYERS

Marilyn Jenkins, Roni Sarazine, Ryann Lee, Mary Larson, Audrey Floyd Hill, Dudley Reing, Art Dale, Walter Putney, Dave O'Melia, Marla Kahn, Bruce & Judy Anderson, Barry Hansen and Kevin Cairn

Brenda Tibbetts and family as they mourn the death of her brother, Todd Olson, on June 10.

Pastor Denise Scheer and family as they mourn the death of her mother, Marian, on June 6.

Those in the community and elsewhere who are feeling confused, disrupted and unsure, especially those displaced and directly affected by recent events, those facing medical testing, challenges, and difficult situations; those serving in the armed forces; and all those seeking or needing Jesus Christ in their lives.



It's summer and the Trinity choir, as well as Grace Notes, will be taking well-deserved breaks -- which means no regular special music.

If you, or someone you know, have a gift of music and are looking for a way to share it with the Trinity family, please contact Bailey Conger or the office.

All friends, relatives, kids, adults, musicians, singers, combos, soloists -- all are welcome! Bailey is waiting to hear from you!



JULY SUNDAY COFFEE SERVERS

7/6/25 Vickie & Larry Lange
Caroline Roesch & Sully
7/13/25 Arlene Jershe & Jim Aune
Erin & Bill Bryson, Vera & Audrey
7/20/25 Sue & Augie Carstens
Laurie Chilcote
7/27/25 Lorene & Mike Enzmann
Lauren & Garrett Simensen,
Ollie, June & Erik

Scripture Readings July 2025

July 6

4th Sunday of Pentecost
Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13

5th Sunday of Pentecost
Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 20

6th Sunday of Pentecost
Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 27

7th Sunday of Pentecost
Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]
Luke 11:1-13

AUGUST SUNDAY COFFEE SERVERS

8/3/25 Kim Martinson, Chad Hutkowski
Lorraine Carlson
Gerry Ruuska
8/10/25 Amanda & Tony Pascuzzi & family
Greg Wilson
8/17/25 Claire & John Zweg
Patti Naughton
8/24/25 Tom Soderberg
Linday & Leo Wilenius
8/31/25 Julie & Greg Aune
Judy Posch



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



July
2025

Trinity Lutheran Church Information

Part-time Interim: Pr. Denise Scheer
Congregational Care: Dn. Kari Olson
Music Director: Bailey Conger
Financial Manager/Bookkeeper: Sue Carstens
Secretary: Beth Sprouls



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
(Trinity Lutheran Church of Cook)

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.