

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

August Star Word Prompt: Who have you shared your star word with? What have you shared? Have they given you any outside insight how you interact with your star word?

I thank you for your prayers and cards of encouragement at the death of my mother last month. She was 97 and experiencing some health issues, and was more than ready to go. She was a person of deep faith, and I know she is at peace. Thank you also, for the gift of the beautiful plant. My mother was a master at gardening, so it holds special meaning for me. I appreciate your caring. -- Pastor Denise



It seems hard to believe that on July 31 Trinity's debt reduction campaign, *Growing in Grace*, for payment toward the building loan to the Mission Investment Fund

was completed. This is the perfect time to say *thank you*.

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity.

Thank you for your support of our mission and ministry here at Trinity.

Thank you for your presence in worship.

We also give thanks for the people of Trinity who offered their time and leadership in organizing the final appeal. Working together as a church family, we will continue the good and holy work that was begun through the power of the Holy Spirit.

If you set up automatic payments (through Vanco, North Star Credit Union, or other private sources) please contact them directly to cancel future payments. This *should not* affect automatic payments made to other designated funds.

Mid-year giving statements, in addition to final *Growing In Grace* statements, which were not picked up earlier have been mailed to the most recent address on file with the office. If you have not received one by August 17, please contact Sue Carstens or Beth Sprouls in the office to request a copy.

Chamber Music Society of Minnesota Presents: Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute Concert

A wonderful free summer concert by the Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute (educational arm of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota) will be hosted by Trinity on Monday, August 18, beginning at 7:00 pm. The program will consist of quartets, quintets, sextets, octets and a full string orchestra.

Please join us for an evening of beautiful chamber music performed by 33 outstanding young artists; many from our region, but also this year from Boston, Chicago, Utah, California, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. The NLCMI is an annual summer institute that convenes for eleven days of intense chamber music studies, taking place at Camp Vermilion. Gifted young musicians of college and high school age, along with internationally acclaimed faculty, will participate in this concert.

The NLCMI faculty are Ariana Kim, GRAMMY nominated violin professor at Cornell University, Young-Nam Kim, founding Artistic Director of the Chamber Music Society of Minnesota, Daniel Kim, violist of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Daniel Orsen, violist of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and Michelle Djokic, former principal cellist of the San Francisco Symphony.

The program will be invigorating and consist of engrossing works by Boccherini, Bruch, Dittersdorf, Dvorak, Harbison, Fanny Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn, Mozart, Pleyel, Schulhoff, Schubert, Schumann, Shostakovich, Smetana and Telemann. At the conclusion of the concert, all participants play together in a full string orchestra.

This will be the eighth year the group has performed at Trinity as part of the culmination of the camp. It is always a wonderful experience, with time at the end of the event for conversation. This is a free concert but donations are always accepted.



The Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute is the premiere educational wing of the *Chamber Music Society of Minnesota*; Young-Nam Kim and Arian Kim, Co-Artistic Directors.



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL August 28, 2025

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

August's menu: Zup's Brats, Coleslaw,
Chips and a Cookie.

Thank you for your continuous generous donations that help feed our community. Contact Julie Horihan for more information on how you can help.



Deacon Kari

Thank you!

As we enter into August, I am feeling so grateful for all of the people who make up Trinity Lutheran Church. It is amazing to witness the love and care that you show for all of our neighbors as you live out the love of Christ in the world. You continually demonstrate through your words and actions what it means to be a neighbor. You volunteer countless hours and for that I am so very grateful.

Following is a blessing written by Meta Herrick Carlson from her book, Speak it Plain: Words for Worship and Life Together, Copyright © 2020 Meta Herrick Carlson.

Volunteers

It is not only what you do,
but how you connect and love
that can transform a role or task
into a gift from God.

God bless your showing up
and the details of your doing.

God bless your willingness
to fail and learn from the process.

God bless your humility and humor
in the heart of what you do best.

God bless your duty and joy
for this community and impact.

God bless your candor
about what really matters to you.

God bless your flexibility
about the details and outcome alike.

God bless your observations
about who else might be invited to help.

God bless your stepping back
so another can participate more fully.

God bless your openness
to a process of becoming together.

For these are the gifts of God.
And so are you.

In gratitude, peace, and love!
Deacon Kari (she/her)

The Well – Resumes on August 4

The Well took a break during the month of July and will resume meeting on Mondays at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

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. Some people attend occasionally, and others attend weekly. Whenever you show up (whether it's your first time or your fortieth), and however you show up, you will be welcomed.

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), a 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 advice-giving, and keep confidentiality. Hope to see you there.

If you have any questions, please contact Dn. Kari.

Save the Date – Sunday, September 7, 2025

Back to School Blessing and Ministry Fair

Let's kick off the new school year by *Blessing the Backpacks* (purses, bags, etc.) during worship and learning about all of the ministry opportunities at Trinity with a Ministry Fair after worship.

A Ministry Fair is a chance for ministry teams to share what they do, an opportunity for us to learn about all that's going on at Trinity, and perhaps find an area that might interest you. All ministry areas at Trinity are encouraged to participate.

More information will be available soon. If you have any immediate questions, please contact Deacon Kari.



Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

Thank you for the
Scholarship.
I had so much fun!

JACKSON

Thank you so very much
for the generous scholarship
for Jackson. We really
appreciate it. He absolutely
loved Camp!
God Bless,
Scott & Beth
Scheldt

Are You Having a Faith-Filled Summer?

Pastor Denise Scheer



While we celebrated the Day of Pentecost at the beginning of the summer, the church season of Pentecost extends into October. And summer affords us some unique opportunities for reflection and celebration when we are out in the natural world. We can have a faith-filled summer that nourishes our souls and strengthens our relationship with God, even while resting and relaxing.

First, the color of this church season is green as it is about our growth as disciples. When we are outside, we can notice the many shades of green. We can take note of the vibrancy of nature and its abundance all around us. And, we can remember to celebrate the Holy Spirit as the source of new life and vitality.

Second, wind is a powerful symbol of Pentecost. It symbolizes the breath of God, breathing new life into believers and the Church. We can feel the wind on our faces. We can feel the coolness it brings to hot summer days. And, we can remember that this wind is a way the Spirit of God comes to us and is present with us.

Third, fire is also a powerful symbol of Pentecost. As we sit around bonfires and look at flames of candles, we can remember that God chose fire as a way to be among us.

And fourth, we appreciate the longer light filled days. In Scripture, light illuminates and makes things of God more clear. Marvel at the sunrise or the setting of the sun. And give thanks. For God is present and desires to give you the gift of the longer daylight.

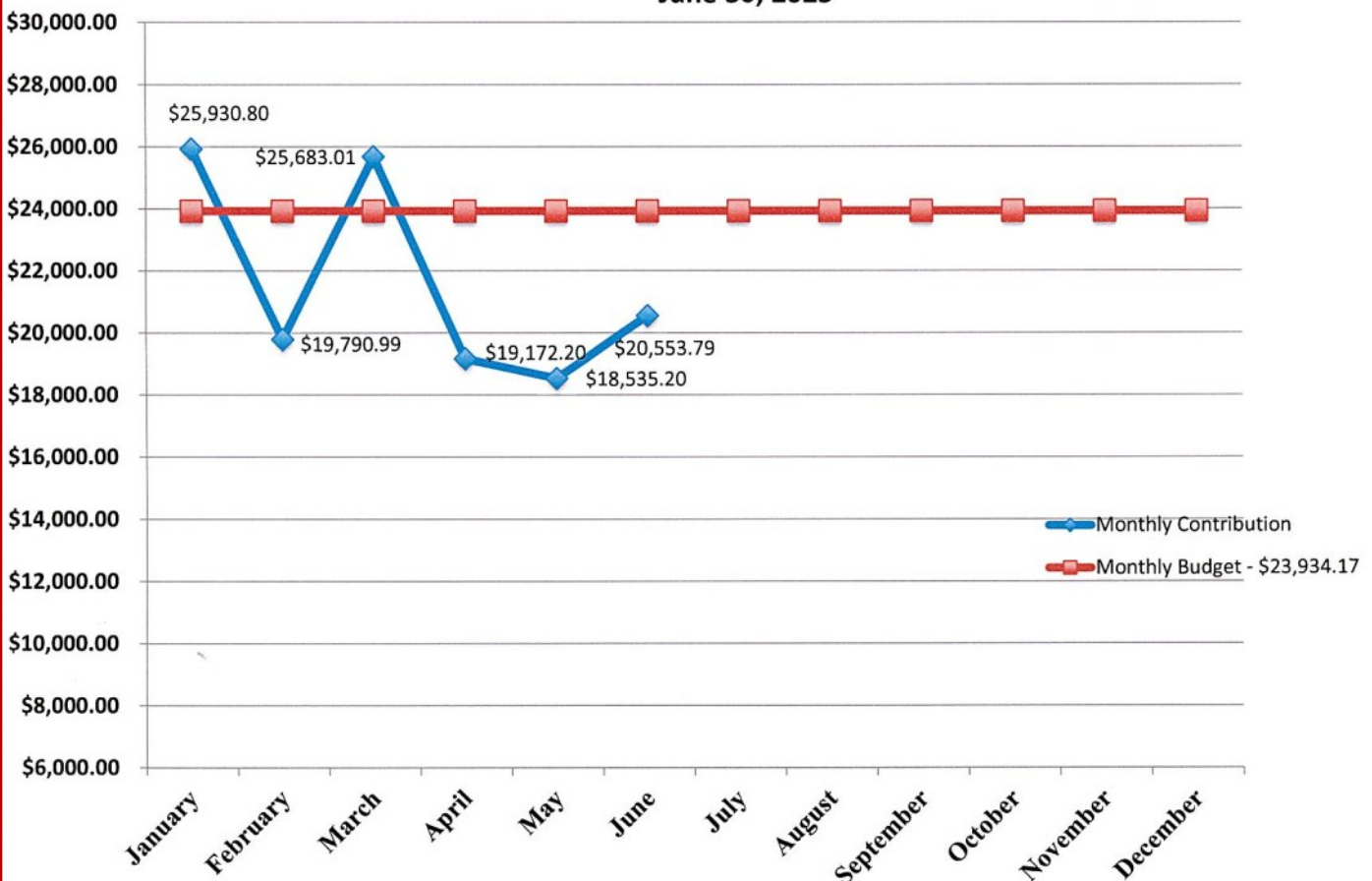
And beyond this, summer is a good time to make use of smart phones, computers, and tablets. We can think about downloading spiritual material and taking it outside with us - or as we travel. Or, we can listen to our favorite spiritual podcasts.

Whether we are walking, hiking, biking, boating, or traveling by car or plane this summer, however we are on the move, it is good to pause for a moment. We can pause to reflect on God's creative power and provision and to give thanks. This will help nurture our souls and draw us deeper into the mystery of God's love for us and all of the earth.

May it be so for us.

Giving in Grace

2025 General Fund Offerings
June 30, 2025



General Fund

Budget Receipts	\$20,553.79
Budget Expenditures	\$17,258.95
Checkbook Balance	\$8,475.28

2025 Budget = \$287,207.99**Offerings Needed**

Monthly = \$23,934.17

Sunday = \$5,523.26

<u>Income</u>	<u>June Receipts</u>	<u>Monthly Anticipated Budget</u>	<u>YTD Received</u>	<u>Anticipated YTD Budget</u>
Envelope Offering	\$ 19,729.20		\$ 122,139.64	
Loose Offering	\$ 749.59		\$ 6,356.35	
Church usage	\$ 75.00		\$ 1,170.00	
Total Regular Income	\$ 20,553.79	23,934.17 **	\$ 129,665.99	\$ 143,605.02

<u>Mission Support</u>	<u>June paid</u>		<u>YTD Paid</u>	
NE Synod	\$ 635.00	\$ 635.00	\$ 3,806.00	\$ 3,810.00
VLM	\$ 81.00	\$ 81.00	\$ 486.00	\$ 486.00
Total Mission Support	\$ 716.00	\$ 716.00	\$ 4,292.00	\$ 4,296.00

<u>Expenses</u>				
Education	\$	350.01	\$ 1,039.02	\$ 2,100.06
Wellness Ministry	\$	12.50		\$ 75.00
Stewardship	\$	111.47	\$ 699.51	\$ 600.00
Mental Health & Wellness	\$	41.67		\$ 250.02
Social Outreach Ministry	\$	417.32	\$ 1,476.89	\$ 1,000.02
Worship	\$	903.07	\$ 5,300.79	\$ 4,965.60
Church Operations	\$	6,098.31	\$ 56,468.07	\$ 52,271.28
Pastoral Salary & Bene	\$	1,353.22	\$ 8,109.32	\$ 42,543.18
Congreg Care Minister Sal & Bene	\$	7,580.38	\$ 42,812.06	\$ 35,353.80
Misc	\$	79.18	\$ 1,459.23	\$ 150.00
Total Expenses	\$	17,258.95	\$ 121,656.89	\$ 143,604.96

Growing In Grace(3)

	<u>June</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Total loan	\$786,660.31	
Current Balance	\$0.00	
Pledged	\$183,603.00	Jun 1 81
Pledges Received	\$193,443.20 (48 giving units)	8-Jun 94
	105.40% thru 6:30:25	15-Jun 76
		22-Jun 63
		29-Jun 83

Receipts for the month BELOW budget by \$3,380.38. Receipts, are BELOW budget for the year \$13,939.03.

Expenses are BELOW budget for the month by \$6,675.22. Expenses are BELOW budget for the year \$21,948.13.

Memorials received this month in memory of:

Larry Kujala
Dean Buchanan
Carol McCue

Given by:

Bruce and Judy Anderson
Norma Thomas
Norma Thomas, Dennis Morreim

VancoMobile link

<u>GIFTS</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Submitted-YTD</u>
Noisy Offering	\$289.84	\$1,257.90
Cook Food Shelf		
Social Outreach Ministry	\$92.00	\$1,492.00
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

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.*

Submitted by Sue Carstens, Bkkp



An Update from the President

Are you called to run for Trinity Council?

At the Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 26, we will elect three Trinity Council members. Greg Wilson and Larry Lange are eligible and willing to run again. I am not eligible to run again, so we will need at least one congregation member to run for Council.

Here is what Trinity Council does:

1. Meets monthly to discuss and vote on current matters
2. Sets goals and policy
3. Emphasizes partnership with the ELCA and NE MN Synod
4. Oversees financial and property matters
5. Supports church teams
6. Maintains supportive relationships with rostered leaders and church staff
7. Promotes congregational peace and mutual understanding

Council terms are two years.

Want to learn more about what the Council does? Consider attending an upcoming meeting: August 17, September 21 and October 12.

If you are interested in serving on Council, please let Deacon Kari, Pastor Denise or any Council member know.



Thank you,
Crystal Whitney

Current elected Council members are: Laura Aune, Larry Lange, Kim Marwick, Patti Naughton, Crystal Whitney, Leo Wilenius, Greg Wilson

Summer means different things to different people, but to members of the choir and Grace Notes, it means a break from a schedule of practices and performances.

It also means that Trinity gets to hear some talented musicians and vocalists who may not be able to participate on a regular basis.

Bailey Conger, as Trinity's music director, coordinates the worship/special music throughout the year.

Thank you all, for sharing your gifts with us.



Nicole Hed,
soloist.



Liam Conger
on guitar;
Bailey Conger
on piano.



Trinity Library Update: Linda Kronholm and sister, Sandy Stapp, were back at work recently to continue updating of the library space. New labels and more organizing were completed. Stop in and check out the many improvements.

Thanks for all your hard work, ladies!



Nancy Reing,
soloist.



And a special holiday treat:
piano trio of Bailey Conger,
Julie Horihan and Bruce
Garbisch.

Notice to Trinity Keyholders

After a 90-day review of security and safety concerns, and consultations with Arrowhead Locksmith Service, council has approved an upgrade to the exterior door locks.

The Building and Grounds team is working with Arrowhead to schedule installation, tentatively expected in mid-to late August. Once installed, new keys will be issued and instructions provided on usage. While we want to accommodate everyone who truly needs building access outside of office hours, we also want to minimize the number of keys available. Beth Sprouls will be the point of contact for this and will record issuances going forward.

While efforts have been made to contact all current keyholders, please let the office know if you have not been notified.

Thanks,
Larry Lange (Co-Chair Building & Grounds Team)



Reminder: Trinity's *Women of the ELCA* meet the second Wednesday of each month (this month, August 13) at 9:30 am, including a short Bible study from *Gather* magazine.

Thanks to Reverend Reany Lindberg, who presided over worship June 29 (*Noisy Sunday*) in the absence of both Pastor Denise and Deacon Kari. Also to Dale Horihan, who helped lead the worship. It was a wonderful service with the special offering of \$289.64, going to Lutheran Disaster Response.

If you missed this opportunity to contribute, the next Noisy Sunday is August 31. Keep saving those coins!



SAVE THE DATE: September 14, 2025

We will be gathering for our annual worship at the Little Fork Church in Field Township that morning. Mark your calendars. More information will be available as the day gets closer: newsletter, eblast, website, Facebook, and bulletins.



POLLINATOR NEWS & SIGHTINGS — How exciting!



There's a new addition to the bell tower flower beds: a bee house for natural pollinator bees. It was recently given and placed by Lynn and Steve Polich in memory of long-time member and parish nurse, Jackie Weum.

Minnesota is home to over 400 native bee species, including various types of bumble bees, mason bees, sweat bees, leafcutter bees and others. These bees play a vital role in pollinating both wild plants and important food crops. The state even has a native bee, the rusty patch bumblebee, that is protected under the

Endangered
Species Act.



"Pop-Up" Choir performing on Sunday, June 29. Thanks to all participants.

If you enjoy singing but are not able to commit to weekly choir during the year, this is your opportunity! The next opportunity to "pop up" is **Sunday, August 3!**

The group will meet in the Fireside Room on Sunday morning at 9:00 am, ready to prepare a song for worship. It is most often, an old favorite that most already know (and can be put together in 15 minutes).

Watch for future dates in the bulletins or eblasts (usually the week prior) for your next chance. Please join in!

ALL are Welcome!

Another celebration on Sunday, July 13, following the baptism of Zoey. The family became new members of Trinity on Pentecost Sunday, June 8. Please welcome Tom, Jennifer, Savanna & Zoey.

Dear Trinity Staff & Volunteers,
Thank you for all you did to make Zoey's baptism such a special day. We appreciate the time & care that was so evident - from the sign with her name, & the dedication of time during the service, to the delicious cake with her favorite colored flowers.

Thank you as well for welcoming our family. It has made such a positive impact to have a supportive, authentic, & inclusive community we feel a part of. We appreciate all the opportunities to explore our faith & spirituality, both collectively & individually. Most of all, as a parent →



Dear Trinity Helpers,
Thank you for making my baptism a special day. I felt very happy the cake was very yummy + thank you.
Zoey

thanks!

I am so grateful to have a place where our girls are embraced for who they are, & where they can learn & grow with leaders & peers who are brave, empathetic, & kind.

With Sincere Gratitude,
The Kiefer Family



Thanks to all the volunteers who make serving a monthly meal to the community possible. From the menu planners, the shoppers and the cookie bakers to the prep workers, the servers and the clean up crews; whether helping just once in a while or every month, of all ages and those who contribute to the fund... *You Are Appreciated!* This ministry would not be possible without every single one of you. If you have not had an opportunity, please contact Julie Horihan for more information on ways you may be able to help.



Julie, Bruce & Patti



Judy, Ashley, Julie, Barb & Nancy



Lindy & Sue



Special shout-out to the youth who volunteer their time to help distribute the boxed meals for the drive-thru service. Deacon Kari has recruited a great group; some frequent helpers, some occasional runners. You are an important part, also!

Audrey, Kate, Charley, Dn. Kari, Vera, Josey & Libby



Birthdays

3	Nancy Lindbeck	20	Brenda Tibbetts
4	Carrie Carstens	21	Jevon Garcia
6	Lori Gordon		Luke Pretti
11	Dale Johnson	22	Pam Carlson
12	Dn. Kari Olson	23	Ryann Lee
13	Lisa Ojanen	24	Augie Carstens
	Nathan Palm		Betty Tuuri
14	Marilyn Jenkins	25	Amy Pearson
	John Bergman	28	Griffin Franks
17	Lorene Enzmann		Tom Kinler
18	Norma Thomas	29	Addie Holter

Anniversaries

6	Mike & Patti Naughton
11	Dave & Jeanne O'Melia
13	Leo & Lindy Wilenius
17	Jason & Cindy Palm
	John & Wendy Jordan
22	Deb & Lori Gordon
25	Diane & Dave Culbert
28	Joel & Kerrisa Anderson
31	Nick Smith & Mackenzie Reing



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

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

The family & friends of Brenna Simpson, who passed away on July 4, 2025, as they continue to grieve.

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.

Lord,
HEAR OUR PRAYERS



It's always good to see former Trinity members when they are in the area. Bruce Anderson was visiting with family recently; as were Ray & Ivy Reinholtzen (not pictured).

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 Zwing Patti Naughton
8/24/25	Tom Soderberg Linday & Leo Wilenius
8/31/25	Julie & Greg Aune Judy Posch



Thanks to everyone who has helped prepared, serve and share coffee and goodies with our church community on Sunday mornings. Your service to our Trinity family is much appreciated.

If you would like to be a part of this important Sunday morning ministry but haven't yet been approached, reach out to either Lindy Wilenius or Leigh Zika and we'll be sure to include you on an upcoming list! Call or text: Lindy (218-780-4644) or Leigh (218-780-1769).

SEPTEMBER SUNDAY COFFEE SERVERS

9/7/25	Diane & Mark Pascuzzi Marcia Price
9/14/25	Sonja & Dale Foss Nancy & Roger Lindbeck
9/21/25	Laure & Steve Maki Julie & Dale Horihan
9/28/25	Kim & Rob Marwick Judy McGlynn

August 3

8th Sunday of Pentecost
Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

Scripture Readings
August 2025

August 10

9th Sunday of Pentecost
Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 17

10th Sunday of Pentecost
Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-36

August 24

11th Sunday of Pentecost
Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 31

12th Sunday of Pentecost
Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-14
Luke 14:1, 7-14

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



August
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.