



Trinity Lutheran Church | 2023



Pastor David

Pastor David Schoob
dschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Pastor Cristy

Pastor Cristy Schoob
cschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Dear Members and Friends of Trinity,

Recently we marked the milestone of doing ministry in the West Bend community (*and beyond*) for more than 100 years. Through a lot of time and change, our ministry has been and remains an effort reflective of the dedication and commitment of our membership reaching out beyond our doors in many different ways with the love and promise of God. *We know God is at work in a number of exciting ways here at Trinity.*



Trinity has a history of stepping forward in faith to address the needs of the congregation as they relate to our witness in the community. But the truth is, sharing God's promise is a mission that is "never done." God is still calling us to reach out into our community and world to share His love and promise with others. We are called to preach the word, to be examples of Christ, to be accepting, forgiving, to love one another and to bring others into the saving grace of our Lord and Savior. ***This is a mandate of the church. It is not an elective or "one" of the things we do; it is what we are all about.***

So, as we take a look back, lift up and celebrate Trinity's journey of 100 years, let us also remain ready and open for what is yet to come! For God is still calling us, *and there's no doubt*, when the Spirit comes in, God will send us out!

Sharing the love and promise of God



Trinity Lutheran Church
140 N 7TH AVENUE | WEST BEND, WI 53095
trinitywestbend.com

  Trinity is a Reconciling in Christ congregation



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TRINITY CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Anita McClain, PRESIDENT..... COMMUNITY BUILDING
- Charlotte Butzler, CO-VP..... FAITH DEVELOPMENT
- Todd Markgraf, CO-VP..... PROPERTY
- Greg McMahon, TREASURER..... FINANCE TEAM
- Candy Sarauer, SECRETARY..... MINISTRY SUPPORT
- Suzanne Barker..... STEWARDSHIP
- Penny Bergerud..... COMMUNITY BUILDING
- Mike Kappler..... PROPERTY
- Jay Riederer..... OUTREACH
- Cheryl Scaffidi..... WORSHIP & MUSIC
- Mike Tikusis..... TECHNOLOGY
- Alex Bergerud..... YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE





The journey begins ...

1922 - 1947 | From the very beginning Trinity was committed to including those who were left out. Up until this time all the Lutheran churches in the community conducted their services in German. This group of faithful people sought a way to bring the Word to their children in the English language.

Beginning in the spring of 1922, this small group of Lutherans began meeting in a rented room over Poull's Department Store (now the Ziegler Building). Field Missionary Rev. William Stump would come to West Bend each weekend to conduct services and visit in the homes of the families. A Sunday School was also started during that summer.

On September 19, 1922 twelve Lutherans signed the congregational charter and **Trinity English Lutheran Church** was born. In February of 1923 they called Rev. Paul Wetzler as the first permanent pastor of Trinity English Lutheran Church. The charter of the congregation was closed on April 1, 1923 with a total of 49 members. On May 14, 1923 during the first congregational meeting, with 47 voting members (26 families) the purchase of the lot on which the church now stands was authorized. A building committee was appointed.

By July of 1923 the mezzanine floor of the Masonic Temple was rented in order to hold Sunday services and conduct Sunday School classes. Rev. Wetzler resigned in June of 1925 and on January 8, 1926, Rev. Willis Beck became Trinity's second pastor.

On July 18, 1926, the building committee was authorized to proceed with the construction of the church building. Membership at that time was 88 confirmed members (43 families). The church was completed in December of 1926.

Rev. R.W. Groth became Trinity's pastor in 1929. He would be the longest serving pastor in Trinity's history —29 years! In December of 1932 Trinity's pipe organ was purchased and first played at the Christmas Eve services. In 1937 a parsonage was purchased, and in 1943 a successful drive was conducted to pay off all of Trinity's debt.

In spring of 1947, Trinity's 25th anniversary year, a long range planning committee was formed to consider the future needs of the fast growing congregation.



The Charter Members who effected the Organization of Trinity English Lutheran Congregation Sept 19, 1922

The Charter of the Church remained open until April 1, 1924 when meeting with the congregation as charter members were:

*Back Row: Henry Nagel - Sam. Becker - Herman Olms - C. Nielsen
Middle Row: Eva Busch - Mrs. Hermann Olms - Margit G. Hansen
Front Row: Mrs. Wm. Becker - Mrs. E. Nielsen - Mrs. Willie Hansen - Mrs. Wm. Faust*

*Mr. Henry Nagel
Mrs. Wm. Becker
Mrs. E. Nielsen
Mrs. Willie Hansen
Mrs. Wm. Faust*

Presented by the Luther League at the Fifteen Anniversary Banquet, Sept 20, 1937



Rev. Stump Rev. Wetzler

In 1922 Rev. Stump served a small group of Lutherans in West Bend who wanted to start a church that conducted their services in English. He served them until 1923 when they were able to call their first permanent pastor, Rev. Paul Wetzler.

The Charter remained open until April 1, 1923

In 1924 plans for a church building were presented to the congregation. They would not be approved until two years later. The church building was completed in December 1926 at a cost of \$16,639.10, over one half of which was contributed by members.



Trinity's steeple cross



Rev. Beck Rev. Groth



A pipe organ purchased in December 1932 would be played for the first time on Christmas Eve



Christmas at Trinity



Trinity Church, West Bend school and other activities of the church.

Trinity English Lutheran Church



The building expansion was completed in 1957.

Ground-breaking for the expansion began in October of 1956. While construction was going on services were held in the V.F.W. club room. Services resumed in the new building on October 27, 1957.



Rev. Meyer



Rev. Hackbarth



Trinity Lutheran to dedicate wing Sunday

The new educational wing of Trinity Lutheran Church will be dedicated at special services 2 p.m. Sunday, June 3, 1974.
Dr. Theodore Malton, president of the Wisconsin-Upper Michigan Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, will perform the dedication, being assisted by Pastor Victor Hackbarth and Pastor Assistant David Slaght. Dr. Malton will deliver the sermon for this occasion.
The first part of the dedication service will be in the upper level mezzanine, after which the congregation will proceed into the Church nave, singing, "Beautiful Savior," for the second part of the service.
The Senior and Junior Chorus will sing special anthems. Greetings and congratulations will be in charge of William Lund, chairman of the church council.
Open house will be immediately after the service and refreshments by the Dorcas Society will be in the lounge. The community is cordially invited to the service and open house and refreshments.
The educational unit, costing \$20,000 was completed by March of this year. Ground breaking services were May 8, 1973.



50 years of growth...

1947 - 1972 | By 1949 the enrollment in Sunday School had increased so much that the house next door to the church was purchased. Known as "The Parish House," it became the new location for Sunday School.

Trinity's membership continued to increase to the extent that, in 1952 another home was purchased to house Sunday School. The growth prompted action to acquire a new site for a new building on the former Johann farm property (where the YMCA is now located). In the end however, the congregation decided they would stay and expand the original structure on 7th Avenue. Construction started in October of 1956 and dedication to the newly expanded church took place on November 17, 1957.

After 39 faithful years of service to Trinity, Pastor Groth accepted a call to serve as a mission developer in Greenfield, WI. He had guided the Trinity congregation through decades of changes and growth. His last worship service at Trinity took place on August 15, 1958.

On All Saints Day in 1958, Rev. Christian Meyer became Trinity's fourth pastor. Early in 1959 the word "English" was omitted and the name of the church was simplified to Trinity Lutheran Church. The congregation celebrated its 40th anniversary in 1962. Pastor Meyer's ministry at Trinity lasted 7 years.

Rev. Victor Hackbarth was called to serve as Trinity's fifth pastor in 1965. He led the congregation in the time of its greatest growth. In 1967 Trinity expanded its outreach ministry with their weekly radio broadcast of worship on WBKV every Sunday morning at 10:30. In 1966 Trinity's growth led to the call of the congregations first Assistant Pastor, Peter Lanninen. He was followed by Pastor George Fischer in 1968, who was followed by Pastor David Josten in 1969.

From 1968 until 1970 Trinity leased classroom space from the school district. With the start of a new decade it was increasingly apparent that the congregation had outgrown its building. As Trinity was celebrating their 50th anniversary in 1972, plans were underway for a major education addition. Sketches were drawn up and excitement began to build. To make room for this major expansion, homes along 7th Avenue needed to be removed. Not long after the demolition started, the rubble left behind went up in flames.



Pastor Cristy Pastor Dave



1922-2022

All about reaching out...

1997 - 2022 PART ONE | In August of 1997 Pastors David and Cristy Schoob were called to Trinity, sharing one Associate Pastor position. Pastor Cristy brought a passion for youth and family ministry and a great openness and creativity. Pastor Dave's gifts focused on faith development and visitation. With Pastor Berg's passion for leadership and long range planning, this combined pastoral team would allow Trinity to embark on a new path of outreach ministry.

Coffee Hour was introduced in 1998. In 1999 a Stephen Ministry team came into existence. That same year, traditional Sunday School classrooms were replaced with the hands-on Workshop Rotation program. In 2000 the title of 'Sunday School' was officially changed to Children's Ministry.

During this time Trinity became involved with ministry in the Meru Diocese of Tanzania. A group of Trinity members traveled to Tanzania to participate in the construction of a school. This experience would eventual lead Trinity member, John Kenworthy, to form Brick by Brick for Tanzania, an effort to build more and much needed pre-schools.

As part of the trajectory under Pastor Terry's vision, Trinity began to buy surrounding houses as they came on the market. The long range plan was to make Trinity and our surrounding neighborhood a CENTER for community service and care. One house was converted into 2 low income apartments that were rented out in partnership with the Youth and Family Project. Another was used by the Red Cross. The congregation began to consider how they could best serve the community around them and consulted with community leaders to identify a number of priorities for ministry.

Trinity became a center for community groups to meet. At various times Trinity hosted Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, PFLAG, Peacekeepers, young people's discussion groups from the High School ... and more.

During Trinity's 80th year the Venture 2002 Building for Ministry plan was formed. The proposed renovation was developed in partnership with Lutheran Social Services, the Threshold and Kairos Counseling—and was intentionally centered to accommodate and support the needs of the elderly, families, and mental health crisis services in our community. Building for Ministry would create Trinity Center—a central place to meet these specific ministry needs in our community.

On June 8, 2003 the completed Building for Ministry project was dedicated. Once again Trinity's building was enlarged and enhanced, so that it might serve the needs of a larger congregation in a more adequate way. This challenged the congregation to re-dedicate themselves as members of Christ's church to even greater service in his kingdom.

THE TRINITY TRUMPET TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 9 October, 1997

Welcome to Pastors Cristy and David Schoob. Pastors Cristy and David Schoob will begin their call as Associate Pastors of Trinity on October 6, 1997. They will fill one position (each 1/2 time). In addition to preaching, leading worship and general pastoral duties, they will concentrate time in some specific areas. Pastor Cristy will lead the confirmation and youth ministry program. Pastor Dave will lead the adult education program. Pastors Cristy and David have served at House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Mequon since 1991. Previous to this they served churches in Kansas, Arizona, Wisconsin and with Pastor Terry on a two-year interim ministry at Fox Point Lutheran Church. They are graduates of Carthage College and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. They have two children, Curt age 9 and Nicholas age 3. Their address is 8107 N. 51st Street, Green Deer, WI 53023. They can be reached at Home (414)666-2647 or at the Church Office 334-2125. They will be moving to West Bend next summer. We welcome Pastors Cristy and David to Trinity and look forward to sharing in ministry with them.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ROTATION WORKSHOPS

TELL IT • SEE IT • MAKE IT • MOVE IT • TASTE IT





Hills, valleys and new roads...

1997 - 2022 PART TWO | In 2003 Pastor Terry was diagnosed with oral cancer and began treatments. By 2005 his cancer was gone, but the treatments caused significant damage and challenges—*yet, he persevered.* Trinity had already been involved in the West Bend Relay for Life for several years, but now Pastor Terry would join other Trinity members, walking as a survivor.

The first Advent Cantata was held in December of 2005. It has become one of the most loved and significant worship offering in the congregation.

2007 began with Pastor Terry's retirement. It was an incredibly difficult time for the congregation. But in his final sermon he encouraged and challenged the congregation to continue to step out in faith for the future by saying, *"If you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much space."*

On January 27, 2008 Pastors Cristy and David Schoob were installed as Trinity's Senior Pastors. Having served with Pastor Berg their vision had been greatly shaped by his time as leader—but they also brought their own hopes, visions and gifts. Pastor Cristy's passion for youth ministry resulted in a more relational focus in Confirmation, the formation of F.I.S.H. (*Following Immanuel Serving Happily*), a program for 4th-6th Graders, summer servant trips and First Sunday for the High School group.

In 2009 Trinity helped to establish Family Promise, a program in which churches would band together to address homeless families in our community. In 2013, the Threshold received the gift of a building and vacated their space at Trinity. The space is now used for child day care services by the YMCA. Also, with the vision for Trinity Center dimming, there was strain in the congregation over the properties Trinity purchased. The process of selling them began.

In 2016 two members of the congregation asked the church council to consider becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Discussions continued through the next year. On March 19, 2017, Trinity officially adopted our current welcome statement declaring Trinity's commitment to be an inclusive and grace filled church welcome to all God's children. Shortly thereafter Trinity became the first Reconciling in Christ congregation in Washington County.

In 2018 a mid-week Prayer Around the Cross (taizé type) time of worship was offered to the congregation and Trinity became involved in God's Work. Our Hands. outreach ministry.

When 2020 brought COVID and closed our doors, Trinity became a church without walls. We connected through our phones, emails and met via zoom video. Online worship was developed, electronic communications were expanded, drive-in worship services were conducted and drive-through communion was served. Online Bible Studies and Children's Ministry messages were offered. A virtual Advent Cantata was developed. Trinity's *"masked singers"* gathered to record a collection of hymns for all to take in online and we gathered for worship in the park too.



Family Promise
of Washington County





Geoffrey Hoy



Wayne Vogt



John Berg



David Berg



Paula Canby



Ryan Pusch



Nick Schoob



Ryan Pusch
Confirmation



Nick Schoob
Confirmation



And... for the Record...

1922-2022 | CLERGY LEADERSHIP

TRINITY SENIOR PASTORS

- Rev. William Stump, Missionary 1922
- Rev. Paul Wetzler 1923-1925
- Rev. Willis Beck 1926-1929
- Rev. Rayond Groth 1929-1958
- Rev. Christian Meyer 1958-1965
- Rev. Victor Hackbarth 1965-1983
- Rev. Kenneth Merckx 1984-1992
- Rev. Terry Berg 1993-2007
- Rev. Cristy Schoob 2008-Present
- Rev. David Schoob 2008-Present

TRINITY ASSOCIATE PASTORS

- Rev. Peter Lanninen 1966-1967
- Rev. George Fisher 1967-1968
- Rev. David Josten 1969
- Rev. David Slaght 1973-1974
- Rev. William O. Horn 1976-1980
- Rev. Richard Flaa 1981-1984
- Rev. Dennis R. Keip 1987-1990
- Rev. Jennifer Johnson 1991-1997
- Rev. Cristy Schoob 1997-2008
- Rev. David Schoob 1997-2008

SEMINARY INTERNS

- Rev. Bruce Anderson 1973-1974
- Rev. Carmala Aderman 1985-1986

WOMEN IN MINISTRY AT TRINITY

- Carmala Aderman, Intern Pastor 1985-1986
- Rev. Jennifer Johnston, Associate Pastor 1991-1997
- Rev. Cristy Schoob, Associate/Senior Pastor ... '97-Present

women in ministry at Trinity...



INTERN PASTOR — The Internship Committee of Trinity Lutheran Church announces the appointment of Carmala J. Aderman to the staff of Trinity Church. She will serve as an intern pastor. A native of Shell Lake, Aderman earned a bachelor of science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and is pursuing a master of divinity degree at Northwestern Theological Seminary, St. Paul, Minn. Upon completing her year's internship, under the supervision of Trinity Church's senior pastor, Rev. Kenneth Merckx, Aderman will return for her third and final year of seminary training, and become ordained into the Lutheran ministry.

— Photo submitted to the News

Seminary intern, Carmala Aderman was the first female called into ministry at Trinity. This was about 15 years after the first female ordination took place in the LCA.



This minister isn't monkeying around

Murray helps administer message to parishioners

NEIGHBORHOOD

Our spiritual family

Pastor Jennifer Johnston Arnold was ordained at Trinity and became the Associate Pastor in 1991. She brought with her many gifts—connecting with adults and youth alike. She helped lead Confirmation ministry and the youth camp program. Pastor Jennifer introduced Trinity to puppet and clown ministry and is responsible for developing Trinity's Created to Praise worship service.






Pastor Cristy Schoob has brought gifts in youth and family ministry—founding the 4th-6th Grade F.I.S.H. youth group, bringing a relational focus to the Confirmation program, started the Children's Ministry Workshop Rotation program, developed the High School First Sunday group and began the tradition of the yearly Senior High summer servant trips.

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.

ISAIAH 11:1

ROOTED IN MINISTRY

The following souls who have roots at Trinity answered the call to enter the ministry and, as it is said, when the Spirit came in, God sent them out! *Sharing the love and promise of God with others are:*

- Rev. Ellis Eskritt
- Rev. Lloyd Yaggie
- Rev. Daniel Hoy
- Rev. Geoffrey Hoy*
- Rev. Jeffrey Nehrbass
- Rev. Wayne Vogt*
- Rev. John Berg*
- Rev. David Berg*
- Rev. Paula Canby*
- Rev. Ryan Pusch*
- Rev. Nick Schoob*
- * Pictured



A Centennial Celebration

1922-2022 | CELEBRATING ONE HUNDRED YEARS!
 Even though we were finally able to gather together again the year before, Trinity was still recovering from the COVID down time when its centennial anniversary came. But, one thing the pandemic did was make us more aware and thankful to be together—we realized how much we missed each other and needed this community of faith we share. This made the planning and anticipation of the centennial celebration even more significant.

And, on that note, an incredible time of celebration took place over an entire weekend! Beginning on Saturday, September 17, 2022 with a celebratory formal reception held at the Museum of Wisconsin Art in West Bend.

We were joined by special guests:

- Bishop Paul Erickson
- Karen Berg
- Rev. Jennifer Arnold *and her husband, Warren*
- Rev. Carmala Aderman
- Rev. Geoffrey Hoy
- Karen Merckx
- Rev. John Berg *and his wife, Rev Sarah Stumme-Berg*

There were also video greetings from:

- Rev. John Berg
- Rev. David Berg,
- Rev. Ryan Pusch
- Nick Schoob
- Tamra Duncan (*former Trinity Choir director*)

Trinity member, Amy Kreutzer emceed the presentation portion of the evening. Guests enjoyed reconnecting and reminiscing in a beautiful and joyful atmosphere. There they shared good conversation, delicious food, refreshing drink, saw many images from the past 100 years, and heard a variety of good music from Trinity's own:

- Sue and Matthew Walker
- Trinity Youth Singers
- Michael Loomans
- Rick Gilbertson
- Patrick Budoff





A Centennial Celebration

1922-2022 | CELEBRATING DAY-TWO!

The second day of the centennial celebration, Sunday, September 18, 2022 started with a blessed time of worship at Trinity. The service began with the Trinity Centennial Celebration Choir, accompanied by Hazel Griffin and directed by Miriam Altman. Trinity's Youth Singers, directed by Darci Ketter also graced the service.

Bishop Paul Erickson delivered the message and other worship leaders and assistants included:

- Pastors Dave & Cristy
- Karen Berg
- Rev. Carmala Aderman
- Rev. Geoffrey Hoy
- Karen Merckx

Bishop Erickson's message layed out the cycle of Christian living—encouraging all in attendance to live by the three R's—Remember. Rejoice. Renew.

We Remember all that God has done here at Trinity and all those who came before us shaping who we are and laying a solid foundation.

We Rejoice and celebrate and give thanks for all these gifts. We pray and sing and worship together and share the meal of Christ.

And we Renew our faith in the gospel, our love for each other, and our commitment to take God's love and promise out into our community and beyond.

Immediately following the service a more casual time of gathering, took place in Trinity's Heritage Room. The celebration and reminiscing continued with a special time of gathering over coffee, cake and a plethora of finger foods!

We started out to celebrate the past, but in the process we were renewed. Even with ten decades behind us, the ministry of Trinity has only just begun—because God is still calling us, and there's no doubt, when the Spirit comes in, God will send us OUT!

And so it is with joy and thanksgiving and hope that we embark on the next 100 years.



Worship & Music ministry is central to who we are as children of God. Children are important and welcome participants in our worship at Trinity.

A new century has begun...

The previous pages highlighted facts and milestones in Trinity's journey over the past century, *but they hardly tell the whole story.* 100 years didn't actually go by in 25 year increments summarized in a few paragraphs—it *passed one day at a time.* Nor did its ministries always happen without pain or conflict—*pain, conflict, hills, valleys and losses have been part of the journey as well.*

Starting with a handful of determined Charter members, Trinity has been blessed with a century of leaders (*clergy and lay persons alike*) who brought their own passion and vision to the ministry of this church. Each of them—*together with countless Trinity members who, over the years, have also given so much of themselves to this very special church family*—have shaped who we are today and their footprints will always be part of what is yet to come.

With the first 100 years behind us, a new century of doing ministry has begun. It, too, will happen one day at a time and change, hills, valleys and losses will most likely be part of the journey as well. But if we stay steadfast, following the loving example of our Lord, we can confidently and enthusiastically look forward to continuing ministries already established, and to commit ourselves to those ministries that are yet to unfold.

And, through it all, God's love and grace remain.

Thanks be to God!



Helene Schrankler ORGANIST
Sherry McElhatton ORGANIST
Hazel Griffin MUSIC COORDINATOR KEYBOARD ACCOMPANIST



Organ Cover made by: Shirli Currier



Worship & Music Ministry

WORSHIP & MUSIC ministry is central to who we are as children of God. Whether it is liturgical (*Traditional*), Created to Praise, or online—our goal is to provide spirit-filled and meaningful services of worship that celebrate God's love and grace. Music-based worship like Trinity's Advent Cantata is a significant worship experience that is loved by the congregation. Solemn worship services centered around prayer are also offered throughout the year.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP ORGANISTS: Helene Schrankler, Sherry McElhatton **CANTORS:** Cyndee Bruder, Patrick Budoff, Lori Hassig, Darci Ketter, Elena Lohr-Kugle

CREATED TO PRAISE ACCOMPANIST: Hazel Griffin, April Brodzeller, Darci Ketter **PERCUSSION:** Connor Scaffidi **CTP SONG LEADER:** Rick Gilbertson **CTP SINGERS:** Linda Amacher, Paul Anderson, Tony Brodzeller, Cyndee Bruder, Patrick Budoff, Ruthann Dorn, Greg Griffin, Lori Hassig, Gaytha Hillman, Wendy Johnson, Darci Ketter, Phil Pierce

VISUAL | AUDIO WORSHIP TECH TEAM: Jim Barker, Sue Gilbertson, Greg Griffin, Peter Nelson, Jay Reiderer, Cheryl Scaffidi, Bryan Schlosser, Mike Tikusis

ONLINE WORSHIP & WEEKLY DEVOTION RECORDING, EDITING & PRODUCTION: Greg Griffin & Mike Tikusis



ALL ABOUT YOU *th*



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY | 3 yr old - 6th Grade
 We believe that Faith is not meant to be a "school" subject to learn and file away, but the center of a person's identity. With that in mind, our Workshop Rotation program recognizes that different people learn best in different ways and, as such, is taught in five different ways: **MAKE IT MOVE IT TASTE IT TELL IT SEE IT**. Each week, children rotate into a different "experience" that present the Bible stories and faith concepts in varied, impactful, fun and memorable ways.



F.I.S.H.
FOLLOWING IMMANUEL SERVING HAPPILY
 This important youth group experience for 4th-6th Graders is designed to help our youth connect with each other, their church and God in an atmosphere of fun, joy and acceptance. F.I.S.H. meets one Sunday a month during the school year.



1st Communion Workshop | Usually in February of their fifth grade year, our young people learn about worship during their 5 week "Keeping the Promise" rotation. Along with this they attend a (Friday evening and Saturday morning) "First Communion Workshop" with their parent(s), lead worship and experience their First Communion on or near the First Sunday in March.



Confirmation Youth | Our 7th and 8th Graders meet Wednesday evenings throughout the school year. There are two full weekend retreats at Pine Lake Camp in Fall and Spring. There is also an Overnight for our 9th Graders. The 9th Graders attend Confirmation through the second Sunday in October which is when their Confirmation Day is scheduled.



FIRST SUNDAY | A monthly opportunity for 9th-12th Grade High Schoolers to get together to share a light meal, and take a little time to renew themselves as a child of God.

- Connect or reconnect with friends.
- Re-center with a short, interactive worship experience
- Recharge our passion for compassion

Senior High Summer Servant Trips | The Senior High Summer Trip is an annual opportunity designed to give our 9th-12th grade youth a chance to encounter a world and a faith that's much bigger than just West Bend and Trinity Lutheran Church.





Outreach Ministry

We are called to reach out into the world, into the community, to share the love and promise of God with others. This is a mandate of the church. It's not elective or "one" of the things we do; it is what we are all about.

Over the past several decades Trinity has maintained a presence in community outreach efforts by partnering with many community service organizations. *Today our outreach efforts continue to evolve and grow with these established ministries...*

- support of the Mt. Meru coffee project
- support of Sura Lutheran Church in Tanzania
- serving at The Gathering in Milwaukee
- providing space for NA and other groups
- support of Family Promise Washington County
- **God's Work. Our Hands.** days of service
 - Blue Lotus Center
 - Treats delivered to First Responders
 - Samritan BINGO
- Underware collection for local schools
- hosting **härmenē** community benefit concerts
- sponsoring Kaori, our Compassion International child
- Project Return, supporting the ex-incarcerated
- Full Shelf Food Pantry collections
- Helping Hands Fund (*Incredible Edibles fund raiser*)
- Monarch ministry
- Prayer Shawl ministry
- Prayer Chain ministry
- Trinity Comforters blanket ministry
- Donations to Lutheran World Relief
- Giving Tree ministries
 - Gingerbread House
 - Samaritan Health Center
 - High School Holiday Hope collection
 - Families connected to Trinity
- Aluminum tab collection for Ronald McDonald House
- Family color crayon collection for local schools
- support of Youth & Family Project Pride Celebration
- hosting Citizen's Advocates BINGO

... and those ministries yet to unfold!

One thing is for sure—there can be no doubt,
When the Spirit comes in, *God will send us out!*





SOULFiX

GATHER
AT THE *fountain*



TUESDAYS
ON THE *TRAIL*
WALK AND TALK



Trivia
Night

Community Building Ministry

COMMUNITY BUILDING ministry provides opportunities for people to **BECOME** a community: to laugh, cry, work, grow, play and pray together. Church is one of the few places left where different generations can interact, share, lean on and learn from one another. Community Building is the ministry of bringing together the family of God, especially the immediate family of Trinity—and, this community of faith is happy and thankful to do just that!

We gather together ...

Gathering together for all manor of rhyme and reason is just good for our souls and we try our best not to let any opportunity left behind. To that end the Trinity family has come together:

- after worship, connecting and sharing casual conversation during coffee hours
- for ice cream socials in celebration of Pentecost and any other reason we can find (*because ice cream is good!*)
- for celebration picnics and luncheons (*often complete with Tony Martin's famous pulled pork!*) for Rally Day, Stewardship and other occasions
- sharing Easter Breakfast before or between Services
- for the annual Chili Cook-off competition
- practicing the joy of movement and meditation
 - Joyofyoga & Wellness
 - Tuesdays on the Trail
- expanding our horizons and trying new things:
 - Myths, Labels & Healthy Eating
 - cookie decorating tips & tricks
 - learning how to make sour dough bread
 - learning how to crochet (*or attempting to!*)
- to join in on (*often hilarious*) Trivia nights
- to play board games
- on the church patio, Thursday nights in summer for relaxing and casual conversation

... because, together is a good place to be!





And so we do life...

This community of faith has persevered. We have entered a second century as an inclusive congregation committed to share the love and promise of God with everyone, everywhere. We've been able to pivot through more than a century of change as well as the challenges of a pandemic—and, through it all, God's love and grace remain. Let us rejoice and be glad.

It is good to enjoy each others company—to worship, and sing and pray and serve together. It is good to hear children laughing and playing and building relationships with God and each other in Children's Ministry. It is good to gather for community building events and to share conversation during coffee hours. It is good to get together to make blankets for folks in need, or to study the Bible, or discuss books we have read. It is good to be able to host things like the *hårmenø* concert, to participate in **God's Work. Our Hands.** and other outreach ministries, and to once again be able to take in the Advent Cantata! *And*, it is good to witness the wonder of transformation as we care for caterpillars that turn into Monarch butterflies!

It is good. God is good. **ALL THE TIME.**

Thanks be to God!

So much happens... **BEHIND THE SCENES**

Thankful for members of *all ages* that pitch in behind the scenes—*sharing their gifts and time*, helping with plethora of needed (*but often thankless*) tasks. You make a difference in Trinity's ministries, facilities and presence in the community alike... *and for that we are truly grateful and blessed.*



The Trinity family welcomed these new members in 2023

Thankful for finding an inclusive congregation with a great Children's program, many of Trinity's newest members are active servants in Children's Ministry, have helped with coffee hour and are serving as Worship assistants too. Many have also made deep connections and developed relationships with the Trinity family.



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