



Trinity Spirit

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2024

Once more we have come fully circle. Soon after you receive this newsletter we will gather on what we call Rally Day. It is a time to come back together from a break in the normal schedule we call summer. *This year as we come back together the children's ministry theme is "CROSSROADS."*



crossroads

What an appropriate theme. Christians were originally known as people of **"THE WAY"**. Faith was seen as a path or a journey. The truth is that we are always on the way.

And all along the way there are crossroads. For some crossroads are frightening. Crossroads are places where we have to make a decision. But what if we make the wrong decision? What if we get lost?

But our Lord who died on a cross, has promised to meet us at each crossroad. Jesus travels the way with us and so the fear is lessened. We are not alone. And we have the opportunity to follow Jesus on the way. And if we happen to lose sight of Jesus, well Jesus never loses sight of us.

And we meet others at the crossroads. They too travel with us and we with them. We help each other and share with one another. We bear each other's burdens and bare our pains and struggles to each other. We laugh together and cry together. We are on the way together. And when our ways part- well there are others we meet with whom to travel.

And every moment is a new crossroads. And that is good news. Because if we find ourselves going the wrong way- well there is always a chance to choose again and move in a new direction. Or if the road we are on is filled with joy and life we can continue on and we always know that the path will bring us home. So you are all invited to meet at the crossroads. Come and join us on this journey. Let us travel together with Jesus into each new moment. May we be unafraid to choose the path less taken and see the wonders that God has in store. The way may be difficult at times and at others times may be filled with beauty and clear skies. But we are always on the way with Jesus and in God's love every crossroads will lead us home.

Your Fellow Travelers,

Pastor Dave *Pastor Cristy*
Pastors Dave and Cristy

IF EVER THERE WAS A MINISTER OF MUSIC . . .

Hazel Griffin has been active in Trinity's music ministry for 33+ years, beginning with accompanying the choirs and then selecting music in collaboration with our many directors of the adult and children's choirs over the years. She was involved in the development of Trinity's **Created to Praise** worship service in 1997 and since then has continued to grow the music team, inviting new musicians to become valued members of the Trinity family. As Trinity's Music Coordinator, Hazel has a passion for seeking out new music that has both meaningful lyrics to support the weekly message and is also singable by the congregation. As with any coordinator position, there are many behind-the-scenes tasks that keep things running smoothly. These include (*but are not limited to*) providing the pastors with lists of thematic musical options for the weekly services; managing schedules for cantors, singers and A-V volunteers; coordinating the distribution of the selected weekly music to the singers, organists, and office; creating all of the CTP and alternate tune music for our bulletins, editing recordings of our singers for the online service; scheduling and running rehearsals; and organizing copyright information *for reporting compliance with licensing agencies* for all music used for in-person and online services.

Hazel is driven by her deep faith as well as her profound dedication to living a life of service.

Among Hazel's passions and most fulfilling contributions here at Trinity have been the development of **Trinity's Advent Cantatas** and the creation of the **härmenē** ensemble and benefit concerts. For these, she invited and recruited many musicians and singers from the community to join our own talented members. When Covid closed our doors, Hazel and Greg Griffin took on the task of getting an online service up and running, going from zero to online in just 2 weeks and continuing to grow it with new recordings of music over the years since. She created a Virtual Cantata during the pandemic and gathered together a group of "masked singers" to record music we could sing along with and enjoy anytime in the comfort of our homes. In her spare time, Hazel is active with the high schools in West Bend and Slinger, accompanies many students for their solo and ensemble festival entries, and also enjoys playing for community theater productions. Oh, and let's not forget her incredible baking talents as well . . . she started the **Trinity Incredible Edibles Bake Sales** as a way to help others by raising money for the Helping Hands Fund. *And whenever she signs up to bring treats for coffee hour, you can bet the congregation is going to have one deliciously delectable gathering time after worship!* In keeping with her commitment to sharing her gifts through service, Hazel volunteers her baking skills at The Hub in West Bend.

Hazel gave notice of her desire to retire from her position as Music Coordinator here at Trinity more than 2 years ago, but agreed to stay until we could find a replacement. The fact that we (still) have not been able to find such a person is an indicator of just how blessed we have been to have benefited from her gifts in music and organization, her example of service, and her generosity over the past several decades. As of the end of August, however, Hazel has officially retired as Trinity's Music Coordinator. The good news is she will still be part of Trinity, and after a several-week break, she will be back at the keyboard on a regular basis but with more freedom to take time off. She also has indicated that she will return for **härmenē** in the future, *when and if everyone's schedules align!* **For that, and for everything she has brought to Trinity's music ministry, we are extremely thankful, grateful and blessed—beyond words and beyond measure.**

In the future, she and Greg are looking forward to more traveling and hiking and to tackling some long-deferred projects at home. Hazel is also happily anticipating saying "yes" to more school and community theater musical opportunities, returning to artistic endeavors, and having a slightly less weedy garden.

For her part, Hazel would like us to know how much she has appreciated Trinity's openness to new and varied musical experiences – *it is not like this everywhere!* Music can touch a heart in ways that words alone sometimes will not, and the opportunity to be a part of sharing Trinity's message of God's love for all through our music has been a blessing. She would especially like to express her gratitude and appreciation for the talents and time given so freely by our many singers and instrumentalists over the years. Trinity should know that they are blessed to have them as part of our family and as part of our continuing music ministry.

IF EVER THERE WAS A MINISTER OF MUSIC — *their name would be Hazel Griffin!*
Please join us in voicing our deep appreciation to Hazel for all the ways she has shared her gifts in service to Trinity's Music Ministry and the distinct marks she has made along the way. *Thanks be to God!*



Advent Cantata
härmenē



crossroads

JESUS SHOWS US THE WAY!

TRINITY 2024 RALLY DAY WEEKEND

This is what the Lord says: stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.

JEREMIAH 6:16

And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

ISAIAH 30:21

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

JOHN 14:6

As we enter the crossroad between summer days and fall schedules, **Rally Weekend** lifts up the opportunity to reconnect with one another, renew and deepen our faith, recenter our lives and rededicate ourselves to letting God's love shine more brightly into the world through each of us.

At each Crossroad, Jesus shows us the way. God is a God of new beginnings and so it is with joy and thanksgiving we welcome invite you to join us in worship and in community on Saturday, September 7th and Sunday, September 8th.

RALLY WEEKEND 2024

- **SATURDAY | SEPTEMBER 7**
4 PM | TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
Stay after worship for an Ice Cream Social!
- **SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 8**
9:30 AM | Created to Praise WORSHIP
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Join us in the Heritage Room after worship and Children's Ministry on Rally Weekend for a time of fellowship and an Ice Cream Social.



STEWARDSHIP 2025 | As the Stewardship Campaign we introduced last fall, **Where Do YOU See JESUS?** comes to an end, *here are a few highlights where JESUS' presence was seen over the summer months:*

- Children's Ministry-VBX & Pine Lake Camp
- The ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans
- The Youth & Family Project PRIDE Celebration participation
- Our June/July General offering revenue met budget expenses
- Our beautiful Trinity Gardens with Birds, Butterflies, and Blossoms
- The celebration of our Pastors' 40th Ordination Anniversary
- World Hunger Outreach Activities | Family Promise & Feeding America

This fall, as we look toward planning for 2025, our Stewardship Campaign theme is, **Ignite Generosity** | **GENEROSITY. IGNITES. POSSIBILITIES.**

When it comes down to it, practicing generosity requires faith—it is our response to blessings received and our trust in the God. Let's work together to ignite generosity and possibility within our church by generously committing our gifts of time, talents, and financial resources to support ministries already in place and those yet to come as we continually strive to live out our mission statement of *Sharing the love and promise of God.*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH | Trinity participated in the **3rd Annual Pride Celebration** sponsored by the **Youth and Family Project of Washington County**, held at Riveredge Nature Center on August 17th. It was a well organized, family-friendly community event filled with fun, joy, support, encouragement, respect and care for all who attended. It represented how things *could be* if we truly loved one another like Christ loves us. We received many positive comments about Trinity's presence and message of welcome.





F.I.S.H.<<

Following Immanuel, Serving Happily
4TH-6TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

F.I.S.H.<< KICK-OFF PARTY!
SEPTEMBER 29
11 AM - NOON

You are invited to join us for some
F.I.S.Hy games, fun, prizes and treats.
All 4th-6th Graders are invited!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 4TH-6TH GRADERS

This youth ministry is designed to enhance the community-building element of faith development. In order to grow spiritually, it is vital that young people see themselves as part of a faith community-place where family and friends gather to learn, celebrate and grow.

The **F.I.S.H.** group meets once a month with activities designed to grow both faith and friendships among Trinity's 4th-6th graders—many of whom attend different schools. Most of our events are held "in house" here at Trinity at no cost to families and involves a light meal, games, prizes and an activity or craft. Each event has a theme based on the church year or a faith concept. We hope lots of families take advantage of this important faith development opportunity!

**Please plan to join us for the
2024/2025 F.I.S.H. KICK-OFF
on SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH
from 11 AM to NOON.**

And then, MARK YOUR CALENDARS for these upcoming F.I.S.H. events:

- **OCTOBER 27 | 11 AM - NOON**
F.I.S.H.<< HALLOWEEN PARTY!
- **NOVEMBER 10 | NOON - 1:30 PM**
FAMILY BOWLING PARTY



ALL ABOUT YOUth

YOUTH SCHEDULES, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SHARING THE LOVE AND PROMISE OF GOD WITH KIDS FROM AGE 3 UP TO 6TH GRADE!

SEE IT. MAKE IT. TASTE IT. MOVE IT. TELL IT.

Children's Ministry begins September 8 with a kick off of fun and games! I am greatly looking forward to seeing everyone together again! We will begin the year learning about Adam and Eve. Our theme this year is **CROSSROADS | JESUS SHOWS US THE WAY!** We are looking forward to journeying through this year with all of you—we have so many exciting things planned!



RALLY DAY | SEPTEMBER 8 | 9:30 AM

- **SEPT 8** |  **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY KICK OFF!**
Ice Cream Social in the Heritage Room after Children's Ministry!
- **SEPT 15** | **Adam & Eve Rotation begins**
Bible Sunday | 6th Graders Receive Bibles
Bring a Friend Sunday is back! Bring a buddy with you on Sunday, September 18 and both you and your friend will receive a small treat.
Sharing the good news starts with you!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
SIXTH GRADE BRIDGE
Confirmation

6th Graders - We are excited to announce the return of John Kenworthy as the 6th GRADE BRIDGE teacher! John has a deep passion for sharing God's word with young people, previously working with Trinity's 6th graders for 15 years! During this important year of faith development between the Children's Ministry Rotation Workshops and entering the Confirmation program, John's goal is to journey through the entire bible from Genesis to Revelation and explore how God's word uniquely applies to each individual life. *Welcome Back, John! We are so blessed to have you!*

ATTENTION PARENTS! if you haven't yet, REGISTER TODAY!

Please register your child(ren) even if they attended Children's Ministry last year! A link to a fillable pdf **REGISTRATION FORM** is on the home page of our website (*under the three boxes*) trinitywestbend.com

Anyone can volunteer, whether you have a child enrolled in the program or not! All you need is a passion, concern and love for our children. Leading a rotation is not only beneficial to our children and our church, you may find your own faith growing in the process of rediscovering the Bible's stories in a new light—*through the eyes and the hearts of Trinity's kids!*

ROTATION SIGN UP SHEETS ARE OUT! Volunteer to teach for a 3-week rotation, sign up in the Heritage Room or contact Alyssa TODAY!

SEEKING SPECIFIC DONATIONS FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- **Capri-Sun JUICE POUCHES**
PLEASE—ONLY Capri-Sun POUCH BRAND!
- **100% APPLE JUICE BOXES**
PLEASE—ABSOLUTELY NO SUGAR ADDED!

We very much appreciate your help in stocking up these items to have on hand for our kiddos. We also appreciate your understanding in making sure we provide for them the very best we can. *Thank you.*





ALL ABOUT YOUth

YOUTH SCHEDULES, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



YOUTH PROGRAM

WEDNESDAYS | 6:30-8:00 PM

SEPT 11 | *Who do we follow and why?*
SNACKS: Trinity

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 | 11 AM - 6 PM
9TH GRADE (only) Confirmation Workshop
This is the required reschedule of the 9th Grade Overnight.

SEPT 18 | *What is the difference between churches and should I care?*
SNACKS: Mia and Jayden Harvey

SEPT 25 | *Faith changes how we see ourselves and others.*
SNACKS: Mitchell, Morgan and Lucas Doede

OCT 02 | *Faith changes how we see world and future.*
SNACKS

OCT 09 | *9th Grade Confirmation Rehearsal*
What's the point?
SNACKS: Oscar and Ellis Martin

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 | 9:30 AM
CONFIRMATION WORSHIP

NOTE IMPORTANT UPCOMING CONFIRMATION EVENT

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Friday, Nov 1—Sunday, Nov 3
Confirmation Fall Retreat | Pine Lake Camp



SR HIGH FIRST SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 8 | 6PM-7:30PM
HERITAGE ROOM
9TH-12TH GRADE SENIOR HIGH

First Sunday get-togethers start Sunday, September 8. Trinity's Senior High Ministry invites all folks in 9th-12th Grade to join us for:

- First Sunday get-togethers.
- Lock-ins and activities.
- planning, fundraising, and preparing for the 2025 SUMMER SERVANT TRIP



ELCA Youth Gathering

Created to Be REFLECTIONS

Weekend Worship | Sept 21 & 22

Trinity's High School travelers will share reflections of their time in New Orleans at the Youth Gathering during WORSHIP on SEPTEMBER 21st / 22nd.

Traveling to "NOLA" provided the opportunity to experience what it means to be part of the ELCA and to get a taste of the life, the sights, the diversity, the history and the issues of New Orleans. Our trip was an amazing adventure in expanding the way we see our world, our church, ourselves and God at work in and around us. It offered new sights and new ways of seeing.

- Friendships were deepened
- Amazing, powerful, and beautiful sights were experienced.
- Physical and emotional comfort zones were challenged and stretched.
- Significant work was done to learn about and participate in the ministries of the ELCA and several non-profit organizations devoted to helping address issues of need today.

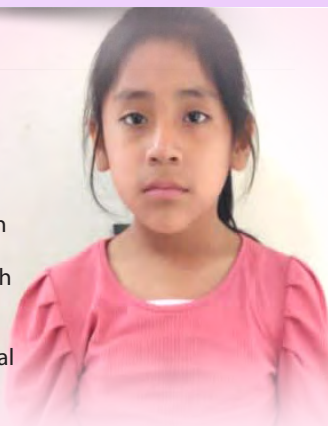
Thank you for your prayers and support!

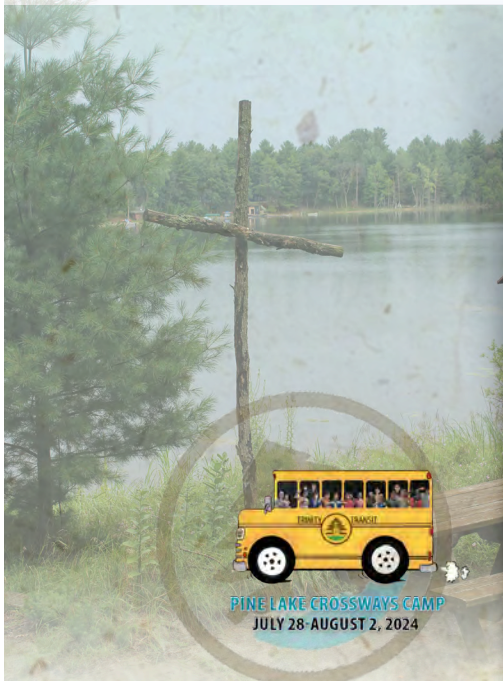
Remember **Kaori**

Kaori Rosalina Ramos Benito is the Trinity congregation's Compassion International sponsored child. Kaori was born on February 10, 2013, she is now 11 years old and lives in a very poor coastal community of Pueblo Joven Huascar-B (PERU) with her parents and 3 brothers. Your faithful support and encouragement help make a difference for Kaori and her family— physically, spiritually and with cognitive and emotional development too.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY offerings support Trinity's sponsorship of Kaori. Join our kids in this effort to make a difference fo a child in another part of the world.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and continued support! You can drop a donation specified for Kaori at Trinity or scan this QR code (look for the Kaori box) to give right now!





SUMMER CAMP WEEK 2024 RECAP

During the last week of July, 16 of Trinity's youth ages 7-14 enjoyed a week at Pine Lake Camp in Waupaca! Camp staff led us in worship that reminded us we are Created to be Authentic! Bible Study and team-building initiatives offered more examples of campers cracking open in new ways to reveal their authentic selves.

Campers chose afternoon activities that involved volleyball, swimming, ping pong tournaments, nature hikes, guitar learning, song writing, yoga, and biking to name just a few. All campers came together for evening canteens and a Campfire worship along the lake. We sang songs that echoed across the lake, lifted our hearts in prayer, and closed the evenings with the flicker of the campfire.

Thank you!

Our campers would like to give the most sincerest of thanks to all who helped with camperships. We were able to send 6 kiddos on full camperships and 4 more with half camperships. The impact of camp will remain for their life, and they are truly blessed to have this experience.

Trinity adds a **SHOUT OUT of THANKS to Alyssa Brockman** for her passion and campaign to resurrect Trinity's Summer Camp opportunity for our kids—to the extent that she volunteered to be there with our kids for the entire week.

God bless you, Alyssa!







Thank you!

Thank you everyone for the wonderful celebration of our 40th Anniversary of our Ordination. We have been so blessed over the last 40 years and as Anita said that morning, "TO GOD BE THE GLORY!" Thanks to all who planned and made the day happen and to all who were in attendance. And also thank you for the cards and gifts that we received.

May God continue to bless our ministry together—

Pastors Dave & Cristy



ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HOLY ANGELS
MONDAYS | SEPTEMBER 16 & 30 | 6:30 PM



In partnership with Holy Angels we will be holding a two part book study on **STAMPED FROM THE BEGINNING** by Ibram Kendi.

Kendi's powerful book is a tour de force of racism throughout the history of the country. He shows race was and continues to be woven through every aspect of America's history. He uses five figures from history as a lens to examine the history of racism and the opposition to racism. He holds that to deal with racism we must understand how it has function from the beginning, how we have all been stamped from the beginning. The two discussion sessions will be on Mondays September 16th and 30th at 6:30. We hope you will read the book and join us for discussion. The book can also be found in graphic novel format and young adult format.



The Comforters Annual SALE of Jewelry, Books, Puzzles, Games, Records & More is just around the corner!

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GAMES & MORE
SALE

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

OCT 5/6 | TRINITY  -SALE

OCT 10/11/12 | PUBLIC SALE

Children's books are very popular, especially with the YMCA children's program at Trinity. We will again offer records for sale, along with CD's. If you would like to arrange a pickup of donated items for our sale, please contact Suzanne Barker at 847-212-8558 and we'll work with you.
Thank you for your support!



Citizen Advocates
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BINGO

Sept. 16

FREE & FUN BINGO & PRIZES!

MONDAY AFTERNOON
SEPTEMBER 16th, 2024
3:30pm - 4:30pm

TRINITY LUTHERAN
Corner of 7th & Elm St
USE ALLEY ENTRANCE

This event is open to the public—all ages and abilities are encouraged to attend!



On July 26th a group of Trinity folks helped sort donations from grocery stores and box up 3,089 pounds food providing 2,574 meals for families experiencing food insecurity in the Milwaukee area.



RIGHT | On August 22 another group of Trinity folks donated goods and helped pack up 50 brown bag lunches that will be distributed to folks experiencing food insecurity through the Milwaukee Outreach Street Angels organization.



The next opportunity to help in the effort to make a difference for people experiencing food insecurity is volunteering to help serve meals at **The Gathering in Milwaukee on Saturday, September 28th**

Watch for sign up sheets in the Heritage Room!

ITEM OF THE MONTH

Individual Oatmeal Packets

Thank you, Trinity



Project RETURN (Returning Ex-incarcerated People To Urban Realities and Neighborhoods) exists to help individuals who have experienced incarceration make a positive, permanent return to community, family and friends.

FIRST: Project RETURN expresses their deep appreciation for all the donations. *They are all getting put to good use!* Trinityvolunteers took down another generous load of donations in mid July.

SECOND: *Top needs for Project RETURN clients at this time are:*

- BEDDING and PILLOWS
- SMALL HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES like toasters, coffee makers, microwaves, cookware, etc.
- GIFT CARDS for Target, Pick-n-save, Walmart, Walgreens (other common city stores)
- GAS CARDS for BP, Clark (other common city stations)
- WEEKLY or MONTHLY Bus Passes

You will find collection boxes in the Heritage Room
Please contact Nate Shubat with any questions and/or to volunteer!

Thank you!

Birthday BLESSINGS

ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, GOD DANCED, ANGELS SANG AND THE STARS ALIGNED. WE HOPE THAT YOUR BIRTHDAY WILL BE A HAPPY CELEBRATION FILLED WITH BLESSINGS.

- Ethan Schickert 9 | 01
- Janet Wagner 9 | 01
- Jessica Gonzalez 9 | 03
- Kendall Mesich 9 | 03
- Abby Nelson 9 | 03
- Margie Kieckhafer 9 | 04
- Jeffrey Schicker 9 | 05
- Daxton Dwyer 9 | 06
- Raina Oksiuta 9 | 06
- Kelly Omernick 9 | 06
- Adelaine Carlson 9 | 08
- Bill Dushek 9 | 08
- Alissa Michels 9 | 08
- Candice Sarauer 9 | 08
- David Solberg 9 | 08
- Patrick Budoff 9 | 08
- Skylar Crass 9 | 09
- Jay Nelson 9 | 09
- Susan Sulik 9 | 09
- Leon Vore 9 | 09
- Joseph Falconer 9 | 10
- Nicole Beier 9 | 12
- Lanae Poupore 9 | 12
- David Schoob 9 | 12
- Nicole Hull 9 | 18
- Lynn Anderson 9 | 19
- Jordyn Kurer 9 | 19
- Melissa Pitzen 9 | 19
- Julie Brown 9 | 20
- Sue Harter 9 | 21
- Ryan Schneider 9 | 22
- Kelly Granger 9 | 23
- Phil Pierce 9 | 23
- Arlene Pierog 9 | 23
- Amy Oksiuta 9 | 24
- Bob Bietsch 9 | 25
- Lois Haase 9 | 25
- Brad Abraham 9 | 26
- Delores Washa 9 | 26
- Michael York 9 | 29

SEPTEMBER 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 CTP Worship 9:30 AM	2 LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	3 7 PM NA	4	5 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	6	7 RALLY DAY Liturgical Worship 4:00 PM ICE CREAM SOCIAL
8 RALLY DAY CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ICE CREAM SOCIAL FIRST SUNDAY 6 PM	9	10 7 PM NA	11 CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	12 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	13	14 Liturgical Worship 4:00 PM
15 CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY 6th grade BIBLE SUNDAY 9th Grade Conf. Workshop 11 AM-6 PM	16 BINGO 3:30 PM ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY 6:30 PM	17 7 PM NA	18 CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	19 COMFORTERS 1 PM TRINITY COUNCIL MEETING 7 PM	20	21 CREATED Liturgical Worship 4:00 PM
22 CREATED CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	23	24 7 PM NA	25 CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	26 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	27	28 Gathering Liturgical Worship 4:00 PM
29 CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ADULT FORUM	30 ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY 6:30 PM					

Trinity | Contact Information

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262-334-2125 | trinity@trinitywestbend.com | trinitywestbend.com



Pastor Cristy Schoob | 262-483-0792 | cschoob@trinitywestbend.com
Pastor David Schoob | 262-483-0791 | dschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Office Hours..... MONDAY - FRIDAY | 8 AM - 3:30 PM

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Alyssa Brockman.....Children's Ministry Coordinator
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Karen Sparks.....Financial Clerk
ksparks@trinitywestbend.com

Sandy Poenitsch.....Communication Coordinator
spoenitsch@trinitywestbend.com | 262-388-1616

Phil Wagner.....Facilities Manager

Congregation Council Members

Anita McClain, **PRESIDENT** MINISTRY SUPPORT

Charlotte Butzler, **CO-VP** FAITH DEVELOPMENT

Todd Markgraf, **CO-VP** PROPERTY

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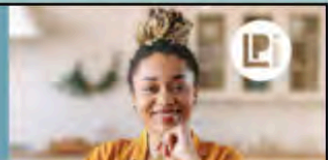
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