



Trinity Spirit

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 5

MAY 2025

Dear Members and Friends,

Though this letter is not easily written, we need to share with you that we have reached a new season in our lives. We have made the decision that we will be retiring as your pastors, effective August 31, 2025.

*It is next to impossible to express our gratitude for the time we have been part of the life of this congregation. There has been no greater blessing in our ministry than to be the pastors of Trinity Lutheran Church in West Bend. It was here among you that we have experienced our gifts being deeply cherished and enriched. **This congregation is amazing!***

*We believe Trinity will continue the ministry and mission of sharing the love and promise of God with everyone, everywhere. Because you have great leadership within the congregation, we are confident as you move forward you will be lead in faithfulness and love. The synod will be a strong partner with you as you maneuver into the next phases of ministry. **But most of all, we know that God is good all the time and will walk with you and guide you through every step of the journey ahead.***

Our deepest desire for you is that you will remain the loving, diverse, and inclusive faith community that you have become. We have such great anticipations for the ways you will continue to reach outside the church walls to the community and world around you. West Bend needs Trinity in ways you cannot imagine.

There just aren't enough words we can put into a letter that can adequately express the love we have for all of you. We will be here with you until the end of August—helping to set the stage for the beginning of fall and the time ahead. From now until that time, if you need to talk, to vent, to cry, or to celebrate—we are here. Please don't hesitate to seek us out.

As the writer of Ecclesiastes reminds us, **"To everything there is a season."** *God has truly blessed us with our time together at Trinity.* Let us each give thanks for seasons past and embrace the new season yet to come. **To God be the glory.**

Yours with all our Love and Gratitude,

Pastor Cristy Pastor Dave
Pastors Cristy and Dave

FOR
EVERYTHING
there
IS A
season
AND A TIME
for
EVERY MATTER
under
heaven

ECCLESIASTES 3:1





Thank you
to everyone who purchased
a Spring bulb plant
that adorned the chancel
on Easter morning!

DID YOU KNOW

The Easter season is a 50-day
period of celebration marking the
resurrection of Jesus Christ,
beginning with Easter Sunday
and ending on Pentecost Sunday.
This season is a time of joy and praise,
reflecting on God's victory over sin
and death. It's not just a single day,
but a full week of weeks.

Christ is risen, sing alleluia!
Open wide the door is standing.
From the grave new life is springing.
He was dead, NOW HE'S LIVING!

Alleluia!



Preparation for Trinity's Easter Breakfast starts the day before, prefaced by lots of planning, shopping and gratefully accepted donations. Trinity's Senior High folks prepared, set up, served and cleaned up after a bountiful breakfast was enjoyed by many on Easter morning. *All proceeds from the Easter Breakfast free will offering goes to help offset costs for the Sr High 2025 Summer Immersion Trip to a Reservation Ministry in South Dakota.*



Under the direction of our Music Coordinator, Heather Peters, **TRINITY'S POP UP CHOIR** filled the sanctuary with a special song marking the significance of **PALM SUNDAY, "On That Day When He Rode Into Jerusalem".**

Thank you

Steven Caves, Paul Bauman,
Phil Pierce, Howard Vrankin,
Cyndee Bruder, Rick Gilbertson,
Marcia Vrankin, Paul Anderson
and Heather Peters!



CHANGE & TRANSFORMATION

Change is an inevitable aspect of life, often leading to growth and adaptation, but can also be a source of resistance and discomfort. The Bible speaks extensively about change and transformation, both personally and spiritually. It emphasizes that individuals should not conform to the world's patterns but be transformed by the renewing of their minds, aligning with God's will. Transformation is often linked to repentance, a shift in heart that leads to altered actions and a new way of living. As we navigate through change, here are some thoughts and Bible verses that we can turn to along the way.

SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION:

ROMANS 12:2 | 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 | GALATIANS 2:20

Transformation is deeply rooted in one's relationship with God, with the Holy Spirit dwelling within and leading to a change of heart and mind.

RENEWAL OF MIND:

ROMANS 12:2 | 2 CORINTHIANS 10:5 | PSALM 1:2

The Bible emphasizes the importance of renewing the mind, aligning it with God's truth and allowing it to be transformed by the Spirit.

LIVING SACRIFICE:

EPHESIANS 5:2 | 1 PETER 2:5

ROMANS 12:1-2 urges believers to offer their bodies as living sacrifices, reflecting a commitment to change and living in accordance with God's will.

NEW CREATION:

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

The Bible speaks of a new creation in Christ, where the old has passed away and the new has come.

TRUTH & FREEDOM:

JOHN 8:32 speaks of the truth setting one free, suggesting that embracing God's truth can lead to personal transformation and a new way of living.

INWARD RENEWAL:

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18 highlights the importance of inward renewal, even as outward circumstances may change.

GOD'S UNCHANGING NATURE:

MALACHI 3:6 | HEBREWS 13:8 | NUMBERS 23:19

While the Bible emphasizes change, it also highlights God's unchanging nature (immutability).

CHANGE IS PROCESS:

ISAIAH 43:18-19 | PHILIPPIANS 3:12-14

The Bible suggests that change is a process, not a one-time event, and often involves pressing forward in faith.

EMBRACING CHANGE:

ISAIAH 43:18-19 | ECCLESIASTES 3:1-2 | 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

The Bible encourages embracing change as a natural part of life, recognizing that each season of life has its purpose.

GOD'S PROMISE OF NEW BEGINNINGS:

ISAIAH 43:18-19 offers hope and reassurance that God is working to bring forth new beginnings and opportunities.

Change is a constant force shaping our world and requires us to be flexible and embrace new possibilities.



On Sunday, March 23rd Trinity welcomed new members: Steve Caves and Heather Onesone (sponsored by the Hanvey family) and Izzy Beckmann, Caitlin Kemmett and their daughters, Ari and Rory (sponsored by the Schweiger family). No one could have known that only one week later, Caitlin and Izzy would face the unimaginable when their precious 3 yr old daughter, Rory would die unexpectedly. We mourn this tremendous loss with them and continue to keep Caitlin, Izzy and Ari in our prayers for the kind of Peace that only God can provide—surpassing all understanding.



Join us after worship on the weekend of **MAY 17/18** for an old fashioned

ICE CREAM SOCIAL CELEBRATION

in honor of the completion of the 2024-2025

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

school year.

**WATCH FOR
ICE CREAM TOPPING
SignUPS COMING SOON**

*Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say rejoice.*

Be cheerful with joyous celebration in every season of life. Let your joy overflow! And let gentleness be seen in every relationship, for our Lord is ever near.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-5



Following. Immanuel. Serving. Happily.

F.I.S.H. Spring Fling Picnic Party

4th-6th Grade Youth Group
SUNDAY | May 18th
10:45 - NOON

All 4th-6th graders are invited to join us for a **F.I.S.H. Spring Fling Picnic Party** at Trinity—we'll have fun, food, games and prizes!



PINE LAKE

CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRIES

All 1st-12th Grade youth are invited to join us for a fun and faith-filled summer camp experience! **We will be going as a Trinity group to Pine Lake Camp for "WEEK 8" JULY 27- AUGUST 1!**

The bus is filling up, but there is still time to register your child(ren). If you would like to benefit from our fundraising to offset some of the cost, you must register by May 4th.

Register at crosswayscamps.org

Please be sure to let Alyssa know that your child will be going so she can count them in! | 262-343-5557



ALL ABOUT YOUth

YOUTH SCHEDULES, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SHARING THE LOVE & PROMISE OF GOD WITH KIDS FROM 3 YEARS TO 6TH GRADE

SEEit. MAKEit. MOVEit. TELLit. TASTEit.

We are on our last rotation, The Greatest Commandment (LOVE!) and winding down another great year of Children's Ministry with just three weeks left this school year. *I am still looking for volunteers to help share the love and promise with our kids even as we close out the year. Please contact me (Alyssa) today if you can lend a hand | 262-343-5557*

MAY 4 - 11 | The Greatest Commandment (LOVE!) ROTATION
6th GRADE BRIDGE

MAY 18 | YEAR-END CELEBRATION!
6th GRADE BRIDGE
Fun and games with
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
To follow!



Vacation Bible School—SCUBA!

ALL KIDS AGE 3 YEARS UP TO 5TH GRADE ARE INVITED!

We have already been gearing up and are excited for our **2025 Vacation Bible School SCUBA ADVENTURE**
DIVING INTO FREINDSHIP WITH GOD!

SAVE-THE-WEEK | JUNE 9-13

REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE SENT OUT THIS MONTH.

If you are interested in helping this week, we would love to have you! It is a LOT of FUN! Contact Alyssa to let her know that you want to help!





ATTENTION ALL 2025 GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

Are you or someone in your family graduating?
Please email the church office to share:

- Graduate's name and info (date, school, etc.)
- Share any plans in place for next year and for "life after graduation"
- Please include a picture of the graduate too!

2025 GRADUATES WHO SUBMIT THEIR INFORMATION AND PICTURE BY MAY 15TH WILL BE FEATURED IN THE TRINITY SPIRIT JUNE NEWSLETTER.

Please email graduate information and photo to the church office **no later than May 15th**

swalker@trinitywestbend.com

Thank you!



TRINITY SENIOR HIGH YOUTH SUMMER IMMERSION TRIP

JULY 2025 | Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center
Reservation | South Dakota

RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

A number of our Senior High Youth will be traveling to South Dakota this July where they will be immersed in the life and mission that takes place at the Pine Ridge Reservation Reconciliation Center.

Our senior high youth are selling Raffle tickets for baskets/items as follows:

\$1 EACH | 6 FOR \$5 | ARMS-LENGTH FOR \$20
THE MORE YOU BUY, THE GREATER YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

You will have an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets, then place your tickets in the bag for the basket or items you'd like to win!

Your generosity not only gives you a chance at winning something special for yourself, it will have an impact to offset the expense of this year's Senior High summer immersion trip to South Dakota.

Winning tickets will be drawn during the 9:30 service on Sunday, May 11th.
YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.



All Trinity Senior High folks are invited to join us for FIRST SUNDAY—this month being held on the third Sunday, May 18th from 6pm to 7:30pm. Come, enjoy a light dinner, reconnect and deepen our relationships with God and one other and maybe even have a little fun in the process.



CONFIRMATION SPRING RETREAT

FRIDAY, MAY 2 - SUNDAY, MAY 4

PINE LAKE
LUTHERAN CAMP

MAY WEDNESDAYS
6:30-8:00 PM

MAY 7

TOPIC: 9th Commandment
SNACKS: Lucas Doede

MAY 14

TOPIC: 10th Commandment
SNACKS: Vayda Falconer

MAY 21

TOPIC: Review
SNACKS: Mia Hanvey

MAY 28

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION
Last day of Wednesday night
class until September

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Thank you!

Thank you to all those who stepped up to share the love and promise of God with our kids during the month of April!
Children's Ministry happens because you volunteer!

John Kenworthy
Susie Kelnhofer
Ashley Bungert
Sue Pawlowski
Tiffany Wilson
Charlotte Butzler
Renee Thacker
Jamie Rouse
Jodie Falconer
Dane McIntyre
Amelia Walth
Mia Hanvey
Victoria Kenworthy
Jayden Hanvey
Mitchell Doede
Morgan Doede
Lucas Doede

Special Thanks

to Sue Pawlowski
and Charlotte Butzler
for filling in for me,
personally, when I was on
vacation with my family!

Alyssa



LITTLE LAMBS

When you are 3 or 4 years old and learning about Jesus' love, sacrifice and new life—the snack of the day can become an important part of the story!



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Easter TELLit Rotation | After hearing just how much Jesus sacrificed for all of us, we wrote messages and our names on hearts that we placed on the cross to remember just how much he loves EACH and every one of us.





2025 CONFIRMATION YOUTH | PALM-PASSION WORSHIP

Claire Brehmer, Kennedy Butzler, Evelyn Carlson,
Lucas Doede, Morgan Doede, Vayda Falconer, Jayden Hanvey, Mia Hanvey,
Charley Harshbarger, Andrew Hull, Manny Jones, Finn Koch, Ellis Martin,
Dane McIntyre, Makiyah Rouse, Siena Scaffidi, Carter Sobush,
Colin Weber, Amelia Walth



FROM *Hosanna* TO **CRUCIFY**

Trinity's confirmation youth lead the worship services on Palm-Passion weekend. They took us from the joyous greeting Jesus received when he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. People waved palms of joy and shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

Every person who was shouting the word **Hosanna**... was asking Jesus to save them. The shouts of **Hosanna** and the celebration of Jesus' arrival were a significant event, marking the beginning of the week that would end with many of those same people shouting, "**Crucify him!**"

Our confirmation youth did a great job of walking us through that week and asking the question—**wouldn't you have done the very same thing?** With the obligation of being a Roman Soldier—**would you dare not follow orders?** Out of fear of retribution to yourself and your family—**would you stand up against the High Priests? Would you stand up against the crowd?**



Please stay-tuned to the bulletin announcements and weekly email for our member-lead Bible Study schedule for the remainder of spring and through the summer months.



FOOD PANTRY

ITEM(S) OF THE MONTH

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper

Some individually wrapped paper towel rolls are welcome for folks who come directly to Trinity for a hand up.



Trinity
Comforters

THE TRINITY COMFORTERS

gather on Thursday afternoons at 1 PM to create blankets of comfort that are distributed in and outside our community. *Each blanket is made by layering three sheets.*

DONATIONS of Flat cotton sheets -any size- are appreciated! **ALSO**, accepting donations of **JEWELRY** for our **OCTOBER Jewelry, Book & Puzzle fundraiser**.

You do not need to sew in order to help make the blankets! We are a fun group, sharing stories, prayers, and humor all while creating a blanket that will make a difference in someone's life.

Come, check us out and share some comfort and joy!



TRINITY WEEK TO PROVIDE MEALS | MAY 19 - MAY 24

Family Promise of Washington County's mission is to help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.

The Trinity congregation has a history of supporting this important community outreach program. Today we continue to help by providing meals and/or food items for the families being served through the Family Promise program.

Watch for sign up sheets as we get closer to our week—they will have updates on numbers and ages of family members in the program as well as needs and any food allergies to be aware of.



TAB TOSS DAY IS MAY 17TH!

While we collect pop tabs all year long, the Wilson family will take all that we have collected over the past year to the Ronald McDonald house on Tab Toss Day—May 17th..

Thank you for your support of this outreach effort—Tabs make a difference for families being served by Children's Hospital in Milwaukee.

Stay tuned for the total pounds we helped collect this year!

Citizen Advocates
est. 1978

BINGO

FREE & FUN-FILLED BINGO with PRIZES! | **May 12, 2025**

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

MONDAY AFTERNOON
MAY 12, 2025
3:30pm - 4:30pm

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

REMEMBER AND SUPPORT KAORI

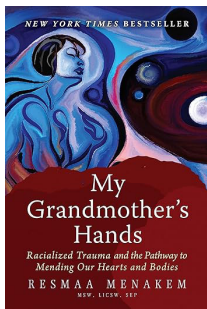
Kaori Rosalina Ramos Benito is the Trinity congregation's Compassion International sponsored child.

Kaori was born on February 10, 2013, she is now 12 years old and lives in a very poor coastal community of Pueblo Joven Huascar-B (PERU) with her parents and 3 brothers.

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and continued support to help sponsor Kaori!

You can drop a donation specified for Kaori at Trinity or scan this QR code (look for the Kaori box) to give directly to support Kaori's sponsorship right now!





ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY

TUESDAY | MAY 27 | 67 PM

The book we will be discussing is *My Grandmother's Hands* by Resmaa Menakem. Here is a brief description from Amazon. In this groundbreaking book, therapist Resmaa Menakem examines the damage caused by racism in America from the perspective of trauma and body-centered psychology.

The body is where our instincts reside and where we fight, flee, or freeze, and it endures the trauma inflicted by the ills that plague society. Menakem argues this destruction will continue until Americans learn to heal the generational anguish of white supremacy, which is deeply embedded in all our bodies. Our collective agony doesn't just affect African Americans. White Americans suffer their own secondary trauma as well. So do blue Americans—our police.

My Grandmother's Hands is a call to action for all of us to recognize that racism is not only about the head, but about the body, and introduces an alternative view of what we can do to grow beyond our entrenched racialized divide.

Paves the way for a new, body-centered understanding of white supremacy—how it is literally in our blood and our nervous system.

Offers a step-by-step healing process based on the latest neuroscience and somatic healing methods, in addition to incisive social commentary.

Everyone I have talked to has suggested this is one of the most powerful books they have read. **All are invited to the discussion.**

A SAFE PLACE to share

TUESDAY, MAY 13 | 7:00 PM

We continue to offer an opportunity for people to come together to share their struggles with the world we live in. ***It is not a place for answers, but a place to share and encourage one another as we try to live our Christian commitment in a world that often seems to be very unchristian.*** We gather to listen with respect and share in vulnerability.

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS SAFE PLACE.
We will meet again on Tuesday, May 13th at 7 PM.

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THRIVENT?

Thrivent helps their members give back to their community through Thrivent Action Teams.

Simply gather a team to put on a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. They'll provide the resources you need to get started, including up to \$250 in seed money. Then you and your team can get busy bringing your project to life!



At Trinity the \$250 Thrivent Action Team seed funds have been used to help offset the costs of: Youth trips, the härmänē fundraisers, the ELCA Equipping the Saints campaign, Stewardship focuses and many other outreach ministries. *You don't need to gather a team yourself, we already have areas of ministry that can benefit from seed funds.*

If you would like to help Trinity efforts now or in the future by designating your Thrivent Action Team benefits, please contact Sue in the office.

WISHING 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.

Donna Crass	5/01
Christian Ketter	5/01
Samuel Retzlaff	5/02
Beverly Boerger	5/05
Douglas Crass	5/05
Sue Walker	5/06
John Abel	5/08
Chuck Dreher Jr	5/08
Jessica Gieryn	5/08
Morgan Kappler	5/08
Emily Nelson	5/08
Owen Reitz	5/08
Jade Schwieso	5/09
Lucy Thacker	5/10
Russell Lange	5/11
Barbara Lemler	5/11
Oscar Martin	5/11
Reid Parchim	5/11
Aaron Pierce	5/11
Ruthann Dorn	5/12
Collin Bergerud	5/13
Katie Martin	5/13
Nick Laatsch	5/14
Jacqueline Schramm	5/15
Chaz Dreher III	5/16
Reuben Holcomb	5/16
Taylor Loomans	5/16
Thomas Oelhafen	5/17
Christine York	5/17
Ellis Martin	5/18
Marcia Maule	5/18
Heather Oneson	5/18
Ava Schiller	5/18
Makenzie Averill	5/19
Jodie Schibline	5/19
Jodi Appel	5/20
Joe O'Connell	5/20
Gene Sass	5/21
Henry Anderson	5/22
Bryan Johnson	5/23
Jody Kappler	5/23
Virginia Meier	5/24
David Putnam	5/24
Jodi McMahon	5/25
Colin Williams	5/26
Julie Schaller	5/27
Eric Carlson	5/28
Myles Ellis	5/28
Connor Robinson	5/30
Marilyn Wilberg	5/31

MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 COMFORTERS 1 PM	2	3 Liturgical Worship 4 PM SR HIGH RAFFLE
4 CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SR HIGH RAFFLE	5 MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	6 7 PM NA	7 CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	8 COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	9	10 Liturgical Worship 4 PM SR HIGH RAFFLE
11 CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY RAFFLE ENDS	12 BINGO 3:30 PM MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	13 A SAFE PLACE 7:00 PM 7 PM NA	14 CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	15 COMFORTERS 1 PM COUNCIL 7 PM 7 PM NA	16	17 ALUMINUM TAB TOSS DAY Liturgical Worship 4 PM
18 CTP Worship 9:30 AM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY	19 Family Promise TRINITY WEEK MUSIC THERAPY 1:30 PM	20 Family Promise TRINITY WEEK 7 PM NA	21 Family Promise TRINITY WEEK CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	22 Family Promise TRINITY WEEK COMFORTERS 1 PM 7 PM NA	23 Family Promise TRINITY WEEK	24 Family Promise TRINITY WEEK Liturgical Worship 4 PM
25 CTP Worship 9:30 AM	26 MEMORIAL DAY HONORING ALL WHO SERVED OFFICE CLOSED	27 ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY 7 PM 7 PM NA	28 CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	29 COMFORTERS 1 PM	30	31 Liturgical Worship 4 PM

Trinity | Contact Information

Trinity Lutheran Church | ELCA | Reconciling in Christ | 140 N. 7TH AVE | WEST BEND, WI 53095
262-334-2125 | trinity@trinitywestbend.com | trinitywestbend.com



Pastor Cristy Schoob
262-483-0792

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Pastor David Schoob
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dschoob@trinitywestbend.com

OFFICE HOURS | MON - THURS.....8:00 AM - 3:30 PM
FRIDAYS8:00 AM - NOON

Sue Walker.....Parish Coordinator
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Alyssa Brockman.....Children's Ministry Coordinator
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Heather Peters.....Music Ministry Coordinator
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Sandy Poenitsch.....Communication Coordinator
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Congregation Council Members

Anita Bayliff, **PRESIDENT** MINISTRY SUPPORT
John Kenworthy, **VP** OUTREACH & TECHNOLOGY
Greg McMahon, **TREASURER** FINANCE
Cheryl Scaffidi, **SECRETARY** WORSHIP & MUSIC
Penny Bergerud COMMUNITY BUILDING
Vern Hasenstein TECHNOLOGY
Mike Kappler PROPERTY
Todd Markgraf PROPERTY
Candy Sarauer OUTREACH
Renee Thacker FAITH DEVELOPMENT
James Winkler STEWARDSHIP
Lexi George YOUTH REP. | OUTREACH