

THE AUGUST 2025
TRINITY TRIBUNE



The monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church & Preschool of Fergus Falls, MN

Dear friends in Christ,

When I was a student in college, we studied a book called “God’s No and God’s Yes: the Proper Distinction Between Law and Gospel,” which was an abridgement of an important work in the history of the LCMS, C.F.W. Walther’s Law and Gospel. Walther’s Law and Gospel is important because it sets forth an understanding of how to engage the sacred scriptures, particularly how to distinguish between that Word of God which kills (God’s Law) and that which makes alive (God’s Gospel). It is not that one is true and one false, but rather that both are true and important to understand – but also important to distinguish.

However, it is the title of the abridged book that I want to draw your attention to: God’s No and God’s Yes. The reason why is this: I think in our world today (and maybe it has always been this way), we get so caught up in all of the many ways that there are folks who wish to say “yes” to God’s “no” that we ourselves sometimes lose sight of our calling to give our whole-hearted “yes” to God’s “yes.” In other words, it can seem so vital that we get God’s “no” out to the world (and to ourselves) that we lose sight of the fact that God’s yes is intended for our good and is a way in which God grants great blessings to us and to the world.

Allow me to provide you an example. It may seem that, in many ways, marriage is under attack. It might be really easy for the way that we as Christians speak about marriage to be restricted to “God says ‘no’ to same-sex marriage, to no fault divorce, to extramarital sexuality,” this list could go on and on. But allowing the conversation to be framed in such a way prevents us from speaking of the beauty of “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh” (Genesis 2:25), and all the blessings God grants when we embrace God’s vision for marriage and sexuality.

Likewise, conversations about the roles of man and women in the family and society, while important to have, often are reduced to “you can’t do this, this, and this.” But what is left out is the sense of calling, and that man and women in marriage and society are called to different roles and functions, which complement one another in such a way as to be a blessing to one another and to the world.

The list can go on. My point is this: God’s “yes” is good for you. It is something to embrace, to celebrate, to pursue. That should be just as clear and just as formative for us as the idea that God’s “no” is bad for us. As God’s “yes” is present in your life, you (and the world around you) will be blessed.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lieske



Outreach

The Outreach board has selected Rev. Dr. Daniel and Joan Jastram as our primary missionaries for Trinity Lutheran Church & School for 2025-26. Dan is the son of former Trinity Church member, Phyllis Jastram.

The Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram serves as a missionary on behalf of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Asia, where he lives with his wife in Tokyo, Japan. In this role, Dr. Jastram coordinates efforts to make Lutheran resources of theology and worship available in all of Japan. He provides regular services at worship sites, plans for and manages translation work of theological resources, and nurtures relations with local Lutheran pastors facing individual challenges to the faith. Daniel was born in Shibata, Japan, and was raised overseas in an LCMS missionary family. His childhood congregation was Shibata Lutheran Church. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Later, he earned both a master's degree and a doctorate in classical languages from the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Before serving in Asia, he was a professor of theology at Concordia University, St. Paul, St. Paul, Minn., and Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wis. He also served as sole pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church, Forest Lake, Minn.

In his free time, Daniel enjoys reading, hiking and bookbinding. Joan was born in Mitchell, S.D., where her childhood congregation was Zion Lutheran Church. She received her Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.) degree from the Minnesota School of Professional Psychology at Argosy University, Twin Cities, Minn. Currently Joan works as a clinical psychologist in private practice in Tokyo. In her free time, she enjoys reading and hiking. Pray for Daniel and Joan as they serve in Asia. Thank our heavenly Father for the blessing of His Word and Sacraments wherever in the world they are proclaimed and administered. Thank our Savior, Jesus Christ, for the truth of His salvation as witnessed in our catechetical theological and worship materials. Thank the Holy Spirit for concord in doctrine and practice as we work with each other and with various partner church bodies. Give thanks to the Lord for the Jastrams, who serve His children in this part of the world.

Birthdays: Daniel, Nov. 26; Joan, March 4

Anniversary: August 20

“MSL North” Programs for August 2025:

August 3: **Rev. Thomas Clark**, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hankinson, ND, and St. John's Lutheran Church, Belford Township, ND, presents the message: **“Winning in Christ”** based on Ecclesiastes 2:18-26 and Luke 12:13-21. *This Is the Life Program: “Give and Take” - A young Christian ad agency representative navigates a situation with an overly attentive married man.*

August 10: **Rev. Robert Hill**, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Wimbledon, ND, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Kensal, ND, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Pettibone, ND, and Redeemer Lutheran Church, Woodworth, ND, presents a message: **“Fear Not, Little Flock”** based on Luke 12:32. *This Is the Life Program: “No Tears For Bill” - A widow struggles with her past and upcoming marriage.*

August 17: **Rev. Keith Ratcliffe**, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN, presents the message: **“To Run the Race of God”** based on Hebrews 12:1-2. *This Is the Life program: “Two Weeks to Eternity” - A man who lives life to the fullest faces uncertainty with the upcoming surgery.*

August 24: **Rev. Brock Schmeling**, Trinity Lutheran Church, Great Bend, ND, and Peace Lutheran Church, Barney, ND, presents the message: **“Rabbi, You Are the Son of God! You Are the King of Israel!”** based on John 1:43-51 *This Is the Life program: “House of Sand” - This classic Fisher family episode explores the difference between a moral and Christian life.*

August 31: **Rev. Michael Suelzle**, Grace Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: **“Who's Invited?”** based on Luke 14:13-14. *This Is the Life program: “The Reluctant Witness” - A man's fishing trip is interrupted when he becomes a witness to crime and struggles with the aftermath.*

“MAIN STREET LIVING” is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS, along with a 30-minute Lutheran Hour program (normally **“This Is the Life,”** along with occasional church-season specials).

Programs are broadcast starting at 9:00am Central time on the following FOX stations: Fargo-Moorhead: KVRN Channel 15.1 or 10:00 on WDAY XTRA Channel 6.3

MSLN programs are also archived for one year and can be viewed at any time on www.mainstreetliving.com then click on **“(Fargo)”**.

Meet the Trinity Family



Rachael and Trevor Larson



Julia (3) and Lincoln (1)

Trevor is the 5th Grade Teacher at Our Lady of Victory School.

Rachael used to be the Kindergarten Teacher at OLV. She decided to stay home with the children and open an in home daycare.



As a family, they love to golf and go camping



What is something that you appreciate about Trinity?

We love that Trinity strives to stay true to what the Bible says. Sometimes what the Bible says is not what we want to hear. Trinity does not conform to what society is telling us to think, but rather, stays true to the Word.

Trinity Family News



Char married Gerald!

The newlyweds will be moving to Rapid City, S.D. this fall, but will still be in the area in the summer. Gerald has a Lake Home on Freeborn Lake in Kensington, MN. Congratulations Char Dale and Gerald Hoffman, and may God bless you richly in this new chapter of your lives! (Look for an updated mailing address in the directory once they have moved.)

Announcements



There is an opportunity for a LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) disaster response on Fri and Sat, August 1 & 2 for damage to a deaconess' home in Jamestown ND. Kirk Rosin and his group are

planning a work project there to repair the damages. The projects to be worked on are re-shingling her garage roof, replacing her fence and cleaning up some trees. If you are interested in working on this project for one day, or both days, or part of a day, please let Kirk know. You can contact Kirk Rosin by replying to him directly at krosin@juno.com or you can call him at 701-361-6441.

Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach - Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society, US \$47,000



There is a severe shortage of Lutheran resources and interpreters for the 124 local deaf ministries in the LCMS. Ephphatha Lutheran Mission Society (ELMS) is dedicated to serving and supporting the deaf and hard of hearing community with the Gospel. This grant will help provide these resources by allowing ELMS to expand its training academy and to continue American Sign Language translation work for specific portions of the Lutheran Service Book.



The 34th Annual **Quilt Auction** and Open House will be held at Lutheran Island Camp and Retreat Center on Saturday, **August 2nd**. The Trinity Quilters and the Trinity Preschool have quilts up for auction! Viewing opens at 8:30 am and the sale begins at 10:00. Proceeds will help children and families enjoy Christian camp experiences at LIC.-Missouri Synod. There is also an online auction which will be open from Aug. 2-8 on the camp website: www.islandcamp.org The camp address is 45011 230th St. Henning, MN. Questions? 218-583-2905 or info@islandcamp.org



The LWML North District Fall Retreat will be held August 8-10 at Lutheran Island Camp. You may also register for Saturday only. The theme this year is Understanding G.R.A.C.E. and the keynote speaker is Pastor Gillard. All women of LCMS congregations are invited to attend. You do not need to be a member of LWML. Join as sisters in Christ to learn more about Him and how to share His love for us with others. Go to the LIC website to register.

GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY

Ongoing Concern: Myron Drevlow, Janet Maack, Brian Fitzner, Jeremy Elshaug, Elaine Culp, Ned Stueve, Gene True, Loretta Derke, Jennifer Wood (Jerald & Tami Gerhardson's daughter), Jim Anderson (Cal & Helen Johansen's friend), Jon Jastram (Phyllis Jastram's son), Dylan Maack (Bob & Janet Maack's grandson), Robin Roberts (Austin & Elaine Culp's daughter), Stephen Hauser (David Hauser's brother), Tara Reynolds (Sarah Goerd't's friend), Micah Sebek (Bobbie Adam's grandson), James Hohenstein (Karl Hohenstein's brother) Kate Matter (prior pre-school parent), Bridget Jackson (June Knopp's granddaughter), Jasmin Torvinen (great-granddaughter of Pastor & Ginny Lange), Brett Pixton (friend of Calvin & Helen Johansen), Eldon Anhorn (brother of Shirley Pribbernow), Robert Schmidt (brother of Gary Schmidt), Nicole Reseburg (granddaughter of Barb Peloquin), Dora O'Brien (friend of Calvin & Helen Johansen), Steve Langland (Gary Schmidt's friend), James Retzlaff (Tina Eberle's dad), Russell Eberle (Ross Eberle's nephew)

Expectant Mother: Jordan Heil, grand-daughter of Helen & Calvin Johansen

Homebound: Gary Froehlich, Dick Anderson, Lois Helm, Wally Lubben, Marlys Lueders, Ron Schulz, Lorraine Drews, Lois Fitzner, Beverly Hess, Norma Bradow, Marilyn A. Boese


Military: Callen Mouritsen, MN National Guard; Lt. Col. Dennis Gerold, U.S.A.F. Reserves (Lori & Leon Dawkins' son-in-law), Tech Sargent Isaac Christopher, U.S.A.F., Andrews Air Force Base, Washington D.C. (Donna Christopher's grandson); Lt. Col. George Hauser, DDS U.S. Army, Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX; (David & Mary Hauser's son); Gabe Johnson, MN National Guard, (Ken & Toni Erlandson's son); Major Dinsmore, MD MN National Guard (Al & Marcie Koennicke's grandson)

Missionaries: Rev. Dan & Joan Jastram, Japan; Deaconess Kim Bueltmann, Germany (TIM Missionary); Delano & Linda Meyer, Africa; Jacque Breman, Africa; Ashley Lehr, Puerto Rico

Call the church office or the Pastor with prayer requests.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	A live, up-to-date calendar is available on our church website: www.trinityff.org Trinity Website	On-Call Pastor Phone Number (218) 321-0993			1 Hebrew Study Group will meet intermittently thru the summer. Check with Michele for info.	2 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market
3 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 Elders Mites collection Sun.	4	5 8 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 pm Trustees Mtg.	6	7 12:00 pm Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters	8 LWML Retreat - LIC	9 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market LWML Retreat - LIC
10 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School	11	12 8 am Men's Bible Study 5 pm Stewardship Mtg.	13 1 pm Knitting & Crocheting	14 12 pm Crafters 12:30 Quilters	15	16 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market
17 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School	18 4-6:00 Preschool Play date	19 8 am Men's Bible Study 12:30 School Board Mtg. 6:00 pm Church Council	20 Newsletter items due	21 10:00 Divine Service @ Broen Home 12:00 Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters	22	23 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market
24/31 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School 31-Food Shelf Sunday	25	26 8 am Men's Bible Study	27 1 pm Knitting & Crocheting	28 12:00 Crafters 12:30 Quilters 5:00 Back to School Night	29	30 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS!

Birthdays

Aug 1 Tina Eberle
 Aug 1 Jon Neubauer
 Aug 2 Gary Froehlich
 Aug 4 Cal Johansen
 Aug 6 Liam Flerchinger
 Aug 7 Michele Lieske
 Aug 7 Marlene Reed
 Aug 8 Sophia Lieske
 Aug 8 Zoe Lieske
 Aug 10 David Schneeberger
 Aug 11 Anna Flerchinger
 Aug 14 Les Gadow
 Aug 15 Amy Beske
 Aug 15 Char Dale
 Aug 15 Nancy Olson
 Aug 18 Dennis Gerold
 Aug 19 Bobbie Adam
 Aug 23 Alissa Beighley
 Aug 23 Bonnie Johnson
 Aug 29 Karyssa Eberle
 Aug 29 Shari Sorkness

Birthdays continued

Aug 30 Darius Erlandson
 Aug 31 Brad Grim
 Aug 31 Pearl Hedtke
 Aug 31 Sharlene Schmidt

Baptismal Birthdays

Aug Nancy Olson
 Aug 2 Brenda Johnson
 Aug 4 Jackson Schneeberger
 Aug 8 Cheryl Anderson
 Aug 11 Beverly Hess
 Aug 11 Shirley Pribbernow
 Aug 14 Ginny Lange
 Aug 15 Joyce Hitchcock
 Aug 18 Sophia Lieske
 Aug 20 Karl Hohenstein
 Aug 21 Zoe Lieske
 Aug 23 Raymond Bode
 Aug 23 Liz Schoening
 Aug 25 Marni Neubauer
 Aug 27 Gary Froehlich

Wedding Anniversaries

Aug 2 Jon & Annie Roehl
 Aug 4 Echo & Michael Breen
 Aug 16 Wallace & Anita Mohs
 Aug 17 John & Deidre Haugmo
 Aug 20 Tammy & Jerald
 Gerhardson
 Aug 21 Marni & Jon Neubauer
 Aug 22 Jeff & Vicki Melby
 Aug 23 Jerry & Cindy Schmidt
 Aug 23 Nancy & Jay Olson
 Aug 24 Jerry & Shirley
 Pribbernow
 Aug 26 Toni & Ken Erlandson
 Aug 29 Jessica & Brian Krog



First Annual Trinity Fun Car Cruise



The Trinity parking lot was the starting line for a group of 15 vehicles which meandered through lakes country on a picture perfect Sunday afternoon.

Leon Dawkins organized the event and led the procession which included a break in Vergas and a meal at Pit611. The weather and scenery were beautiful, the food was tasty, the cars were indeed fun, and the fellowship was the best! Check out this video for more coverage of the event. [Trinity Cruise 2025](#)

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

Ushers for August

August 3

Wayne Goerdt, Jakob Ness, & Mark Samuelson

August 10

Gary Schmidt, Rachael & Trevor Larson

August 17

Ross & Tina Eberle, & Eric Schneeberger

August 24

Wayne Schoening, & Cal & Helen Johansen

August 31

Jonathan & Annie Roehl
 Karma & Eric Schneeberger

Greeters for August

August 3

Dale & Sharlene Schmidt

August 10

Jerry & Shirley Pribbernow

August 17

Donna U. & Tami G.

August 24

Ken & Sue Heidorn

August 31

David & Esther Schlicker

Elders for August

August 3

David Hauser

August 10

Gary Schmidt

August 17

Ken Erlandson

August 24

Aaron Schultz

August 31

Eric Schneeberger

Altar Guild for August

August 3

Nadine D. & Char D.

August 10

David & Esther Schlicker

August 17

David Hauser

August 24

Ken & Sue Heidorn

August 31

Cal & Helen Johansen

Acolytes for August

August 3

Analicia & Adrian

August 10

Jackson & Austin

August 17

Samuel & Kourtney

August 24

Austin & Noah

August 31

Ana & Adrian



4 to the 4th

The happy faces pictured have been gathering this summer to enjoy food and fellowship. It is a great way to get to know other members of the Trinity family better! (Here are a few comments about their experiences.)

Lots of laughs with great fellowship!

I learned...that future meals for this group will not include:
lamb, scallops, lutefisk, or salmon! 😄

Beautiful evening on Ottertail Lake!

**Those bacon-wrapped
pork tenderloins -
so delicious!**



Thou shalt not forget to give photo credit to the one behind the camera.



**Lots of fun running from event to event
at the Gerold's playing the Amazing
Race game; lots of fun and laughter
along with great food and fellowship.**



A Joyful Summer at Trinity Lutheran Preschool!



Dear Trinity Lutheran Congregation,

We're excited to share that **July has been full of fun and community connection** at Trinity Preschool!

One highlight was our participation in **Shop, Move, and Groove**, where we had the joy of handing out **popsicles** to many families and children from the **Fergus Falls** community. It was a sweet way to beat the heat and connect with local families!



We also held another **Summer Play Date on Tuesday, July 15**, which brought together **several of our current and past preschool families**, along with **a few new faces!** It's always a blessing to see familiar smiles and welcome new ones.



There's still **one more chance to join us for summer fun:**

August 18 from 4–6 PM

If you know any young families or grandparents who would enjoy bringing their children or grandchildren to **play at Trinity**, please invite them! It's a great way to experience the joy of our preschool community.



And coming up on **Saturday, August 2**, we're proud to share that a **quilt made by our students this past school year** will be featured in the **live auction at the Lutheran Island Camp Quilt Auction!** What a special way to showcase their creativity and contribute to a wonderful cause.

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support. We're looking forward to a joyful and faith-filled **2025–2026 school year**, sharing the love of Jesus with all our preschool friends!



Trinity Preschool in Fergus Falls was recently awarded the maximum Four Star Rating from Parent



Aware! Our Preschool Director and Teacher, Mrs. Stacy Larsen, has a BA degree in Early Childhood Education, a MA in Education with an emphasis in ECE, both from Concordia University, St. Paul.

She is currently working on a MA in Natural Science and Environmental Ed with a Nature-based Early Learning Certification from Hamline University. She has completed extensive training and professional development to go above and beyond the requirements to prepare preschoolers for kindergarten and for life.

Mrs. Larsen prepares the students academically with a curriculum that is aligned with Minnesota's early learning standards. The students spend a lot of time outdoors playing and learning about all of God's creation. Chapel is a part of each week, and music and crafts are a part of every day. The students receive instruction in cooking, composting, and using tools. They learn about caring for animals and growing gardens. They are taught manners, compassion, how to take turns, and how to show respect. Confidence in speaking in front of others is developed during sharing time and performances. The students gain confidence in their ability to do things for themselves every day as they are challenged to try new things. Trinity Preschool is truly a joyful place where kids are loved and will blossom as they learn and grow in their faith.

Congratulations to Mrs. Larsen for the Four Star recognition and to all of the families who benefit by choosing Trinity Preschool!

Invite your friends with preschool age children to check out their website: PreschoolatTrinity.org, call the church 218-736-4869, or stop by the office Tues.-Thurs. for a packet. 1150 W. Cavour Ave. Fergus Falls.

Here is a link to see some snapshots of the kids learning and enjoying Trinity Preschool. [4 Star Rating!](#)

+ CHURCH & PRESCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION +

Church Website	www.trinityff.org
Preschool Website	www.preschoolattrinity.org
On-Call Pastor Number	(218) 321-0993
Rev. Christopher Lieske, Pastor	(cell) (612) 554-5411 pastorl@trinityff.org
Church Office /JoAnn Orpen	(218) 736-4869 secretary@trinityff.org
Preschool at Trinity, Stacy Larsen	(cell) (507) 430-9644 slarsen@preschoolattrinity.org
Church Office Hours	Tues-Thurs 8:30-4:00
Church Office E-mail	info@trinityff.org
Preschool at Trinity E-mail	info@preschoolattrinity.org
Cemetery Sexton Cal Johansen	(218) 671-0383

AUGUST SERVICE PLANS

<p>August 3 - Divine Service 4 <i>The Seventh Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 900, 819, 804, 642, 561, 578</p> <p>August 10- Divine Service 4 <i>The Eighth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 595, 745, 647, 635, 614, 924</p> <p>August 17—Divine Service 4 <i>The Ninth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 536, 730, 761, 421, 722, 714</p>	<p>August 24 - Divine Service 4 <i>The Tenth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 912, 644, 427, 680, 618, 797</p> <p>August 31 - Divine Service 1 <i>The Eleventh Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 684, 559, 490, 433, 486, 544</p>
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SERVING THE LORD AND YOU

Trinity Congregational Officers	Board Contact Persons
<i>Chairman</i> Schan Sorkness	<i>Elders</i> Wayne Goerd
<i>Vice-Chairman</i> Jon Schoening	<i>Christian Ed.</i> Esther Schlicker
<i>Treasurer</i> Cindy Schmidt	<i>Trustees</i> Margie Rasmussen
<i>Secretary</i> Linda Schmidt	<i>Stewardship</i> Larry Stein
<i>Financial Secretary</i> Sandy King	<i>Outreach</i> Dave Schneeberger
	<i>School</i> Dave Schlicker