

THE JULY 2025
TRINITY TRIBUNE



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

Dear friends in Christ,

You may have heard me say sometime in the last couple of months that I have been pondering how to better integrate ongoing catechesis into the life of the congregation. Perhaps this is, in and of itself, a confusing statement. I am not saying that I want to send everyone back to catechism class. Rather, it is a recognition that catechism class and confirmation were never meant to be an end to catechesis for anyone. Rather, as God's people this side of eternity, our calling is to be lifelong learners of the word and will of God, to continue to drink deeply of the wells of salvation, to follow Jesus by walking with the Savior. As this is a task that is never completed, so likewise our need for instruction and training is never completed.

It has been said of the Word of God that it is as wide as a puddle and as deep as the ocean. The idea behind this statement is that while the core truths of the faith are simple, there is always room for a deeper understanding. As we walk the road of faith, we learn and grow in Christ as the Lord leads us through the working of His Spirit. This is the aim. This is the goal.

Martin Luther remarked, "For myself I say this...I act as a child who is being taught the catechism.... I must still read and study it daily. Yet I cannot master the catechism as I wish." There is enough there for all of us to ponder, to learn, to continue to learn, and in which to grow, for a lifetime.

Thus, it is good for us to continually return to the catechism as part of our ongoing life of faith and our desire to plum the depths of God's holy word and what it has to say about our lives. This is the aim of ongoing catechesis as part of our congregation's life together: that we would return to the truths of the catechism regularly, because therein we receive what God gives us to build us up for our lives as His people.

I'm still working out how best to do this. As we head into fall, keep your eyes and ears (and heart!) open to how ongoing catechesis can be part of your life, and part of our lives together.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lieske



A team of 10 LAMP volunteers from MN, ND, MI, AZ and Winnipeg will be going on God's mission to put on VBS at three churches in Norway House. They will be leaving from Trinity on July 19, staying overnight in Grand Rapids, Manitoba and arriving in Norway House on July 20. They will be doing VBS July 21-25, leaving Norway House on July 26, staying overnight in Winnipeg at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church where they typically do a presentation during bible study, attend the divine service and return home late afternoon/early evening on July 27. The area around Norway House has been ravaged by wild fires with a significant number of evacuees temporarily moved into the community. The fires and smoke continue to provide difficulties for the community and may affect the teams ability to serve this summer if they continue. The team continues to prepare until they are told differently, knowing it is all in God's hands and overall plan. We ask for your ongoing prayer support for the people in Manitoba affected by the wildfires, for rain to bring the fires under control and for the team as they continue to plan and prepare to share the good news of Jesus with the children and adults in Norway House. To God be the glory!



**Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide -
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO \$100,000**

Other Lutheran church bodies throughout the world often look to the LCMS to share theological knowledge and doctrinally sound practices. Few of these church bodies can send students to the United States. International students come to Concordia Seminary to complete their advanced degrees. They then return to their country to train pastors. This grant will provide aid to international students completing their advanced degrees.

“MSL North” Programs for July 2025:

July 6th: Rev. Sam Pitsch, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Moorhead, MN, presents the message: **“Help Wanted”** based on Luke 10:2. *This Is the Life Program: “To the End of Time” - A physicist is confronted with the reality of his weapon, the utility of radiation, and the blessing of Christian hope.*

July 13th: Rev. Matthew Meyer, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Callaway, MN, presents a message: **“The Best ‘Good Samaritan’”** based on Luke 10:25-31. *This Is the Life Program: “A Face from the Past” - A man struggles to come to terms with the memory and feelings of guilt with his estranged father.*

July 20th: Rev. David Suelzle, Crosspointe Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: **“God’s Promises Are No Laughing Matter!”** based on Genesis 18:10-14. *This Is the Life program: “Love Is Not Enough” - A young couple struggles mightily with the decision to marry, exploring what truly is important.*

July 27th: Rev. Justin Whitmore, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Perham, MN, presents the message: **“Baptism: God’s Gift of Grace”** based on Colossians 2:11-12. *This Is the Life program: “A Different Way” - In this Fisher family episode, Cousin Stanley visits and creates a difficult situation with a neighbor.*

“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



Jerry has been a member of Trinity his entire life - Cindy became a member after their August 1980 marriage. We bought Leonard and Marion Erlandson's (Marion was a cousin to Jerry's Dad) farm and lived there until 2009. We moved to the other side of town living on the Otter Tail River. In 2016 we bought a lot from Chuck and Char Dale and are working on building the house we are currently living in on Williams Ave.

Cindy grew up on a farm east of Elbow Lake with two younger sisters and no brothers, but the morning wakeup call was generally "come on boys." I attended school in Evansville and other school buses would pass by as our farm bordered the Elbow Lake and Barrett districts. We had a Barrett phone number but an Elbow Lake address and attended church there.

Besides farming, Jerry has driven school bus as well as working for the postal service for 35 years - 16 of them full-time. Changes within the postal service did not coincide with driving school bus for the past several years, so he retired in 2021 from earning off-farm income.

Cindy worked for 45 years for what is now AgCountry Farm Credit Services (farm lending cooperative). I started with the Federal Land Bank in 1976 and we were merged with the Production Credit Association in 1985. Rudy Hasbargen became my boss at the time. There were a handful of name changes, a couple of office relocations, getting through the sad farm economy of the 1980's, and many, many good people to work beside before retiring in 2021.

Since then, we both seem to stay pretty busy living the dream, for whatever that might be - farming, working in the shop, church treasurer or trustee projects, sewing, enjoying grandchildren and family, and/or helping whenever we can.

Our daughter Sharon and husband Matt live in Concord, NC, where she is employed by Thermo Fisher Scientific as a Marketing Project Manager. Currently Matt is busy with assisting several family members with health issues.

Our oldest son Brad and his wife Becky live north of town and bought the Quam brothers farm. Brad works for Minn-Dak Farmers Coop in Wahpeton managing the sugar beet test plots - all the farming fun without the risk. Becky teaches a series of classes regarding Population Health and Wellness at Concordia College in Moorhead. Their five children attend Rothsay Public School.

Our middle son Kevin and his wife Stephanie live just west of Wall Lake. Kevin is currently in Naknek, Alaska awaiting the salmon run. The salmon will be passing through on their way further north to spawn. Kevin uses set-nets for the catch with the majority being sold to Pederson Point, (owned by North Pacific Seafoods) a large processing plant, for world wide distribution. The Alaska Fish and Game oversee when they are allowed to fish, so as not to jeopardize future salmon population. Stephanie will join him shortly and will head the processing plant where they process and flash freeze filets and other cuts which are then shipped back to MN for sale here. Several other people are employed during the approximate month-long season. Sunrise Salmon has a website with more information if interested. During the off season, Keven is a carpenter, truck driver, and a cattle rancher. Their six children are homeschooled.

Our youngest son Jeffrey and his wife Emily live in Fort Collins, CO. Jeffrey works for Colorado State University in the sports department as Director of Strategic Communications and Brand Enhancement, as well as being the primary contact for the football team. Emily works for the Fort Collins police department and their daughter will be two in October.

God has blessed us with umpteen blessings, including our "family" at Trinity. We have never belonged to another church, so have nothing to compare to, but what we teach and believe here is rooted in the Bible, so it just makes so much sense.



Announcements



Office hours: For the months of July and August, the church office will be closed on Fridays. It will be open Tuesday-Thursday from 8:30-4:00 as usual.



Please consider helping at our local fair this year! Your Fergus Falls Chapter of Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL) has many shifts available to sit at our pro-life booth at the West Otter Tail County Fair July 16-19 - no experience needed! Grab a friend and sign up together! Please call Byron and Marsha Kidder at 218-443-1913 if you are interested, or stop by the booth and say hello if you're at the fair! Thank you!

Mercy Meal packing

Keep Sat. Nov. 1st clear on your calendar so that you can be a part of the 2025 meal packing crew! 10,348 meals were packaged in a productive and fulfilling morning last fall!



Wanted for Sunday mornings:

Is your **flower** garden doing well? Add to the beauty of the sanctuary with your fresh cut arrangements. Do you enjoy baking? Consider making the **treats** for a Sunday. The sign up sheet is in the kiosk. Kids **Sunday School** is very laid back in the summer. The lessons are short and already planned out. Games, crafts, and playtime complete the hour. Have some fun with the kids and give Adrienne a break for a Sunday!



Unlocked doors: Exit doors have been left unlocked or not fully shut several times in recent months. If you unlock a church door, please make sure that it is locked again before you leave. When you leave, pull on the door to make sure that it is fully closed.

GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY

Ongoing Concern: 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), Brenda Keilen (Lois Fitzner's daughter), Tara Reynolds (Sarah Goerdts'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)

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

July 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8 am Men's Bible Study 2:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Trustees Mtg.	2	3 12:00 pm Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters	 4 Hebrew Study Group will meet intermittently thru the summer. Check with Michele for info.	5 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market
6 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 Elders Mites collection	7	8 8 am Men's Bible Study 2:00 Women's Bible Study	9 5 pm Outreach Board Meeting	10 12:00 pm Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters	11	12 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market
13 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School	14	15 8 am Men's Bible Study 2:00 Women's Bible Study 4-6:00 Preschool Play date 6:00 pm Church Council	16	17 10:00 Divine Service @ Broen Home 12 pm Crafters 12:30 Quilters	18	19 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market LAMP Mission trip departs
20 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School Newsletter items due	21	22 8 am Men's Bible Study 2:00 Women's Bible Study	23 1 pm Knitting & Crocheting	24 12:00 Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters	25	26 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmers Market
27 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School Food Shelf Sunday LAMP Mission trip returns	28	29 8 am Men's Bible Study 9-4:00 Foot Care Clinic 2:00 Women's Bible Study	30	31 12:00 Crafters 12:30 Quilters	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

CELEBRATIONS!

July Birthdays

July 3 Jerry Pribbernow
 July 4 Cheri Anderson
 July 6 Abby Gerold
 July 9 Shirley Pribbernow
 July 9 Maxine Schmidt
 July 11 Beverly Hess
 July 11 Darlene Reiter
 July 16 Brenda Johnson
 July 17 Janet Maack
 July 17 Eric Schneeberger
 July 22 Dan Beske
 July 22 Everett Hedtke
 July 24 Joel Hedtke
 July 24 Dale Schmidt
 July 29 Karl Hohenstein
 July 30 Tammy Gerhardson

July Anniversaries

July 5 David & Esther Schlicker
 July 13 Cal & Helen Johansen
 July 28 Linda & Rodney Schmidt



July Baptismal Birthdays

July 6 Jane Miller
 July 6 Harold Phillips
 July 7 Larry Stein
 July 9 Jonathan Drews
 July 12 Norma Bradow
 July 14 Donald Reiter
 July 15 Helen Johansen
 July 15 Gabriel Erlandson
 July 16 Amy Beske
 July 18 Jordyn Olson
 July 18 Owen Olson
 July 19 Bruce Kolle
 July 19 Karma Schneeberger
 July 20 Leon Dawkins
 July 21 Jerome Pribbernow
 July 24 Jakob Ness
 July 27 Eric Schneeberger
 July 30 Kendall Mouritsen
 July 31 Dale Schmidt

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

Ushers for July

July 6
 Rodney, Dale, &
 Jerry Schmidt

July 13
 Jon Schoening, Jeff
 Johnson, & Tim King

July 20
 Gene Lindblom, Larry
 Stein, & Arnold Bolland

July 27
 Bobbie Adam,
 Blaine & Margie Rasmussen

Greeters for July

July 6
 Donna Umlauf & Tami
 Gerhardson

July 13
 Ken & Sue Heidorn

July 20
 David & Esther Schlicker

July 27
 Cal & Helen Johansen

Elders for July

July 6
 Eric Schneeberger

July 13
 Ross Eberle

July 20
 Wayne Goerd

July 27
 Ken Erlandson

Altar Guild for July

July 6
 Cal & Helen Johansen

July 13
 Ken & Sue Heidorn

July 20
 Margie Rasmussen

July 27
 Brenda Johnson &
 Bobbie Adam

Acolytes for July

July 6
 Ainsley & Tucker

July 13
 Ana & Analicia

July 20
 Isabella & Jackson

June 27
 Tucker & Samuel

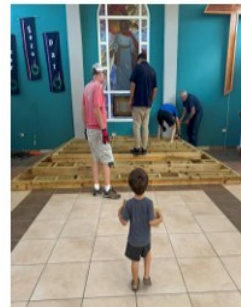
Missionary Ashley Lehr update:

Ashley's January-February newsletter (received June 6th) is printed out and located under the missionary bulletin board. Here is a clip from it featuring our Trinity team. For those reading this digitally, the first link below will bring you to the full version of the newsletter. (It is also linked on the Trinity web page. Click on Serve & Missionaries.) The second link below is to a very clever way that Ashley shows some of the sights of her everyday life in 2024. [Ashley's Jan-Feb. 2025 newsletter](#) / [2024 in one second videos](#)

JANUARY IN PUERTO RICO



Ministry in 2025 started with hosting a Short-Term Team of Volunteers from Trinity Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN and Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Elbow Lake, MN. The team consisted of all the members from their trip in 2023, plus 4 new recruits. Both congregations are active Puerto Rico Lutheran Mission FORO Partners. Along with participating in local ministry, they worked on many projects at Iglesia Luterana Fuente de Vida. It was a blessing to reconnect with our partners in sharing the Gospel from MN. We are thankful for all the work they did to prepare for the new year of sharing the Gospel, planting Lutheran churches, and showing mercy.



Summer Fest Parade Fun with Trinity Preschool!



Mrs. Larsen & Mrs. B.
answering questions at their Summer Fest booth.

On **Saturday, June 14**, Trinity Preschool proudly joined the community for the annual **Summer Fest Parade**—and what a joyful day it was!

Our float was full of color, candy, and smiling faces as students and families came together to represent the preschool. Our young riders waved to the crowd with big grins and even bigger enthusiasm. Many thanks to the adults who rode along in the float and helped hand out goodies—your support made it extra special! Thank you to Dale and Sharlene Schmidt for the sweet ride!!



This event was a wonderful way to celebrate community spirit and showcase the joy and energy of Trinity Preschool. We're grateful to the church and congregation for their ongoing support, which makes moments like these possible.



We also had a fantastic time at our **Preschool Play Date on Monday, June 23**! The children had a blast playing, exploring, and making new friends. It was a beautiful afternoon of laughter, learning, and connection.



Do you know a preschooler who is looking for a fun and friendly place to play? Invite them to our next play date on Tuesday, July 14 from 4-6 p.m. We would love to welcome new faces and share the joy of Trinity Preschool!



VBS 2025 was a hit!

A note from the director: I'll be honest, I had a few grumblings as I performed my duties as director of VBS this year. Sometimes serving doesn't always come with a happy heart. But seeing the joy on the kids' faces as they moved from each station, sang, danced and enjoyed fellowship with each other, made it all worth it. I am honored to have served the church in this way and look forward to VBS 2026! - Rachael Larson



Thank you to all of the adults and teenagers that helped with VBS this year!



It takes a lot of people to make VBS run smoothly.



+ 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

JULY SERVICE PLANS

July 6 - Divine Service 3*The Third Sunday After Trinity*

Hymns 915, 608, 609, 641, 707, 966

July 20 - Divine Service 4*The Fifth Sunday After Trinity*

Hymns 589, 688, 856, 616, 750, 712

July 13- Divine Service 3*The Fourth Sunday After Trinity*

Hymns 496, 696, 728, 932, 627, 706

*Pastor Christensen, guest preacher***July 27 - Divine Service 4***The Sixth Sunday After Trinity*

Hymns 916, 562, 567, 596, 563, 865

SERVING THE LORD AND YOU

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