

THE SEPTEMBER 2025
TRINITY TRIBUNE



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

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

September has come again. School begins. Seasons change. Our attention gets somewhat drawn to new beginnings once more.

One thing that we will be beginning is an effort to integrate catechesis into our congregational life. That is just a fancy way to say “Remind ourselves of what we believe as Lutherans on an ongoing basis.” There are three specific ways that we will be doing this throughout the coming year. The first is this: we will speak the catechism aloud. We will do so by speaking responsively a small portion of the catechism each week as part of our Sunday morning service. There is a plan such that we will speak aloud the whole catechism over the course of the year, from September to August 2026.

The second thing we will do is we will be catechized in that portion of the catechism that we speak each week, alongside of our children. The way this will occur is that the children’s message each Sunday will place an emphasis on that catechetical reading.

The third thing we will be doing is intended to be fun – I promise! The fun thing we will be doing is a Congregational Catechism Review. Each member of Trinity is encouraged to review the portion of the catechism that was read the preceding Sunday, with an aim at committing it to memory. Maybe you speak the words to yourself as you are driving, or recite them together with your family at the dinner table, or run over them in your head as part of your devotions. Whichever approach you choose to use, you are integrating the catechism into your week. You will be able to find the catechism selections in the monthly newsletter, the weekly bulletin, or in a printed collection of the plan for the whole year, which you can find in the kiosk.

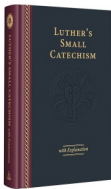
The following Sunday, you will not be quizzed – no memory work tests involved! But you will be encouraged to self-report if you gave the catechism some time during the week. This is not so much “Did you memorize it” as it is “Did you work at it.” There will be instructions at the kiosk of how to self-report in a very simple way. This self-reporting will not be done by name. Rather, the goal is just to see our congregation working together at the goal.

Again, this is supposed to be fun, even as it is also good for our spiritual lives. After we've gotten started, I'll set a goal. Perhaps it will be 50 members working at this for a month. If we can achieve the goal, maybe we will celebrate together with an ice cream social, or a special treat after church some Sunday, or something of that nature.

Again, the goal here is not to burden you. It is to find ways for us to remind ourselves of what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutherans without being burdensome. I really hope you'll join me in strengthening our grasp of the catechism throughout the coming year.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lieske

Congregational Catechism Review



Each week, a portion of Luther's Small Catechism has been appointed for congregational focus. You are encouraged, as you are able, to meditate on this section of the catechism throughout the week and to commit it to memory. In certain weeks, the portion of the Catechism that we are focusing upon is quite long.

*While you can certainly review the whole portion, in those weeks focus particularly upon committing the **bolded section** to memory.*

September 7

The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean?

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

September 14

The Seventh Petition

But deliver us from evil.

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean?

We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

September 21

Holy Baptism - Third

How can water do such great things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three: "He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying." (Titus 3:5-8)

September 28

The Fourth Petition

What is meant by daily bread?

Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Meet the Trinity Family



The Lieske family has been part of the Trinity family since October 2021, when Christopher was installed as pastor here at Trinity. We have been abundantly blessed to live with you here in Fergus Falls and to be part of this congregational community. While you likely recognize our family, we were asked if we could share a little about our family life to help you all to get to know us a little better.

Christopher grew up in Maple Grove, Minnesota. He attended St. John's Lutheran Church in Corcoran, and also attended the grade school there through eighth grade. He graduated from high school in 1999.

Michele grew up in York, Maine. Her family attended a Catholic parish nearby. Michele spent many of her formative years homeschooled, and graduated in 2000. Michele traveled internationally with Up With People before she began college. While in college, Michele joined an LCMS congregation.

Christopher and Michele were married in 2004, and in August celebrated 21 years of married life together. They met while they were both students at Concordia University in St. Paul. As students, Michele majored in Theology, while Christopher majored in Secondary Education and History. His plan was to teach history in a Lutheran High School. That did not end up being the way things went.

After they were married, Christopher and Michele moved to St. Louis, where both attended Concordia Seminary. Michele graduated with a Masters of the Arts specializing in Exegetical Theology in 2006, and completed her Deaconess certification in 2007. In the 2006-2007 academic year, Christopher and Michele relocated to Frankenmuth, Michigan, where Christopher served as vicar and Michele completed her Deaconess internship. In 2008, Christopher graduated from Concordia Seminary.

In 2008, Christopher was called to serve as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Montevideo, MN. He served there until 2016. Michele was called and installed as Deaconess at St. Paul Lutheran in 2010, and served until the children came along. While she remains a rostered church worker on candidate status, she delights in being mother to the Lieske children. The family moved to Monticello in 2016, where Christopher served as pastor of Alive Lutheran Church until the family came to Fergus Falls in 2021.

Anastasia was born in 2012 in Montevideo. She has many interests. She is one of the world's foremost amateur experts on the radio drama Adventures in Odyssey (at least, her father describes her this way). She loves the Animal Crossing video game franchise. Recently, she has had a passion for entrepreneurship, baking and selling from a roadside stand to raise money for her other interests.

Samuel was born in 2014 in Montevideo. He is growing to be a fine young man. He enjoys playing with his friends in the neighborhood. He has more Nerf guns than he has arms, but always has his eye on another (he shares them with his friends). He and his younger sister (we will get to her in a moment) greatly enjoy the game Minecraft, and discuss it often with one another, their cousin, and anyone who shares their passion.

Zoe was born in 2016 in Montevideo, and lived there for about two months before the family moved. She shares her brother's passion for Minecraft, and the two of them build worlds with the small window of time they are allowed to play their games. She has a big heart, and is a faithful friend. She loves to read, especially Minecraft adventure stories.

Sophia was born in 2019 in Monticello. She has just been learning to read, and it is a great joy to see the world of reading open up to her. She loves her Legos, and adores her siblings. She does not particularly like going to sleep.

The children are homeschooled, and have really excelled in their studies, even as they sometimes resist actually completing their work. They are in grades 8, 6, 4, and 1 this year. Teacher Mom works them through the various subjects, and helps them to grow intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually day by day.



Other than Christopher, the whole family is involved with Tae Kwon Do. Michele has achieved a second-degree black belt, and Samuel just recently earned a junior black belt. His sisters are not far behind.

Michele has a number of hobbies. She has a collection of American Girl dolls and items assembled over 30 years. She likes to create. At times, that has involved sewing. In recent times, that has involved creative writing, as Michele has been writing a novel for the last few months. Michele has a passion for teaching, whether that be through homeschooling her children, leading the homeschool co-op, leading the Hebrew study group, or helping at the Tae Kwon Do Dojang.

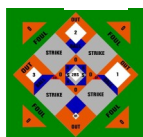
Growing up, Christopher enjoyed the imaginative worlds found in Science Fiction and Fantasy works (think The Lord of the Rings, Star Wars, Spider-Man, those sorts of things). When he has time, he still likes to enjoy these things, be it through books, movies, or table top games. He has been a fan of the various Minnesota teams all his life, which other than 1987 and 1991 has brought with it a lot of heartache. With the help of a good teacher (Thanks, Cal!), he has recently explored various woodworking and home improvement projects.

Our family really appreciates all the blessings God has brought to us, particularly bringing to us, particularly bringing us to be here with you in Fergus Falls at Trinity.

Announcements



The **Altar Guild** is meeting after Fellowship Sunday, Sept 7. If you're interested in joining, just want to learn what we do, or have any suggestions, we welcome you to the meeting.



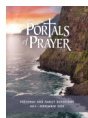
Our first evening of **dartball** this fall will be on Monday, September 8 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Moorhead beginning at 7:00. We will carpool from the Trinity parking lot at 5:45 for the fun, food and fellowship. Contact Wayne Schoening if you have any questions or to join us.



Do you like to ride a bike or roller skate, or know someone who does? Then roll on down to the Trinity parking lot on September 28 for a **Wheelie Fun** time. We will have open riding and skating, fellowship, and fun! Keep your eyes and ears open for exact time and more details – and invite your friends and neighbors.



The Trinity **Prayer Team** is being re-established. If you are interested in devoting time to pray for immediate needs of the congregation, please contact the office. Prayer requests will go out by group email.



Portals of Prayer - Do you need the extra-large print copies? If so, please contact the office. We do not want to order more than we need.



Mites goal for September - Zoe's Home -

Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO \$75,000

Zoe's Home helps homeless and at-risk pregnant and parenting women in need. These women participate in Bible studies as well as activities and classes to grow their life skills. After a one-year stay, the residents' goals are to complete their education and find steady employment. This grant will provide funds to meet the costs of housing, food, transportation, life skills education, case management, and staffing for Zoe's Home.

GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY

Ongoing Concern: Jerry Pribbernow, Janet Maack, Brian Fitzner, Jeremy Elshaug, Elaine Culp, Ned Stueve, Gene True, 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), 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), 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)

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 Erlandson, 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

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2 First Day of Preschool! 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 Chapel	3 9:10 Chapel 1 pm - Lydia Circle	4 12:00 Crafters 12:30 Quilters 6:30 Evening Circle	5 9:00 Hebrews Study Group	6 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmer's Market
7 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Adult & Teen Bible Study 11-4:00 S.S. Rally Day Mites collection Sun.	8 9:10 Chapel 7 pm Dartball - Our Redeemer-Moorhead - Carpool 5:45	9 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 Chapel 12:30 School Board Mtg. 2pm Women's Bible Study 7 pm Trustees Mtg.	10 1 pm Knitting & Crocheting	11 12 pm Crafters 12:30 Quilters	12 9:00 Hebrews Study Group	13 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmer's Market
14 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School	15 9:10 Chapel	16 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 Chapel 9-2:00 Foot Care Clinic 2pm Women's Bible Study 6 pm Church Council	17	18 10:00 Divine Service at Broen Home 12pm Crafters 12:30 Quilters	19 9:00 Hebrews Study Group	20 Newsletter items due 8 am - Men's Network 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmer's Market
21 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School	22 9:10 Chapel	23 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 Chapel 2pm Women's Bible Study	24 1 pm Knitting & Crocheting	25 12:00 Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters	26 9:00 Hebrews Study Group	27 9:00-1:00 Crafters @ Farmer's Market
28 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School Food Shelf Sunday	29 9:10 Chapel	30 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 Chapel 2pm Women's Bible Study Church office closed		On-Call Pastor Phone Number (218) 321-0993	A live, up-to-date calendar is available on our church website: www.trinityff.org Trinity Website	

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS!

Birthdays

Sept. 3 Orion Bolland
 Sept. 3 Don Nelson
 Sept. 3 Harry Phillips
 Sept. 4 Branda Mouritsen
 Sept. 5 Kathy Hohenstein
 Sept. 7 Kathy Otto
 Sept. 10 Jon Roehl
 Sept. 11 Linda Schmidt
 Sept. 15 Aria Flerchinger
 Sept. 18 David Schlicker
 Sept. 19 MacBelle Hedtke
 Sept. 20 Debra Goerd
 Sept. 20 Deidre Haugmo
 Sept. 22 Ned Stueve
 Sept. 25 Mark Samuelson
 Sept. 27 Nadine Drevlow
 Sept. 27 Vivien Hedtke
 Sept. 29 Jeff Melby

Baptismal Birthdays

Sept. 6 Ethel Mindermann
 Sept. 6 David Schneeberger
 Sept. 7 Calvin Johansen
 Sept. 9 Donna Schoening
 Sept. 11 Daniel Beske
 Sept. 13 Alissa Beighley
 Sept. 14 Amber Boese
 Sept. 15 Marion Stach
 Sept. 16 Bonnie Johnson
 Sept. 22 Ned Stueve
 Sept. 22 Orion Bolland
 Sept. 23 Char Dale
 Sept. 23 Lori Dawkins
 Sept. 24 Kathleen Hohenstein
 Sept. 25 Sharlene Schmidt
 Sept. 25 Anna Flerchinger
 Sept. 26 Kathy Otto

Wedding Anniversaries

Sept. 1 Bob & Janet Maack
 Sept. 6 Robert & Debra Goerd
 Sept. 8 Dan & Amy Beske
 Sept. 13 Melvin & Marlene Reed
 Sept. 18 Branda & Stephen Mouritsen
 Sept. 20 Iver & Maria Henjum
 Sept. 20 Gene & Kathie Lindblom



SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

Ushers for September

September 7

Rodney, Dale, & Jerry Schmidt

September 14

Gene Lindblom, Larry Stein, & Arnold Bolland

September 21

Jon Schoening, Tim King, & Jeff Johnson

September 28

Bobbie Adam, Blaine & Margie Rasmussen

Greeters for September

September 7

Cal & Helen Johansen

September 14

Dale & Sharlene Schmidt

September 21

Jerry & Shirley Pribbernow

September 28

Donna Umlauf & Tami Gerhardson

Elders for September

September 7

Ken Erlandson

September 14

Wayne Goerd

September 21

David Hauser

September 28

Wayne Schoening

Altar Guild for September

September 7

Margie Rasmussen

September 14

Sharlene Schmidt & Tami Gerhardson

September 21

Brenda Johnson & Bobbie Adam

September 28

Nadine Drevlow & Char Dale

Acolytes for September

September 7

Ainsley & Austin

September 14

Isabella & Samuel

September 21

Analicia & Adrian

September 28

Kourtney & Ana

“MSL North” Programs for September 2025:

September 7th: Rev. David Suelzle, Crosspointe Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: **“The Hidden Blessings”** based on Philemon 15-16. *This Is the Life Program: “Harriett’s Wedding Day” - A groom nearly cancels wedding plans due to fear of the unknown.*

September 14th: Rev. Tom Eckstein, Concordia Lutheran Church, Jamestown, ND, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Adrian, ND, presents the message: **“Jesus Seeks and Saves the Lost!”** based on Luke 15:1-32. *This Is the Life Program: “Tragedy Near a Small Town” - Tragedy in a small town results in a loving father holding a grudge instead of forgiving as our Father has forgiven us.*

September 21st: Rev. Karl Weber, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Ottertail, MN, and St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Richville, MN, presents the message: **“The Unrighteous or Dishonest Manager”** based on Luke 16:1-15. *This Is the Life program: “Spite” - Negative emotions and grudges are destructive, but forgiveness allows people to move forward.*

September 28th: Rev. Bill Aufdenkamp, Christ Lutheran Church, Elbow Lake, MN, and Zion Lutheran Church, Hoffman, MN, presents the message: **“What Do You See?”** based on I Timothy 3:13. *This Is the Life program: “The Visit” – A Christian’s response to tragedy becomes a witness to others during wartime.*



“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)”.

Dear Trinity Family,

We are excited to share some wonderful updates from **Trinity Preschool** as we prepare for the **2025–2026 school year!**

On **Monday, August 18th**, our **Play Date** was a joyful success. It was well attended, and we were blessed to welcome several of our new students! This special time allowed them to become more comfortable in their new preschool environment while meeting new friends and teachers. What a gift to see so many smiling faces!



We also have more good news—through the **Parent Aware program**, Trinity Preschool was awarded **\$4,000 in grant funding**. These funds have already been put to good use, providing us with many wonderful new items you will notice throughout the preschool. We are so thankful for this generous support, which helps us continue to provide a Christ-centered, engaging, and high-quality learning experience for our children.



Mrs. Larson had fun assembling all of the new items and is looking forward to having the Preschool class enjoy them!



As we look ahead, **Mrs. Larsen, Mrs. B, Mrs. Orpen, and Pastor Lieske** are filled with excitement for a fun and faith-filled new school year.

We thank you, our church family, for your prayers, encouragement, and continued support of this ministry. Together, we are nurturing young hearts and minds to grow in faith and love.

With gratitude and joy, **The Trinity Preschool Team**

"Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him." – Psalm 127:3

Trinity Family News



In April, Kyle Sorkness, who is pursuing ordination and a PhD from our seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, received his vicarage assignment. He was assigned to Shepherd of the City Lutheran Church and St. Paul's Lutheran School, both in Fort Wayne.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, a very large congregation in the heart of downtown, is one of the charter congregations of our synod, and its school is the oldest in the state. Shepherd of the City, a small congregation just a mile away, started as a plant of St. Paul's. Both churches and the school now serve increasingly diverse neighborhoods.

Pictured with Kyle is the Rev. Jeffrey Pulse, vacancy pastor of Shepherd of the City and professor and director of certification and placement for the seminary.



Trinity Homeschool Co-op kickoff is Tuesday, September 9th, with a field trip to Ringdahl EMS. We have all sorts of exciting things planned for this year as we continue to encourage children to learn and grow in the love of Christ, looking at the world through a Biblical lens.

Registration is still open for the 2025-2026 school year. We will meet on Tuesdays from 9-11:30am (with an optional grammar class from 11:30-noon). We have chapel, public speaking opportunities, music, arts & crafts, guest speakers, field trips, and a new grammar class.

If you know any homeschool families that would benefit from a co-op like this, please share our information with them. Scan the QR code to visit Trinity Homeschool Co-op's website or contact Michele Lieske with questions at michelelieske@gmail.com.



+ 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, Fri. 8:30-2:00
Church Office E-mail	info@trinityff.org
Preschool at Trinity E-mail	info@preschoolattrinity.org
Cemetery Sexton Cal Johansen	(218) 671-0383

SEPTEMBER SERVICE PLANS

September 7 - Divine Service 1 <i>The Twelfth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 908, 545, 846, 398, 528, 524	September 21 - Divine Service 1 <i>The Fourteenth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 793, 849, 820, 731, 693, 790
September 14- Divine Service 1 <i>The Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 540, 683, 566, 845, 649, 848	September 28 - Divine Service 1 <i>The Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity</i> Hymns 869, 760, 809, 732, 726, 782

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