

Trinity Tidings

July 2018



But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power
is from God and not from us. We are pressed hard on every side,
but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair;
persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.

2 Corinthians 4: 7-9 (NIV)

Dear friends in Christ,

A few weeks ago this text was read in worship and it spoke to my heart and soul! As I listened to the assisting minister read, I nodded along, whispered 'yes' and 'amen' throughout, and generally wanted to lose my Midwest Lutheran identity long enough to raise my hands in praise. There is holy timing in this reading given the current circumstances at Trinity. This whole reading encouraged me to endure along with you the difficult, shocking circumstances around Bryan's leaving and to keep on recognizing God's great power, mercy, and love present in our midst. This reading reminds me: we can do this if we do it together.

As a pastor at Trinity, I continue with the duties to which you called me: preaching, planning and leading worship, visiting the sick, helping with VBS, teaching, providing pastoral counseling, presiding at funerals and weddings, attending and leading meetings. (That's all in my job description!) My call as a pastor here and the work of the church remains my joy.

In addition, I'm now involved in finding an interim pastor to help us process what happened and how to move forward. I'm working closely with the council and staff to sort out the emotional, spiritual, and financial questions that have erupted here. (I believe these things fall in the category of 'other duties as needed.' ☺) All of this takes time, patience, discretion, and integrity. In my heart, I know I'm called by God to this work as well, right here and right now at Trinity. I'm glad to serve in this way.

So many of you have reached out and asked how you can help. What's on the top of the 'to do list' for the congregation? PRAY. Please pray for each member of the Engfers: Bryan, Beth, Jenna and Gillian. Pray for the staff. Pray for the council. Pray for the congregation.

The council is busy re-commissioning our working groups and committees and we're looking for leaders. From property to parish life, members of this congregation continue to step forward offering help and committing to giving their time to the church. This is just how a church should be! Check in with God. Join me in praying that God will lift up leaders for here at Trinity. Who knows! YOU may be the answer that God sends us!

I know what you're thinking: Who? ME?!?! Yes. YOU! In the verses above, the apostle Paul writes that we have treasure in clay jars. Something made of clay is fragile, it can break. But it can also be mended or re-made. Friends, YOU and I are the clay jars and our treasure is our faith. You need not be a perfect expert to give your time and yourself to the church. Remember that the treasure, the power, the LIFE within us is from God. God who is perfect and loves us anyway.

In prayer and thanksgiving,

Pastor Amy



Trinity English Lutheran Church
 314 Barrie Street
 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
 Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
 U. S. Postage
 PAID
 Permit #54
 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

WE EXTEND OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY TO...The family and friends of Donna Schink as they mourn her death. May all be comforted by God's promise of eternal life to those who believe.

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR...Debbie Pierce, Rhonda Cook, Linda Gallman, Ruth Smithback, Marsha Anderson, Sandy Anderson, Wanda Olson, Elyse Byrne, Walter Lemmert, Mary Weston, Nancy Boos, Jean Baughman, Maggie Dostalek, Evelyn Falk, Charlene Luepkes, Andrew Campbell, Amme Anderson, Bob Kyle, Richard Klinkowitz, Darla Goodman, and Kathy Moore.

SCHOOL KITS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

During the summer months we will be gathering school supplies for the Lutheran World Relief School Kits which will be sent to children in need around the world. If you are able to help with this, please use the list below when purchasing the supplies. They should be put in a plastic bag, labeled LWR School Kit. Kits can be placed in the blue bin which will be in the education hallway during the summer months. Thank you!!

- ___ Four 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper, 8" x 10"
- ___ One 30 centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side/inches on the other
- ___ One pencil sharpener
- ___ One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel work well)
- ___ Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers (secured together with a rubber band)
- ___ One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ___ One 2 1/2" eraser
- ___ Five black or blue ballpoint pens (secured with a rubber band)



Please remove any excess packaging from the items. Thank you!

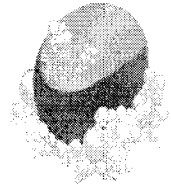
JOIN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEAM AS A TEACHER OR AIDE!!

Many of our long-term teachers and aides are stepping down so we need others to step up!!

The current openings are

- Grade 1—one teacher, two aides
- Grade 2—one aide
- Grade 3—one teacher, one aide
- Grade 4—one teacher, one aide
- Grade 6—two teachers, two aides

Please put these needs into your prayers. Our programming has a history of being blessed with dedicated volunteers. Perhaps this is your opportunity to participate! Teachers and aides can commit to coming every other week. If you are available to teach or be a classroom aide every week, that would lessen the number of volunteers needed. For more information on responsibilities, please contact Julie Vurva at 563-4145, ext. 4 or julievtlc@yahoo.com.



THANK YOU!!

We collected four full boxes of soap for Lutheran World Relief in May....thank you so much!!

JULY 2018

1 9:00 AM Worship	2	3 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AA/AIAnon	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5 9:00 AM Respite 7:00 PM Worship	6 OFFICE CLOSED!	7
8 9:00 AM Worship	9 11:00 AM Reena Worship 1:00 PM STAR	10 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Dycora Worship 7:00 PM AA/AIAnon 7:00 PM Committees	11	12 9:00 AM Respite 10:30 AM Blackhawk Worship 7:00 PM Worship	13 OFFICE CLOSED!	14
15 9:00 AM Worship	16	17 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AA/AIAnon	18 1:00 PM Ruth Circle	19 9:00 AM Respite 7:00 PM Worship	20 OFFICE CLOSED!	21
22 LIFT to Louisville 9:00 AM Worship	23	24 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AA/AIAnon 7:00 PM Council	25	26 9:00 AM Respite 7:00 PM Worship	27 OFFICE CLOSED!	28
29 9:00 AM Worship	30	31 8:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AA/AIAnon	1	2 9:00 AM Respite 7:00 PM Worship	3 OFFICE CLOSED!	4