



**Sunday  
Worship:**  
8:30 am



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**Schedules &  
Events:**

See Enclosed  
July Calendar

**Communion:**

8:30 am  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday



**Children's SS**

Sundays at  
To Resume in  
September

**Confirmation  
Class**

To Resume in Fall

**Lao Bible Study**

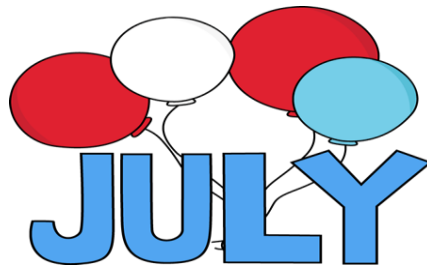
Sundays at  
9:15 am  
In Lg. Mtg. Rm.

**Council Meeting**

Wed., July 16  
6:00 pm



The coffee  
pot is on most  
Sundays after  
worship ☺  
All invited!



2025



Watch for Details coming soon!

**Picture Directory** – Time slots are starting to fill up fast! We will add another day if we get close to filling up completely. Go on-line at ucdir.com and choose photography session, sign up in church on Sunday morning or just call the office Tue, Wed, or Thu for assistance.



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**Opportunities to stay connected:**

**"Basement Coffee"** after our morning worship on most remaining Sundays

**"1<sup>st</sup> Friday Lunch Meet-up"** 11 am at the Den for Trinity ML & Alpha folks  
. . . and of course, new faces are always welcome to all of the above! ☺

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**Church Roster and Newsletter:** Please continue to contact the church office with any mailing, or family information changes so we can keep our church family records, newsletter mailings, phone numbers and email addresses current. ~ Thank you



**ENJOY YOUR SUMMER!**

**Looking for our Services On-Line?**  
**Find recordings of our services on  
Facebook – Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Or our church website at

<https://trinitymke.360unite.com>

Here you will find the most recent worship  
service (and several past services) on our  
home page. Just click the red forward arrow  
to view . . . and enjoy!

# **"Minute Man Message" from the Board of Stewardship July 2025**



## ***Faithfulness: The Stewardship Standard***

"Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:2).

What is the standard to which a steward is held? Ask the average person, and they might talk about percentages, tithes, and commitments. Too often, the default mode of measuring stewards is by how much and how frequently they give. This is not helpful. Measuring activity without any connection to baptismal identity is a recipe for disaster. It can either breed a sense of superiority and self-righteousness or create a culture of scarcity and despair. Neither outcome is godly or helpful.

This is not to say that stewardship should be regarded as "no big deal." St. Paul, within his discussion of the ministry to which he has been called, sets the standard of accountability for the steward: faithfulness. This removes any sense of superiority or self-righteousness and dispels scarcity and despair. When a steward manages what the Lord has entrusted to them — resources and all aspects of life — for God's purposes, the focus is not on how much or how frequently they give.

This standard reflects the stewardship portrayed in the Gospels where Jesus entrusts varying amounts, each according to ability. The commended stewards were recognized for their faithfulness in their vocation, not the amounts they managed. Conversely, the condemned stewards were not castigated for their lack of performance but for their lack of faithfulness.

What does this mean for the steward in the pew? The Lord has entrusted you with various things. Luther captures them in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and the Fourth Petition of the Lord's Prayer. The familiar couplets of food and drink, house and home, spouse and children, land, animals and all possessions are the Lord's, and He has entrusted them to you for His purpose. This trust brings an active realization of thanksgiving.

This active thanksgiving is our stewardship. It can be distilled into two questions that the steward regularly needs to answer:       1. How has God blessed me?       2. How is He calling me to respond?

The first question is quite simple to answer: if the Lord has entrusted something to you, it is a blessing. This blessing is for God's glory and the benefit of your neighbor. The second question is more challenging to measure; it is not about percentages and charts. Instead, it is about a life of thanksgiving that flows from the mercies of God revealed in Jesus Christ. This thanksgiving starts at and flows from the cross and the empty tomb. Our stewardship of the Gospel drives our stewardship of everything else.

The standard, then, is faithfulness. Faithfulness flows from eyes focused on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. It does not come from our efforts but through the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives, through Word and Sacrament. It begins at the altar in the Divine Service but extends into the world — from hearth and home to workplace and classroom, from commerce to leisure. The mercy of God, freely given in Jesus, leads us to demonstrate a faithfulness that reveals to others the same mercy we have received in Jesus.

This faithfulness cannot be measured empirically. It is simply allowing the Holy Spirit to work in and through us for the glory of God and the benefit of our neighbor. Weekly. Daily. Faithfully.



# ***Message From Pastor!***

God's blessings to you all as we begin another month. My article this month is in picture form. It is selected pictures from the Youth Retreat to Northern Minnesota, including a Servant Event in Pine River where we packaged meals for the townspeople in need of a good hot meal. We enjoyed ourselves both helping out others and connecting with each other in games and Bible Study. We spent time discussing patience and other topics. Although I am not in many of the pictures (I was the photographer), I was there to see these five youth having fun, getting to know each other and helping out whenever they could. Thank you to you gals and guy for letting me be a part of your trip.

God's blessings. In Christ, Pastor Rick.



# Trinity Youth Board News – July 2025

Email: [trinityboardofyouth@gmail.com](mailto:trinityboardofyouth@gmail.com)

Amy Pankratz 507.317.1022

Becky Palm 507.822.7657

Heather Pankratz 507.720.4854

God Squad = Grades 3-5; Junior LYF = Grades 6-8; Senior LYF = Grades 9-12

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**Bible verse of the month:** Jeremiah 17:14 “Heal me, Lord, and I will be healed. Save me and I will be saved, for You are the one I praise.”

## Coming Events

~ Orphan Grain Train – Nebraska Leaves July 13<sup>th</sup> and returns July 15<sup>th</sup>  
Contact Amy for final sign up

~ A.S.E. – North Carolina Leaves July 11<sup>th</sup> and returns July 24<sup>th</sup>

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## UP NORTH SERVANT EVENT



Paislee Gohr & Claire Fast, Designers  
Amy Pankratz – Model



Emma Quade & Ethan Wegner, Designers  
Lily Quade - Model

RED / GREEN vs BLUE / BLACK



# Wishing Happy Birthday to . . . . .



July 2025

Alexis Alvarado  
Brandon Fast  
Jesse Fast  
Mackenzie Wilson  
John Wolle-Boyd, Jr.  
Dezman Odegard  
Olivia Schroeder  
Grayson Schroeder  
Kallyn Morey  
Esther Nelson  
Ken Anacker  
Ardis Krahn  
Erin Behnke  
Sarah Palm  
Marilyn Stoesz  
Jackson Hanson

Carrisa Rothstein  
Mary Oeltjenbruns  
Ron Kunkel  
Aliyah Mullen  
Eunice Oeltjenbruns  
Monica Schroeder  
Joanne Karschnik  
Braxton Tollefson  
Kaila Blom  
Mitch Schroeder  
Roddy Hanson  
Haley Hamilton  
Kelly Watkins  
Kyle Schroeder  
Kev Schroeder  
Caroyle Wilson

Pam Oltmans  
Mark Kispert  
Corey Wilson  
Angela Alvarado  
Sherri Friesen  
Sandy Karschnik  
Jesse Karschnik  
Brynlee Morey  
Alex Fiala  
Kaysee Nesmoe  
Kaydence Ella  
Marlene Wolff  
Olivia Morey  
Sharon Ysker  
Merle Boldt



## Memorials were given in May in memory of . . . .

~ Darlene Buller      ~ Gordon Harder      ~ Jack / Grace Schriock

*Designated for:* Bell Tower Fund

~ 7/2 Brian & Shanoah Janzen  
~ 7/3 Kevin & Lisa Krahn  
~ 7/4 Vern & Cheryl Peterson  
~ 7/7 Merle & Cindi Boldt  
~ 7/8 Jesse & Jami Peters  
~ 7/9 Chuck & Charlene Wolle  
~ 7/22 Shawn & Kim Naas  
~ 7/26 Dennis & Julie Brugman

