



**Sunday
Worship:**
8:30 am



**Schedules &
Events:**

See Enclosed
August Calendar

Communion:

8:30 am
1st & 3rd Sunday



Children's SS

Resumes
September 14
At 9:45 am.

**Confirmation
Class**

Resumes
September 10 at
3:30 pm

Lao Bible Study

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

Council Meeting

Wed., August 20
6:30 pm



The coffee
pot is on most
Sundays after
worship ☺

... ..

augUST 2025

Picture Directory – Thanks to all who signed up! We did a fantastic job – we filled almost every appointment time. There might still be one or two openings if you missed the sign-up. Call the church office or Deb Kremmin at 507-227-4885 to see if you can still make an appointment. You can always submit a photo that you already have. There is a fee of \$15 for submitting a photo, but the church has decided to cover this cost. We want you in our directory!



COMING SUNDAY, SEPT. 14TH
Watch for details!

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**Confirmation classes** will begin this year on Wednesday, September 10 at 3:30pm. There will be an informational meeting on Wednesday, August 20 at 5:30 pm to discuss plans for the upcoming year. We ask the congregation to continue to pray for these youth as they learn what their faith is all about.



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Opportunities to stay connected:

Boards of Stewardship & Evangelism host a morning coffee time the third Sunday each month following the service.

"Basement Coffee" on many of the other Sundays, thanks to John Oeltjenbruns and Mary Gohr

"1st 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! ☺



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!



Jesus' transforming presence

"But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount.' Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost'" (Luke 19:8-10 NIV).

Who knew, all those kids sitting in Sunday school were getting a lesson in stewardship! Generations of children have very often heard lessons based on the familiar account of Zacchaeus. The diminutive tax collector's curiosity surrounding the person and ministry of Jesus is what the Holy Spirit used to set him on a collision course for a total stewardship transformation. This transformation, according to the text of Luke 19, is not just about this life. This stewardship transformation is about eternity as well!

Remember the story: Zacchaeus was a tax collector. Do not think of friendly neighborhood IRS agents. This was more like a toll booth operator, but the governing authorities did not set the toll. They would contract men to staff roadside booths and tax the commerce that was passing along the road. This was an enterprise full of greed and graft. The tax collectors would take as much as they could and only pass on a portion to the government. The rest did not go into the community chest either! It went into the pocket of the tax collector.

This is why the people had such disdain for Jewish tax collectors. They were seen as both crooks and traitors. They were crooks in that they extorted their compatriots and others in the toll process. But worse, they were seen as traitors because their efforts supported the occupying Roman authorities. That is the real reason that the people would not make way so that short Zacchaeus could see Jesus.

For this reason, he runs ahead and climbs a tree. He had heard all the stories. He wanted to see this Jesus with his own eyes. Mercy is on display. This hated crook and traitor gets a direct audience with Jesus — at Jesus' own request! Jesus invites Himself to Zacchaeus' house. This is where the transformation is about to take place!

Notice how Jesus does it. He does not preach a three-week sermon series, nor does He ask Zacchaeus to make a pledge. There is nothing programmatic about Jesus' approach. But Zacchaeus is completely transformed! The transforming force is the very presence of Jesus!

*From the
Pastor*



A Study in Micah

First of all my dear friends and family at Trinity Lutheran Church, greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I write to you this month having recently completing a Bible Study in the book of the Prophet Micah. A profound message written many years ago (750-686 BC) but still relevant for today. It speaks of a corrupt and sinful world facing a devastating destruction but also of a merciful and loving God who brings salvation. I found great conviction but also great comfort and peace in Micah's closing words in Chapter 7 of the book, and hope and pray that you will too.

As Micah begins this last chapter, he speaks of a feeling like the emptiness of the fields as the summer crops are gathered in and nothing remains except the dirt of the field. He writes, "Woe is me! For I have become as when the summer fruit has been gathered, as when the grapes have been gleaned: there is no cluster to eat, no first-ripe fig that my soul desires" (Micah 7:1). He goes on to write how the world has become completely ungodly and that there are no longer any righteous among humankind. He mentions the corruptness that is borne in the hands of men and that evil is their quest. Micah refers to the empty field as he claims that even the best among them are but weeds and thorns. There is fighting amongst neighbors and even family members. Things are so bad that Micah declares one's worst enemies are found within one's friends and family. And in all this Micah includes himself as a sinner against God.

Doesn't this sound familiar as we look at the world around us. The world has turned in on itself fighting against each other trying to have the most power, possessions, fame. Fighting with each other, doing whatever it takes to glorify yourself, even if it means betraying our neighbor, our friends, our family. So, we turn on each other with cruel hatred and find nothing but our lack of love and compassion. The conclusion is that we are sinners and deserve to be wiped out and totally annihilated. Micah writes this, "The day of your watchmen, of your punishment, has come; now their confusion is at hand" (Micah 7:4b). We have been judged we have been convicted.

Micah, in his sinful state realizes that even in his totally sinful state of being and worthy of destruction, he will wait for God to plead his case. God is the one who will bring him out of the darkness of his sin and bring him into the light. Micah knows that all is not lost but there will be a day of restoration and perfect peace. A shepherd will come to deliver His lost fold and bring them out of danger and peril. This Shepherd will lead His flock to pure water and soul satisfying food. There will be peace and comfort. The enemy will be destroyed and our sin "will be cast into the depths of the sea" forever.

For us, we know what Micah is talking about. We know that the light has come to shine brightly for all of creation in this dark world. Born in the small town of Bethlehem the Shepherd was born. He grew and watched over the flock by healing their diseases and giving them food and water to drink. And then He boldly stood up to the enemy, waging war against his deception and evil. In the well-fought battle, our Savior courageously was nailed to a cross where He died for our sin and disobedience. But the light was only slightly deemed, for three days later our Lord, Jesus Christ, burst forth from the grave and declared victory over our sin, death, and the great enemy, Satan.

We now live in the joy of Christ's resurrection and steadfast love toward us. Let us come before Him in worship, praise and thanksgiving knowing that in our Lord's steadfast love we have the forgiveness of sins and eternal life. May the light of our Savior, Jesus Christ shine brightly in your life and fill your hungry with the joyous of days.

In Christ, Pastor Rick

Trinity Youth Board News – August 2025

Email: 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: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.



YOUTH ACTIVITIES BEGIN AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER

September 7th - 4 pm – 5:30 pm God Squad meets

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Senior LYF meets

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Orphan Grain Train Volunteers

Pastor, Amy Pankratz, Mikaya Schroeder
Emma Naxay, Devyn Ness, Damion Ness,
Alex Tusa, and Teagan Swenson

A.S.E Workers make it home safely!

Dave Watkins, Lily Quade,
& Heather Pankratz



Wishing Happy Birthday to



**August
2025**

Aaron Ahlbrecht
Madison Schroeder
Jason Fiala
Cheryl Hiebert
Nickolas Fisher
Krystle Willaby
Katina Cardona
Jordan Boldt
Heather Pankratz
Mareena Jepsen
Nicholas Curry
Ricky Oeltjenbruns

Dawn Fast
Leon Wollschlager
Clara Johnson
Dena Johnson
Samantha Stahl
Kamden Mullen
Tanner Koetzle
Kevin Ella
Bay Saelee
Margaret Janzen
Jasmine Vongsy

Dustin Lugo
Cindy Johnson
Tom Meyer
Diane Coners
laurel Leet
Larry Brandt
Carol Flaming
Khloe Saelee
Curt Kunkel
Gary Junker
Neil Wenner




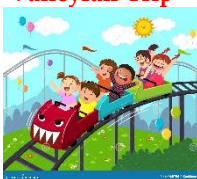
Memorial given in the month of June in memory of

~ Darlene Buller ~ Elsie Schultz

Designated for: Memorial Fund

- ~ 8/2 George & Pam Oltmans
- ~ 8/3 Jesse & Jackie Hiebert
Keith & Amy Pankratz
Wayne & Cheri Maras
- ~ 8/5 Noah & Elisabeth Wolle
- ~ 7/7 Alan & Diane Coners
- ~ 8/9 Tim & Jamie Coners
- ~ 8/11 DeLyle & Janice Harries
- ~ 8/14 Neil & Wendy Wenner
- ~ 8/15 Mark & Cheri Hanson
- ~ 8/18 Paul & Ann Nibbe
- ~ 8/19 Barrett & Megan Herrig
Rod & Lynee Hamilton
- ~ 8/22 Brian & Melissa Schultz
- ~ 8/23 Kent & Kim Karschnik
- ~ 8/25 Taylor & Alyssa Nesmoe
- ~ 8/26 Jordan & Sonia Brugman



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div></div> <div><div>Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 1418 2nd Ave Mountain Lake, MN 507-427-2451 trinitylutheransec@gmail.com</div></div>					1 11:00 Trinity ML & Alpha members 1 st Friday Meet Up at The Den for lunch.	2 <div>Elder of the Month Ricky Oeltjenbruns 507-920-1248</div>
3 <u>AM:</u> 8:30 Worship / HC 9:15 Lao Bible Study	4	5 2 – 8:30 PM PICTURE DAY!	6 2 – 8:30 PM PICTURE DAY!	7 <u>AM:</u> 9:30 Alpha Bible Study	8	9 <u>AM:</u> 7:30 Elders Meeting
10 <u>AM:</u> 8:30 Worship 9:15 Lao Bible Study <u>PM:</u> 6:00 pm Good Sam Chapel	11 ➡ 2 – 8:30 PM PICTURE DAY!	12 <u>Valleyfair Trip</u> 	13 <u>PM:</u> 6:00 Bds. Stew. & Evang.	14 <u>AM:</u> 9:30 Alpha Bible Study <u>PM:</u> 1:00 Laker Apt. Worship & HC	15	16 10 AM CCOC Meeting
17 <u>AM:</u> 8:30 Worship / HC 9:15 Lao Bible Study <u>PM:</u> 6:00 pm Good Sam Chapel	18 Pastor gone to a training conference until the 20 th .	19	20 <u>PM:</u> 5:30 Confirmation Parents Meeting 6:30 Church Council *Note time change!	21 <u>AM:</u> 9:30 Alpha Bible Study	22	23 <u>Alpha Fireman’s Supper & Celebration 4 pm – 12M</u>
24 <u>AM:</u> 8:30 Worship 9:15 Lao Bible Study	25	26 <u>AM:</u> 10:00 Good Sam Chapel / HC	27	28 <u>AM:</u> 9:30 Alpha Bible Study	29	30
31 <u>AM:</u> 8:30 Worship 9:15 Lao Bible Study	<div>Trinity’s Sunday 8:30 am Worship: Please join us live or view on: * our <u>Facebook</u> Page / U-Tube * our Church <u>Website</u>: https://trinitymtnlake.360unite.com</div>			Looking Ahead: Sunday School Rally Day – Sept. 14 th Confirmation Begins Sept. 10th	<div>Communion Schedule <u>Trinity, Mtn. Lake</u> 8:30 am Sun: 1st & 3rd <u>Trinity, Alpha</u> 10:30 am Sun: 1st & 3rd</div>	