

trinity
Lutheran Church

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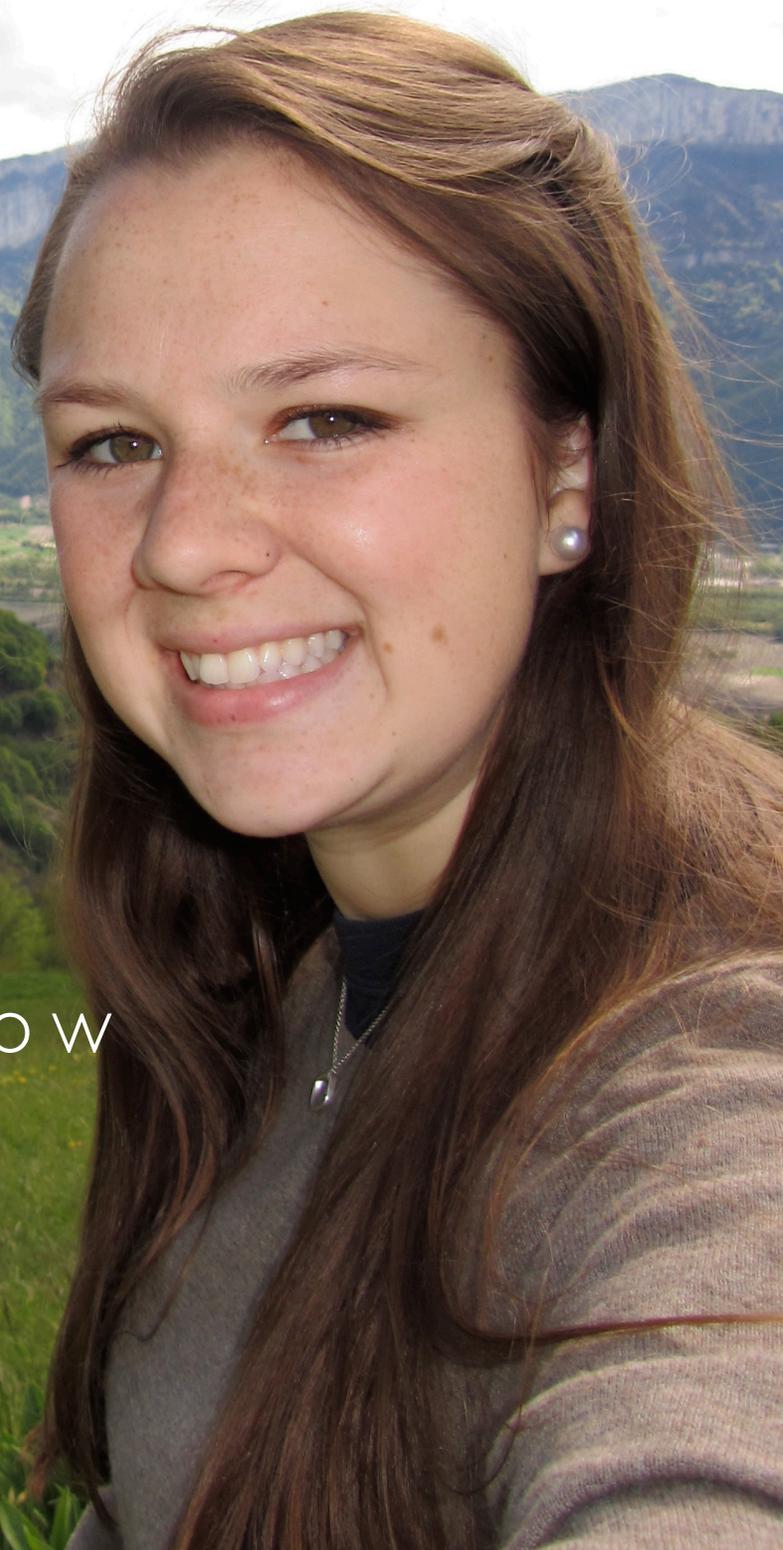
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TRINITY TODAY

January 2014
volume XXXVI, issue I
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Getting to Know Stephanie Vos

A Q&A With Trinity's
New Pastor of
Lifelong Learning
See story on page 10.



PASTOR DAN
POFFENBERGER



By Dan Poffenberger

G O D F O R W H O M W E W A I T . . .

So begins an Advent prayer. Advent: this in-between time during which we wait once again for the news of the Christ-child; the sound of a newborn cry — a holy cry, God’s answer to the waiting of God’s people. It is a season for which I always feel wholly unprepared, but desperately in need of. A time to wait. A time to prepare. A time to hope. And, in an unexpected way, a time to be.

W A I T I N G

Waiting for me is an unwelcome time. I hate to wait. I have a personality and an orientation that makes me tense up just at the thought of waiting. Usually, I interpret waiting as a waste of time. Yet it seems the Biblical witness is that waiting is necessary, even helpful. Waiting is a part of not only the human experience, but also the experience people have with God. Waiting upon God is a part of the deal: God works on God’s own sense of time and pace, not ours. But mostly it is true that we need a time of waiting to be ready for what God brings when God does show up. Waiting is a time that is needful to prepare our very self for an encounter with God.

P R E P A R I N G

I am a good preparer. I like to clear my mind and my calendar and be intentional about readying myself for an event. With my favorite pen and a clean piece of white paper, I enjoy planning, making lists, and sketching out a plan of action. When I am most intentional in life — most prepared — I am most fully engaged and invested in what comes next.

Christmas involves a lot of preparing — our homes for company; our gift lists for shopping; our menus for dining — but how much time do we spend during Advent for the real preparing: the preparation of our very self, our spirit, our whole person, for the coming of Jesus once again into our world and into our lives? We have been so busy with the wrong preparations that we have occasionally missed the whole point of the season. If the Christmas season comes and goes, and we never spend time preparing ourselves for God’s entry into our life, what have we done, exactly?

So this Advent, I am spending some time preparing myself. I spent some time in front of the fireplace with pen and paper and began to imagine what preparing myself for Advent will look like this year. I realize, though, it was just a beginning. How will you prepare?

E X P E C T I N G &
H O P I N G

Advent invites a waiting full of expectation and hope. In Stephanie’s first sermon here at Trinity, she told stories of Anna and Simeon: two people who were waiting on God with hearts full of expectation and hope. Even when our expectation is somewhat unclear (I know God will show up, but I don’t know how), it is good to have expectation. All of our senses are alert to God’s presence, God’s voice and God’s work. We will know it when we see it, hear it and experience it. Without expectation, we might just miss it.

B E I N G

A curious part of Advent — and something that often happens when we are waiting, preparing, expecting and hoping — is that we begin to be aware that we might just be the answer to someone else’s hoping, preparing, expecting and waiting. This Advent, God may be asking you and me to be God’s response to someone’s hope. It may be our voice that will speak a graceful word, our hands that will be someone’s healing, our action that might just be the guise under which God shows up in someone’s life. Our waiting might prompt us to action; if it does, we should act. Someone is waiting for God to show up through us.

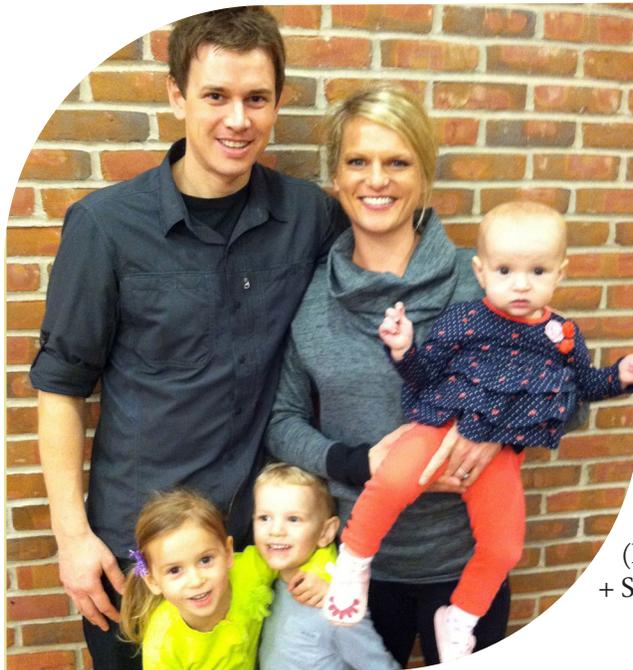
Have a blessed and wonderful season of Advent. May God be found in your waiting, preparing, expecting and hoping.

NEW MEMBERS

Trinity welcomes the following new members...



Phil
& Teri
Walen



The Hicks Family
(Bo & Andrea
+ Stella, Will and Elin)



Ray
Grinsteiner



Elvera
Romness



The Kutzer Family
(Tim & Holly
+ Leila, Ethan and Liam)



The Husten Family
(Carolyn + Zach and Charlotte)



The Horwath Family
(Rick & Jennifer + Tiffany and Marissa;
Blake is not pictured)

A Year Filled with Angels

By Tom Thiets



It is difficult to imagine that another new year is upon us, but January 1, 2014 is quickly approaching. I longingly look forward to the possibilities that will unfold. But while I wonder what lies ahead in the coming New Year, I also pause to reflect upon the months of 2013 that have slipped away from the present and into the past. It is easy to categorize the year into a list of numbers and statistics; it is more proper, however, to truly pause and reflect upon the people who touched my heart this past year.

As I reflect about these folks, I realize I don't know some of their names; still, that doesn't diminish how much they touched my life as we shared a moment of time serving our Lord. These encounters may have been simple or brief, but they will linger as special memories for me forever.

Moments in 2013

January: As I stood in the semi-darkness of the donated, empty office space we use for our community meal-packing event, mentally dividing it into areas we'd use for the various ingredients, the hallway door opened and in walked MaryAnn Ring. The previous year had been a difficult one for her: her husband had suddenly died and she had just recently returned to work. Now, she was once again ready to assist me in planning the meal-packing event. We shared a hug, a smile, and a few tears as we began to plan for the transformation of this empty space into a meal-packing area.

February: Following the meal-packing event, the last item to be removed from the Andersen Window headquarters was the Case skid-steer we use to move all of the pallets. Every year, my dear friends Jerry and Lynelle Wienke set aside this piece of equipment from their business for our use at the meal-packing event. They deliver it



two weeks beforehand and pick it up when we're done. We loaded the skid-steer onto Jerry's trailer as the sun was setting. A cold north wind blew swirls of snow across the parking lot as we shared a moment of gratitude—a moment in which I thanked them for their support, they thanked me for the opportunity to serve, and then we all thanked God for the blessings in our lives.

March: The memories of March 2013 will be cemented into my heart forever. On March 5, as I was traveling to Mexico for the mission trip, I received the news that my father had died. Even though he had been living through the debilitating effects of Parkinson's disease, it was his heart that gave out. My father had blessed me with a lifetime of experiences of travel, dedication to family and work, and had planted the seeds of service in my life. My family agreed that I should carry-on with the mission trip: building homes



for families in Mexico would honor my father's many years of service with Habitat for Humanity. The mission trip was a special time for me and my son, Jackson, as we immersed ourselves in the work and nightly worship. We dedicated the last roof in honor of my father. I mixed those last batches, with tears in my eyes and joy in my heart, alongside my small group of young women (all experienced and fantastic mixers). When we returned home and gathered to worship and say our good-byes to my father, I received word



about the death of my dear friend Moses Mena from Chuburna Puerto. Moses had volunteered his time with every mission group for 22 years. Yes, March 2013 holds some very special memories.

April: It was with great praise and joy that we blessed the last batch of meals at the meal-packing event I led in New York. The students and staff of Long Island Lutheran High School had once again packed more than 300,000 meals in three days. We had been sending the completed meals off to local food shelves to aid in the relief of Hurricane Sandy. Over three days, the staff, 650 students, and local parishioners from 20 churches, served side-by-side. One of those who packed meals was Alex Tepper, a food service worker at the school. For Alex, the relief was personal: her small dream home, located on a tiny lot on a crowded street 10 blocks from the ocean, was flooded in the storm surge. Alex and her family struggled through the winter without a working furnace or water heater. They had lost

all of their appliances in the flood of sea water. Yet there she was, five months later, gratefully serving others.

May: The Trinity Mission Alumni Association held its first annual Pig Roast and Bocce-ball tournament, with one hundred attendees, at the home of Dan and Gloria Davis. For the past 10 years, Dan and Gloria have served as the directors of the kitchen team for the Mexico Mission, and they displayed that same generous attitude for this event. It was a beautiful day filled with laughter and fellowship.

June, July, and August: Mixed in with the typical summer mission activities were a few intensive classes for my master's degree at Luther Seminary. While I have been blessed with many wonderful professors and classmates, my Greek language professor, Mr. Fredrickson, really stands out. He took a new approach to a much-dreaded course and made this very intense seven-week class an enjoyable experience into language, culture, and faith.

September: The first Monday of the month brings the arrival of the Second Harvest delivery truck for the commodity food program. Trinity volunteers meet the truck in the parking lot and then deliver the food to 38 families here in the valley. The driver is a wonderful man and his smiling face greets us month after month.

October: Late in the month, I traveled to Tanzania with a team of nine to serve with some existing mission partners at the Bomalang'ombe Secondary School, and with new partners at the Catholic Special Needs Orphanage in Ilula. Two very special moments reside in my mind from this experience. The first are the words of the orphanage director, Fausta, who is a dedicated and kind woman caring for 200 children. "Thank you," she

said. "Thank you for coming back. Many promise, but you are the first to return." (I had met Fausta and Father Fillipo the year before and had promised to return to help them in their mission to these children.) The other moment is when all of the blind children in the orphanage's care gathered to sing for us. I will never forget their song: "Even though I am different, even though my body may be broken, I was made by God. I am a child of God." Their words and smiles landed forever in my heart.

November: I was blessed to spend two weeks in America with my Tanzanian friend and mission partner Hery Mtisi. Each day of his visit we shared new experiences and many joy-filled conversations. Our time together was a blessing I will never forget.

December: My December memory is one I am blessed with many times throughout the year: a phone conversation with my friend and mission partner, Pastor Joy Johnson. Joy serves in the Midway area of St. Paul. It's a tough neighborhood filled with challenges everyday. Joy lives up to her name whenever I talk with her: she is a true pastor caring for her people. Through her ministry, she encourages me; she also brightens my day from the moment she answers the phone with, "Hello, this is Joy". It truly is!

My prayer today as I enter into a new year is that we all may be open to the blessings of encountering some of God's angels every month.

*Blessings and peace,
Tom Thiets*

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MISSIONS



2013 Meal Packing at Stillwater Prison

On Nov. 23, inmates at the Minnesota Correctional Facility-Stillwater packed more than 15,000 meals for hungry children.

The event was the brainchild of prison caseworker Nichole Mulvehill, a Trinity member, who suggested the idea to Tom Thiets, Trinity's Director of Missions.

With the blessing of the prison, Mulvehill and Thiets brought Kids Against Hunger and Mano Amiga on board, then scheduled a packing day and began fundraising for supplies.

Nobody knew how many prisoners would sign up to pack the meals, so Thiets and Mulvehill planned for a maximum of 50 volunteer spots.

The prisoners shocked everyone by filling those spots within 10 minutes of being posted. In fact, demand to pack the meals was so strong that the prison

had to close registration early.

In the end, 131 inmates divided into two teams to pack the meals.

The event was a tangible part of the prison's Restorative Justice Program, which emphasizes healing through service. Inmate Robert Peterson (pictured above left), who has been incarcerated for 38 years for carjacking, sits on the prison's Restorative Justice Offender Council. He says events like this are just as important for offenders as they are for the community, because offenders both need and want to make amends and do some good in the world — something that can be difficult while incarcerated.

All of the 15,336 meals packed at the event will be distributed by Kids Against Hunger and Ruby's Pantry.

Thanksgiving Meals

In partnership with Unseen Angels, the United Way Washington County East, and Valley Outreach, Trinity provided 10,300 meals this Thanksgiving!

The meals included both fully prepared meals in various-sized containers that can be reheated by families and church groups, and also uncooked supplies given to partner churches in St. Paul and Minneapolis for large-scale meal events.

The meals will be distributed in 12 counties in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

— Tom Thiets



CARE MINISTRIES

with Pastor Candee Moser



CHRISTMAS SENSES

Christmas is synonymous with the senses: the smell of freshly cut pine trees and the aroma of ginger bread wafting through the house; listening to, and perhaps singing along with, those old familiar carols; observing the excitement in children (and maybe even catching it) as they eagerly await the arrival of Christmas Day; feeling the cold but gentle touch of a snowflake landing upon your cheek; and last not but not least, tasting all of those wonderful, scrumptious treats that have been passed down from generation to generation.

Our senses are powerful in that they evoke memories, and with those memories come feelings. At Christmas time, people always ask me to make some of the treats my father often made in our bakery: peanut brittle and caramels. This year, I'm going to attempt — at the request of a friend — coconut brittle and anise. You see, it's not only me who has fond memories of my family's three generations in the baking business; those who happened to taste the confections have their own tasty memories.

When I bake, make or create, I literally “stir up” memories for myself, my family and an entire village of Klimesh (my father's name) aficionados. There's contentment, gratitude and, yes, some longing for what was — for a time when my parents and dear friend, Bernice, were still living and hard at work in the bakery. Those days are long gone, but I can recapture the smells, tastes and, most important, the feeling of my loved ones' spirits by simply remembering them and then going to the kitchen and getting to work!

What memories does the Christmas season evoke for you? How do you remember and bring to mind the love and spirit of those who are no longer living? I'd love to know, so I invite you to call me, write or send me an email. Better yet, if you're able, please stop by for a cup of Christmas tea or coffee and tell me about your stories and your memories face-to-face. And in the spirit of Christmas, I might just have a treat to share with you!

May Christmas memories bring peace and joy to you and yours,

*Pastor Candee
cmoser@trinitylc.org*



Revelation Bible Study

Thursdays beginning Jan. 9 for eight weeks, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Room 108B

Combat the winter doldrums by reading the strangest book of the bible: Revelation. Is it a dream, a nightmare, or a vision? We'll delve into Greek and Hebrew texts, using *Revelation and the End of All Things* by Craig Koester, a professor at Luther Seminary, as our guide. Please bring your own Bible; we will have copies of Dr. Koester's book for sale. For more information, please call Carol Taves at 651-351-5339.

Prayer Group Invitation

Tuesdays, 1 p.m. – Narthex
Trinity's Prayer Group meets for just 30-minutes each week to offer prayers for members, friends, and others. We invite you to join us! The Prayer Group is a wonderful way to center yourself and feel connected to God. Please join us in the Narthex each Tuesday. We look forward to praying with you.

Science and Religion Great Course

Sundays, Jan. 12 - Feb. 16, 10:30-11:30 a.m. — Living Room
Professor Lawrence M. Principe, Professor of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology and Professor of Chemistry at The John Hopkins University, will be our guide through this Great Course. No prior scientific knowledge is required; a curiosity to learn is all you need to join in this important conversation.

REASONS NOT TO GO TO CHURCH
(and why they matter)

By Allison Siburg

I've seen a lot of online conversation recently about the significance of worship and church during the Advent season. Certainly, it's a special time to be in church — except for the folks who read my Facebook page. They seem to find a plethora of reasons not to go to church. I get it. I really do. There are numerous reasons not to go to church. Mostly, they have merit. Don't believe me? How about...

CHURCH PEOPLE ARE BORING.

I will admit: I have nodded off more than a few times in church. In fact, to stay awake during confirmation, I drew elaborate stick-figure scenes all over the bulletin. I could claim they were the result of my inner artist yearning to break free, but the reality is that I just tuned out. And I wasn't

alone — then or now.

This begs the question: how can we possibly tune out when challenging and controversial passages are all over the Bible? Like the gospel story in which Jesus is graciously invited to a Pharisee's house and promptly proclaims, "Go and sit down at the lowest place... for all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted" (Luke 14:10, 11).

Do you know what that means? That means I just had Thanksgiving with the wrong people! I should have had Thanksgiving with the guy who was fishing through the trashcan in the McDonalds parking lot, not with my family (all of whom have similar racial, economic, ethnic, and class privileges as I). Of course, doing that really would have offended my family.

But that's just it: The gospel is offensive — and anything but boring!

Time and time again, Jesus calls us to be people who stand up for the marginalized, and donate our money and time accordingly; he urges us to act and value things and people for the sake of the common good; he calls us to stand up to systematic oppression that results in an ever-widening disparity gap between the rich and the poor.

To me, if that's what it looks like to be a church person, sign me up. That's nowhere near boring.

THE CHURCH JUST WANTS MY MONEY.

Whenever I hear this one, my seminary-trained brain wants to present all of the research that shows churches don't want your money; churches are about so much more than that.

But the truth is, everyone worries about money, including churches. The fear of what tomorrow might bring, and what we'll need to be prepared for it, gets manifested into anxiety. And when anxiety talks, it talks loudly.

...everything we have — our money, possessions,
even our very bodies — are gifts from God.



...I just had Thanksgiving
with the wrong people!

I should have had
Thanksgiving with the guy
who was fishing through
the trashcan...

Anxiety shouts at us that we won't have any money left after the church service because we'll be asked to donate to ten different causes. But everything we have — our money, possessions, even our very bodies — are gifts from God. And we are called by Jesus to serve God and our neighbor by sharing our gifts with others.

When we gather as followers of Jesus (also known as “the church”), our money not only keeps the lights on, it also spreads Jesus' light to others throughout the world.

If we talked about money in those terms, perhaps that would be a movement more people would get behind!

I'M NOT CHRISTIAN ENOUGH.

A friend of mine who taught a theology class at her church remembers a time when a woman came to the class but refused to do anything other than stand in the doorway. The woman said she didn't think she was “Christian enough” to take the class. My friend eventually persuaded the woman not only to come in and sit down, but also to join in the discussion. At the end of the four-week class, my friend said the woman positively beamed when discussing her faith.

What I learned from her story is that Christianity — indeed, any religion — is not meant to be consumed; it's not something we eat up while sitting on

the couch watching TV. Christianity is something we live, all the way down to our flesh and bones; it's also an identity others bring out in us.

Think about it: when someone says “you're smarter than you think you are”, doesn't that make you feel better than if they say “you don't have a clue”?

So what if we made church extravagantly welcoming, safe, and encouraging — not a *place* that says “You're not Christian enough to walk through our door”, but a *people* who say “You know more about God than you might think — and we want to know what that is, because the world needs you to show up.”

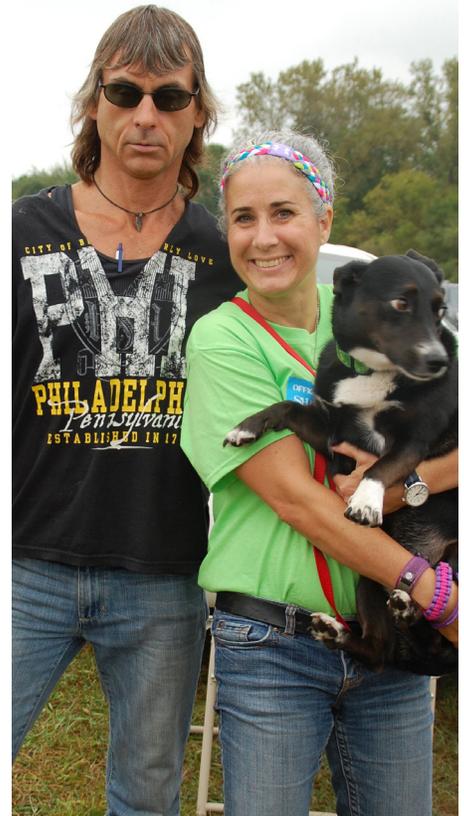
If that's what it means to be Christian, count me in.



Oh yes, there are plenty of reasons not to go to church. But I can think of plenty more reasons why we should go, and I bet you can, too. Still, we shouldn't ignore the reasons people have for not attending church, because they tell us a lot about ourselves. We are the church, after all. If people find us boring, grabby, or righteous, then we probably aren't doing a very good job of living out Jesus' message.

This advent, I challenge you to be as offensively Christian as possible! Who knows? It just might evaporate the reasons for not going to church. At the very least, nobody will call us boring.

Christianity is not meant
to be consumed...[it] is
something we live, all the
way down to our flesh
and bones.



Getting to Know Stephanie Vos

A Q&A With Trinity's New Pastor of Lifelong Learning



As a kid, Stephanie Vos couldn't decide what she wanted to be when she grew up. She liked the idea of becoming an architect, or an actress, or a professional rock climber, or maybe even a make-up artist.

But a pastor? Not so much. (Unless you count the fact that she played "church" when she was a pre-schooler.)

So how did she end up attending two seminaries, living in a French monastery, and eventually becoming a minister? Well, that's an interesting story...



What was your life like growing up?

My life is like a Garrison Keillor monologue! My dad is Catholic and my mom grew up in a Congregational church; now they're Lutheran. We had a house in the suburbs; I have a sister [Ali, 23, who's also her best friend]; and we had a cabin on the North Shore. It's all there.

I wasn't very sporty; I'm not coordinated. In soccer I would sit down and draw in the dirt. I tried all of the sports and I was terrible at them. But I liked self sports — crew, dance, and I was a diver for a very short time until I got a terrible back injury — you know, things you do with your own body. But if you throw a ball into the mix, or make me interact with other people, it's terrible.

I was really good at math, English and French — I was a dork, a major nerd — and I used to carry my Bible around in high school!

What drew you to the ministry?

I lost my youth pastor when I was in Junior High school, so we didn't really have a youth group. I went to a big party high school [and] I was really passionate and wanted to do more, so I started a bible study as my outlet. I didn't have a youth group, so I made my own. We met on Saturday nights in my basement my junior and senior years.

As I was heading off to college, people asked me what I wanted to be. A couple of different people asked if I'd ever thought about the ministry. They pointed out I was doing a lot of it already [with the youth Bible study], so I said, sure, why not? I figured I'd do that until I found something else. All of my other phases — like wanting to be an architect, or an actress, or a professional rock climber, or a make-up artist — only lasted six months or, at most, a couple of years. I kept waiting for this one to run out, too, but it didn't.



When did you know you wanted to be a pastor?

If you think about the girl who had the high school bible study, it makes sense that she went to Wheaton, right? [Wheaton is a conservative Christian liberal arts college.] I figured there would be people like me there. But at Wheaton, it was not a popular idea to be a female pastor: I was called blasphemous by



some, and others simply had never even heard of the concept. So that really cemented my desire to be a pastor: because if it were just a phase, Wheaton would have made me give it up.

When I transferred to Luther College, I had theological whiplash. I went from a place where women couldn't be pastors and being gay was against the Bible, to a place where gay women could be pastors. So when I got to Luther, I felt like an outsider. That really taught me I had to think for myself. I realized there is not a group where I'll be able to sign on the dotted line and say "I believe everything you believe"; I have to hold my own and really know for myself.

Your journey to the ministry has literally taken you all over the world, hasn't it?

Yes. In college I did a J-term in London, where I saw a play every night. Then, in seminary, I did another J-Term in Switzerland, where I worked at the World Council of Churches in Geneva. While in Geneva, we took a bus trip to Taizé, France, where I toured the monastery. Then I did a semester-long seminary exchange in Berkeley, Calif.; right after that I did another J-Term in Israel in Palestine. Later that year, I began my year-long Internship in Anchorage, Ala. Right after graduating from seminary, I went back to Taizé to live in the Monastery; I served as a young adult volunteer and did the cooking and the cleaning and those kinds of jobs.

Even though you wanted to be a pastor, you didn't think you'd ever receive a call. Why not?

I wanted to find the right fit that would encourage me to be myself: to be curious and engaged and passionate. To find a place that was expansive and

welcoming. To find a place where the people were energized and committed to the community. To find a place that was doing good in the world and in the lives of its members. A place where church mattered and was making a difference. And I honestly didn't expect such a place to really exist, let alone be interested in me! So, I figured my dreams were too big and I'd have to find a way to make something else work. Then Dan called...

What are you most excited about here at Trinity?

I think Trinity just has so many awesome things going on, and I feel super spoiled that I get to just waltz right into this place that's functioning so well.

One of the things that drew me to the job is that I feel like I can really be myself here. I was recklessly honest in my interview just to see whether I could scare you away with my crazy. And I didn't.

A lot of people consider me kind of out there, but here I don't feel like I have to tiptoe or apologize. So I am excited to see where things go because I think it's a great fit!

* * * *

As for where things will go, the first item on Stephanie's agenda is to teach yoga here at Trinity (she'll be leading yoga with Hearts of the Home beginning in January). As a certified yoga instructor, she strongly believes that yoga serves as a conduit for spirituality. "What I am passionate about is helping people live their best and fullest lives from a feeling of abundance," she says. "I think church is a place where people can get centered, and yoga is a place for that, too."

GROUPS & TEAMS



Financial Education

Tue., Jan. 14, 9 a.m. – Garden Room

The Retired Men's group welcomes the return of financial educator and columnist Ed Lotterman. As the old song goes, "Yes, we have no bananas", the new year will continue to be full of confusing personal and public financial statements for all of us. Reading Ed's weekly financial column in the *Pioneer Press*, one can appreciate his ability to provide simple explanations to complicated financial questions.

Lotterman grew up on a family farm in Southwest Minnesota and served in the army from 1967 to 1970 in the U.S., Brazil and Vietnam. After earning B.A. and M.S. degrees from the University of Minnesota, he worked on a USAID-funded agricultural development project in Peru; taught at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa; served as a research fellow at the University of Minnesota; and taught at Augsburg College.

He spent seven years as a regional economist at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve before starting his *Pioneer Press* column in 1999. Since then, he has written some 1,200 columns and is currently published in the *Bismarck Tribune* and the *Boise Idaho Statesman*, in addition to the *Pioneer Press*.

For more information about this event, or if you would like to submit a question for Lotterman to answer during the event, please contact Lowell Saterbak at 651-436-6252 or Lsaterbak@aol.com.



GLOW Indoor Rock Climbing

Sun., Jan. 12, 11:30 a.m.; \$20

Vertical Endeavors St. Paul location

Try something new to keep you out of the mid-winter blues! Join the GLOW gals for an afternoon of climbing at Vertical Endeavors, a safe and controlled climbing environment that is perfect for both beginners and experts alike. The cost includes climbing equipment and a trainer. Meet at Trinity and then carpool to St. Paul; afterward, share a pizza, devotion and your climbing experience at Cosetta's Restaurant. *For more information, please contact trip leader Kat Carlsen at katcarslen@gmail.com or register online. (A minimum of eight participants is required for this event.)*

Grand Marais Cabin Getaway

Fri., Feb. 7 to Sun., Feb. 9, 2014

Cost: \$30

Planning Meeting: Mon., Jan. 27, 7 p.m. Living Room

Escape with the GLOW gals for a weekend of fun and spiritual renewal at Laura Holmes' lovely cabin in Grand Marais. The cabin's location offers a wide variety of activities, from cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, to hiking, shopping, or just reading a book in front of the fireplace. The cabin sleeps 12, so register online early! Carpooling, meals and a packing list will be discussed at a planning meeting. *For more information, contact Lisa Corcoran 651-275-0657 or corcoran@usfamily.net.*

A Time for Change

Julie Jolivet is changing roles here at Trinity.

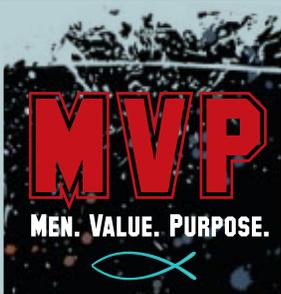


For years, Julie has faithfully and energetically lead our Groups and Teams ministries. Her work has established a healthy and dynamic ministry that is expressed in our many groups and teams. Not only that, she significantly changed the way Trinity does ministry: we moved away from committee structures and into a culture of self-directed work groups and teams. Her work has deeply embedded itself in all of Trinity's ministries and her enthusiastic coaching of so many of our team and group leaders has been a joy to watch and experience.

Julie also has been a key liaison with the Vibrant Stewardship Team, whose work recently ended. Julie's passion for seeing Stewardship at the heart of everything we do has been demonstrated in so many ways, both large and small.

Now, Julie has moved from those responsibilities to a new set. In her typical enthusiastic and passionate way, she has dived into the role of CYF specialist for Grades 3-6. She is a wonderful addition to the CYF team, and her relational and coaching abilities have found a whole new arena in which to shine. Her love for our children and their families is evident in everything she does.

Julie's previous work in coaching Groups & Teams is being divided among various staff members, and her work with stewardship remains with Pastor Dan. Please take a peek at Julie in action these days, with all of her new young friends – she is a joy to watch!



January Event

Tue., Jan. 21, 6-8 p.m.

Garden Room

Menu: Steak & Lobster Dinner

Speaker to be announced.

Event Price: \$30

'NOVEL' IDEAS TO JOURNEY THROUGH THE NEW YEAR

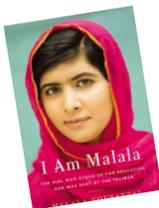
By Norma Wilson, Trinity Librarian

Everyone has a journey, a life story. Often, when we know the past and present of someone's life story, our understanding of them changes. Writer John Eldredge uses the illustration of a story to understand God, who is the Author and "the essence of all that is good and beautiful and true, the source of all these things." The materials in the Trinity Library provide reading, listening and viewing resources to support the journeys in our lives.

Life, you'll notice, is a story. Life doesn't come to us like a math problem. It comes to us the way that a story does, scene by scene. You wake up. What will happen next? You don't get to know — you have to enter in, take the journey as it comes.

—John Eldredge

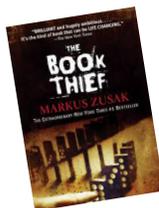
Newly donated novels help readers understand the life stories of others. New York Times bestseller *I Am Malala*, by Malala Yousafzai, recounts the recent experiences of a young girl targeted by the



Taliban because of her campaign to improve education for girls in Pakistan. Yousafzai is the youngest person nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. *The Hemingses of Monticello* by Annette Gordon-Reed, winner of the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize, is the epic biography of a family whose close blood ties to President

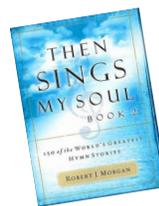


Thomas Jefferson were censored from American history until very recently. Author Gordon-Reed has been acclaimed as a first rank historian of slavery. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, set in 1939 Nazi Germany, tells the unforgettable story of the ability of books to feed the soul — and is narrated by Death himself. A movie version of this award-winning novel was released in November.



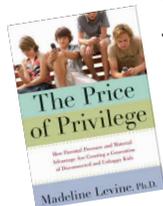
Life journeys are important to the Hearts of the Home group here at Trinity. Hearts of the Home is an inter-denominational Christian-based group

of mothers who are interested in nurturing their souls and supporting each other on their parenting journeys. Several of their book studies have become helpful resources and are found in the Trinity Library. Trinity author Jenny Hanlon recently published *Your Family Compass: A*



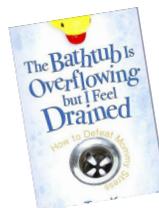
and artistry. There's also *Then Sings My Soul – 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories*, by Robert Morgan, which compiles the stories behind many of the best-loved hymns and their impact on the lives of others.

Parenting Guide for the Journey, which provides tools for parents dealing with the challenges that come with raising children birth through the early teen years. *Five Signs of a Loving Family* by Jenny Chapman,

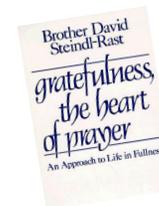


The Price of Privilege by

Madeleine Levine, and *The Bathtub is Overflowing but I Feel Drained* by Lysa TerKeust are among the many Hearts of the Home book choices we have in the library. Look for a red heart on the barcode, which indicates the book is a Hearts of the Home resource.

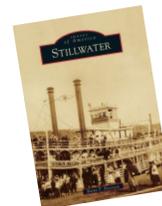


Reading and listening can help increase your awareness of the grace and fullness in the journeys of everyday life. A good start is Brother David Steindl-Rast's book, *Gratefulness, the Heart of Prayer*, which speaks of faith, hope, and love.



A great variety of spiritual music also can be found on the CD shelves in the Trinity Library, including Cantus, a musical album by singers of the same name. Cantus, who recently performed at Trinity, are known for spirit, innovation

We also have many non-religious books in the Trinity Library, including nonfiction books about our area. Our newest offering, *Images of America: Stillwater* by local historian Brent Peterson, was donated by one of Trinity's dedicated readers. This book will help you understand the "distinctive stories from the past that shape the character" of our community today. We are grateful for this donation, and all of the generous donations, that help build our Trinity Library.



Please visit the Trinity Library on the lower level of the church and choose a story that will add meaning to your life and help you enjoy the fullness of the journey in 2014.



ON PURPOSE MINISTRIES

LIVING YOUR STRENGTHS —

When 17-year-old Clara Ilkka walked into the Garden Room in November for Trinity's first-ever high school strengths retreat, she didn't quite know what to expect. "I had seen [StrengthsFinder] in the church bulletin and I kind of thought it was something 35-year-old people did," she admits with a small chuckle.

So it's perhaps understandable the marshmallows and spaghetti threw her for a loop.

"We had this challenge after learning more about our strengths, where we got into groups with other people who had different strengths [than we had], and we had to build a tower using spaghetti noodles, tape and string, and then balance a marshmallow on top," she says. "We did the activity and saw our strengths in action."

And that, says Jody Thone, Trinity's Director of On Purpose Ministries, was the whole point of the event.

"What a beautiful opportunity to have students getting grounded in who they are," she says. "We know that if the fire is lit inside, and they have their own inner motivation, that is the strongest indicator of success — and by success I don't just mean their future salaries, but their sense of purpose."

EMBRACING STRENGTHS

Jody brought StrengthsFinder to Trinity seven years ago as a way to honor the beauty and genius of how God created each one of us. Developed by Dr. Donald O. Clifton, the StrengthsFinder

assessment from Gallup asserts that each person has gifts and talents, called "Signature Themes". When we invest in these talents we develop strengths. The philosophy attracted Jody because she liked the idea of encouraging Trinity's members and friends to approach life from a strengths-based perspective, rather than focusing on their perceived weaknesses.

Her first Living Your Strengths class met in 2006. Dellzie Hodler remembers it well — because Jody roped her and other members into attending. At the time, Dellzie thought StrengthsFinder would be just another personality test, so she didn't have high expectations. But after taking the online assessment and participating in the subsequent program, she quickly changed her mind.

"It's a good tool; I think it gave me more confidence," she says. "I always felt bad that I'm not aggressive and that I'm not that big of a competitor, but [StrengthsFinder] made me think that my own gifts are OK."

Dellzie's gifts include the Developer, Positivity, Harmony, Maximizer, and Empathy themes. Essentially, she learned that she sees the untapped potential in others, and enjoys bringing people together to capitalize on their strengths; her Harmony trait helps those people get along, while her Empathy strength allows her to understand and relate to them. The results weren't a complete surprise: Dellzie immediately recognized herself in them and realized she naturally gravitated to jobs, people, and situations that utilized them. All of this made her wish she had encountered StrengthsFinder when she was younger.



"I wish I would have taken this earlier," she says, "because maybe then I wouldn't have struggled so much with studying and [I could have] found a career that used my strengths."



AT ANY AGE

FINDING OUR STRENGTHS

Most people don't encounter assessments like StrengthsFinder until they're well into middle age, typically as a result of a corporate retreat, job skills assessment, or religious program. Those who take it often wonder, as Dellzie did, whether their lives would have been any different had they learned about their strengths when they were younger.

Jody recognized the potential exploring strengths had for Trinity's youth, so she set about designing a curriculum that would resonate with kids. She partnered with Children's Ministry leaders to bring programs to 5th and 6th graders and introduced God's Project Runway, a strengths curriculum she designed herself, with the 3rd and 4th graders several years ago. This year, with Julie Jolivette leading the 5th and 6th graders, they had 100% participation in the program; more important, the kids loved it. That success led her to create something unique for Trinity's high school students.

"Research has shown that the high school time is vitally important, and we need to think about the whole arc of children as they are learning their strengths," Jody says. "In high school, it's vitally important that [students] get a sense of their strengths so that they can design their lives around that."

In November, Jody set about helping them do exactly that. She invited young adults to a free StrengthFinder retreat, held on a Saturday morning. Some 30 students signed up to take the online StrengthsFinder assessment, and 15 attended the retreat itself.

For Clara, it was well worth her time. She learned that she has the Achiever, Learner, Competitive, Deliberative, and Individualization traits — and she says knowing this about herself absolutely will influence how she approaches

college and career.

"Learning what my strengths are makes me more confident in knowing that these are the things I'm good at and capable of doing," she says. "Having my strengths known to me, and being able to put them into action, is very helpful. Really, the confidence is the most important."

This is music to Jody's ears. As the leader of Trinity's strengths-based church program, she not only wants all of us to be involved, she wants us to feel the positive effects that focusing on our strengths brings.

"Here at Trinity, we make a commitment everyday to keep the strengths lens on things, not the majority-culture weakness view," she says. "We have further to go — we can keep developing; this is not an endpoint! — but we believe in this and we

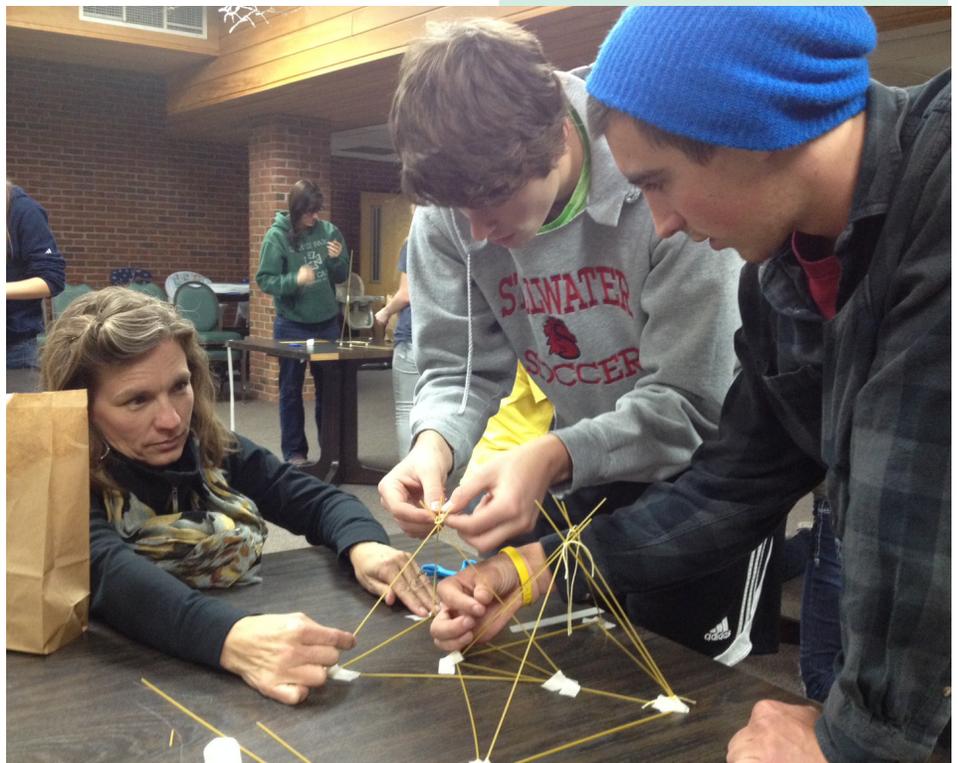
intend to keep walking this path."

That's good news for anyone who hasn't yet participated in a Trinity StrengthsFinder assessment or retreat. Now that Clara has, she wants to get the word out to other students that it's worth their time.

"I think a lot of people believe quizzes that can tell you your personality are silly. But the StrengthsFinder is very accurate in telling me about how I perceive myself and how others tell me they perceive me," she says. "The StrengthsFinder is very beneficial and not a waste of time for students to do."

If you haven't yet done StrengthsFinder, you are invited to participate!

For more information, contact Jody Thone at jthone@trinitylc.org or 651-439-7400, ext. 119.



MEXICO. MISSION. 2014

Confirmation

Each Wednesday, the 7th, 8th and 9th grade confirmation young adults gather in the Worship Center for something we call the “First Fifteen”. It includes Bible Trivia challenges, service opportunity announcements, and the introduction of one confirmation small group and their leader(s). After the First Fifteen, each age group is dismissed for their large-group time, followed by small-group discussions located throughout the church.

On November 20, small groups and their family members gathered in homes for the Confirmation Family Meal. This was a great opportunity for parents and siblings to spend time with their confirmation young adult in building relationships with one another. Thanks to all who hosted one of these gatherings, and for all who contributed food! The next Confirmation Family Meal will be in January; we’ll have more details as the event approaches.

New Confirmation Service Sign-up System

We are now able to support our Confirmation small-group leaders by providing a Sign-up Genius to accurately keep track of those confirmation young adults who will be serving at events like the Lutefisk dinner, Breakfast With Angels and Journey to the Cross. Confirmation families, stay tuned for more opportunities to include your whole family in service and missions at Trinity! *Contact Kristin Tranby at kttranby@trinitylc.org if you have any questions.*



Mexico Mission Trip

We have 61 missionaries and 20 adult chaperones for this year’s Mexico Mission Trip. Each missionary hopes to raise \$1,100 to pay for his or her trip. If you would like to help sponsor a student, log onto Trinity’s website and select Connect → Senior High → Mexico Mission; once there, click on “Mexico Mission Online Sponsorship 2014”.



Senior High Retreat

On Friday, Nov. 22, 15 senior high students attended a special overnight retreat at Trinity. In addition to busting some dance moves by playing Let's Dance, they also played numerous rounds of Dodge Ball and Sardines, then cleaned up the costume space in room 109. After a restful night of sleep (!!), the event ended with some of the most delicious chocolate chip pancakes this church has ever seen. It was an evening (and morning) of great fellowship and relationship building!



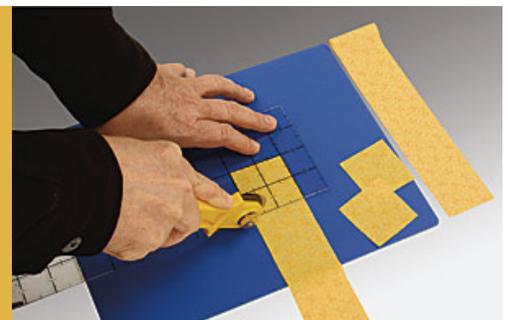
Faith and Family 2020 Team Update

Co-chairs Mike Johnson and Kathy Luoma presented an overview of the learning and survey results the team has gathered since their work began last March. The purpose of this team is to explore and define a sustainable ministry model, with the outcome of a maturing Christian faith in children, youth and families. The team is looking forward to presenting a vision — whose outcomes will be aligned with Trinity's greater mission, vision and values — after the first of the year. This is a very exciting and worthwhile adventure — thanks to all who contributed to the faith and family conversations and the survey!



Help cut fabric

The Children's Ministries staff is gearing up for its Mexico Mission quilting project! We need people to take home fabric and cut quilt squares and borders in December and early January. Then, in late January and early February, you can pick up a quilting kit to sew a quilt at home. *For details on how you can get involved, please contact Christine Lande at 651-439-7400, ext. 125 or clande@trinitylc.org.*



Birth to Age-3

The birth-age 3 team has had an exciting month, and we're looking forward to growing our ministry in the new year. Issue #1 of our monthly electronic newsletter hit families inboxes at the end of November. Recipients include parents of newly baptized children and nursery participants, as well as Hearts of the Home mothers. The newsletter's information includes events and activities both at Trinity and in the community, as well as a themed craft; next month's issue will introduce all of the volunteers and staff who work with this ministry. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact Melissa. Also, watch your inboxes for a survey about an upcoming playgroup: we will be starting a Play & Pray group for kids and families in the new year, and we'd like your thoughts on preferable days and times, as well as how often to meet. *If you have any questions or concerns, please email Melissa at Melissa.Gubricky@gmail.com.*

Children's Learning

It has been a great to learn about Paul, his journeys, and the start of the church as we get to know others better in the process of faith formation. What a privilege to have so many eager hearts and minds come together to learn more of our great Creator's love and unique design for each of us. The CYF staff thanks you for encouraging your child in their faith formation!

W O R S H I P

O P P O R T U N I T I E S

- **Saturdays, 5 p.m.**
Evening Worship, Communion
- **Sundays, 9 a.m.**
Traditional Worship, Nursery, Communion
- **Sundays, 10:30 a.m.**
The WALK Contemporary Worship, Nursery, Communion

W O R S H I P

A T T E N D A N C E

Nov. 9 & 10	Nov. 30 & 1
5 p.m. 86	5 p.m. 84
9 a.m. 302	9 a.m. 220
10 a.m. 288	10 a.m. 278
Veteran's 131	
	Dec. 7 & 8
Nov. 16 & 17	5 p.m. xx
5 p.m. 66	9 a.m. xxx
9 a.m. 280	10 a.m. xxx
10 a.m. 340	
Nov. 23 & 24	
5 p.m. 56	
9 a.m. 317	
10 a.m. 278	

T R I N I T Y

P H O T O D I R E C T O R Y

If you haven't already done so, please sign up to have your picture taken for Trinity's Photo Directory. All families who participate will receive a FREE 8x10" portrait and a FREE directory. Everyone is invited to participate — you do not need to be an official member of the congregation. Log on to the NEWS page of Trinity's website to sign up or call the church office.

T R I N I T Y

T R A N S P O R T A T I O N

Trinity's van is available for the Sunday, 9 a.m. worship service at Trinity. A ride is available for members or non-members lacking transportation. Please call the Church Office at 439-7400 between 9 a.m. Wed. and 4 p.m. Thu. to reserve your seat each week. Estimated pick-up times if you have reserved a seat:

- 8:15 a.m. – Boutwell's Landing
at the main entrance
- 8:25 a.m. – Raymie Johnson
- 8:35 a.m. – Croixdale
- 8:40 a.m. – Oakridge
- 8:45 a.m. – Rivertown Commons

B A P T I Z E D

- **Paul Frederick Smith** – son of Peter & Erin Smith
- **Jamis Matthew Lipp** – son of Matthew & BreAnne Lipp
- **Amelie Lucia-Grace Schoeller** – daughter of Joshua & Tara Schoeller

S Y M P A T H Y

- **Ellie Uppman** on the death of her husband, **Dennis** on Nov. 2.
- the family and friends of **Joanne Otto** who died on Nov. 7
- the family and friends of **Marguerite Wold Schmidt** who died on Nov. 15
- **Mark & Sarah Nelson** and family on the death of Sarah's mother, Nancy Nelson, Nov. 16
- **Scott & Jill Kneeskern** and family on the death of Scott's mother, Gert Kneeskern, on Nov 19
- **Sue Langness** on the death of her twin sister, Helen
- **Gayle & Don Lobitz** on the death of Gayle's brother, Tom Ammerman on Nov. 22.
- **Bob & Sharon O'Neil** on the death of brother-in-law, Rev. John E. Swensen on Dec. 2

T R I N I T Y T O D A Y

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C A L E N D A R

Fri., December 13

- 7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Rm 108B

Sat., December 14

- 8 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Luther Hall
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast with Angels: Garden Rm
- 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
- 7:30 p.m. Cantus Concert: Worship Ctr

Sun., December 15

- 9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
- 9 a.m. Sunday Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
- 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
- 10:30 a.m. Couples Group: Library Conf. Rm
- 3 p.m. St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Concert

Mon., December 16—Advent 3

- 7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 4 p.m. Cong. Council Mtg: Office Conf. Rm
- 6 p.m. Jubilate (Adult) Bells: Heritage Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Al-Anon meeting: Library

Tue., December 17

- 7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Rm
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
- 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
- 6 p.m. AA meeting: Library
- 7 p.m. WALK Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., December 18

- 7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms
- 10:15 a.m. Linden Sr. Communion
- 5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Rm
- 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Rm
- 6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr7-9): Worship Ctr
- 6:15 p.m. Wed. Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
- 7:30 a.m. Christmas River Worship: Youth Area

Thu., December 19

- 7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex

Fri., December 20

- 7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Rm 108B
- 10:30 a.m. Boutwells Sr. Communion
- 1:15 p.m. Rivertown Commons Sr. Communion

Sat., December 21

- 8 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Luther Hall
- 5 p.m. Blue Christmas WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., December 22—Advent 4

- No Sunday Learning
- 9 a.m. Lessons & Carols WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
- 10:30 a.m. Lessons & Carols WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
- 7 p.m. Women's Book Group: Off-site

Mon., December 23

- 7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
- 6 p.m. Jubilate (Adult) Bells: Heritage Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym

7 p.m. Al-Anon meeting: Library

Tue., December 24 – Christmas Eve

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 2 p.m. WORSHIP
 3 p.m. WORSHIP
 4 p.m. WORSHIP
 5 p.m. WORSHIP
 6 p.m. WORSHIP
 6 p.m. AA meeting: Library
 7:30 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
 9 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Wed., December 25 – Christmas Day

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 10 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
(wear your jammies!)

Thu., December 26 – Building/Office Closed

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
 No Knitting Ministry

Fri., December 27

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Rm 108B
 10 a.m. Raymie Johnson Sr. Communion
 10:30 a.m. Oak Park Senior Living Sr. Communion
 1:15 p.m. Oak Ridge Apts. Sr. Communion

Sat., December 28

8 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 8 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Luther Hall
 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., December 29

9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
 No Sunday Learning
 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr

Mon., December 30

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 6 p.m. Jubilate (Adult) Bells: Heritage Chapel
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
 7 p.m. Al-Anon meeting: Library

Tue., December 31

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 No Women's Bible Study
 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
 6 p.m. AA meeting: Library
 7 p.m. WALK Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., January 1 – Building/Office Closed

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library

Thu., January 2

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
 2 p.m. Healing Touch: Narthex

Fri., January 3

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Rm 108B
 1 p.m. BeFriender meeting: Rm 108B

Sat., January 4

8 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 8 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Luther Hall
 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION

Sun., January 5

9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
 9 a.m. Sunday Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
 10:30 a.m. Couples Group: Library Conf. Rm
 Noon Mexico Missionary/Adult Leader Mtg:
 Garden Rm

Mon., January 6

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 8:45 a.m. Women's Bridge: Garden Rm
 1:30 p.m. Commodity Food Dist.: 4th St. Entr.
 6 p.m. Jubilate (Adult) Bells: Heritage Chapel
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
 7 p.m. Al-Anon meeting: Library

Tue., January 7

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
 6 p.m. AA meeting: Library
 7 p.m. WALK Rehearsal: Worship Ctr

Wed., January 8

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study: Commons
 7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 1 p.m. Martha Circle Mtg: Living Rm
 5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Rm
 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Rm
 6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr7-9): Worship Ctr
 6:15 p.m. Wed. Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
 7:30 a.m. The River Worship: Youth Area

Thu., January 9

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
 9:30 a.m. Bible Study-Revelations: Rm 108B
 4:30 p.m. Loaves & Fishes: Off-site

Fri., January 10

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Rm 108B

Sat., January 11

8 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 8 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Luther Hall
 5 p.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION
 6 p.m. Food for Thought Dinner Group: Off-site

Sun., January 12

9 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
 9 a.m. Sunday Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP, COMMUNION: Worship Ctr
 Noon Mexico Adult Leaders: Living Rm
 7 p.m. Women's Book Group: Off-site

Mon., January 13

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 1 p.m. Rebekah Circle: Library
 6 p.m. Jubilate (Adult) Bells: Heritage Chapel
 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
 7 p.m. Al-Anon meeting: Library

Tue., January 14

7:30 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
 9 a.m. Croixdale Sr. Communion

9:15 a.m. Leah Circle Mtg: Narthex
 9:45 a.m. Good Samaritan Sr. Communion
 10:15 a.m. Greeley Sr. Communion
 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Narthex
 1 p.m. Martha Circle Mtg: Living Rm
 6 p.m. AA meeting: Library
 6:30 p.m. Sent for a Purpose: Living Room
 7 p.m. WALK Rehearsal: Worship Ctr
 6:45 p.m. Anna Circle: Rm 108B

Wed., January 15

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms
 10:15 a.m. Linden Sr. Communion
 5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Rm
 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Rm
 6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr7-9): Off-site
 6:15 p.m. Wed. Learning (3yrs-Gr6): Lower Lvl
 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Rm
 7:30 a.m. The River Worship: Youth Area

Thu., January 16

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 7:30 a.m. Spiritual Practice: Narthex
 9:30 a.m. Bible Study-Revelation: Rm 108B

Fri., January 17

7 a.m. AA meeting: Library
 10 a.m. Al-Anon meeting: Rm 108B
 10:30 a.m. Boutwells Sr. Communion
 1:15 p.m. Rivertown Commons Sr. Communion



Correction

Imagine Elaine Brolander's surprise when she opened last month's issue of *Trinity Today* and read that she'd been married to a guy named Greg for 54 years! In actuality, Elaine is married to Glen. We apologize for the name confusion and wish the Brolanders many blessings on their 54th wedding anniversary (and applaud them for spending it with us at the Lutefisk Dinner).

love.transform.serve.

TRINITY TODAY

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Planning ahead for the holidays?

Here are the dates and times
for your calendar:

Blue Christmas Service

Sat., Dec. 21, 5 p.m.

Lessons & Carols Sunday

Dec. 22, 9 & 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Services

2, 3, 4, 5, 7:30 & 9 p.m.

*Communion only at
7:30 & 9 p.m.*

*Nursery will not be available
during Christmas Eve services.*

Christmas Day

10 a.m.