

TRINITY TIDINGS

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

September 2020

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*You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation,
a people set apart to sing the praises of the One who called you out of darkness
and into the wonderful, divine light.*

I Peter 2:9

Your chosenness is for the sake of letting others know they are chosen too.

Richard Rohr

Dear Members of the Trinity family,

At times I am surprised and overwhelmed when I consider the enormous gift it is that God has chosen me. It is a heady, giddy feeling to know that God made a conscious effort, a deliberate decision, to choose me, to include me, to make a place for me in God's kingdom. This sense of belonging fills my heart with joy, satisfaction, and contentment.

While God's choosing me is pure gift - unearned and unmerited - it begs a response. Since I know how good and blessed and special it feels to be chosen by God, I bear a responsibility to make sure that others know that God has also chosen them. Every single human being on the planet is a beloved, precious, chosen child of God. Because of the power of sin in the world and our obsession with our own chosenness, we have a tendency to hoard this sense of belonging for ourselves. In our sin and brokenness, we resist the God-given calling to help others fully embrace their chosenness.

What can we do as a community of faith to help others - especially those who know poverty, oppression, isolation, and shame - to fully claim and embrace their rightful identity as God's beloved, precious children? We might begin by reminding one another that every human being has value and worth (even the ones we don't like or agree with), that each of us is created in the image of God. With whom can you share this good news today? Your sharing has the power to change a life, to save a life, to transform a life. Let's seek every opportunity to reach out in love and share this radical message of love and inclusion so that all people can experience the joy of knowing that God has chosen them.

Peace, love, and joy,



Pastor Susan Crowell

COUNCIL NOTES

At the August meeting of Congregation Council, the council...

---noted that expenses for July were \$12,269 less than projected;

---received a Treasurer's Report noting that year to date offerings through July 31 were \$25,382 less than budgeted. This amount does not include the PPP loan funds of \$122,837;

---received a report that breaking ground for the Columbarium is being delayed due to the high number of COVID19 cases in Greenville. Construction will begin when Columbarium Planners, Inc. deems it safe to bring workers to Greenville;

---received a report that the project to rebuild the organ is currently underway; and

---received an extensive report from Dr. Donna Potts who serves as the chair of Trinity's COVID19 Transition Team.

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP

Midweek services will be premiered each Wednesday at 6:00 pm on September 2, 16, 23, and 30. There will not be a service on Wednesday, September 9.

September 2 - Pastor Parham preaching

September 16 - Pastor Crowell preaching

September 23 - Megan Koon preaching

September 30 - Franklin Sease preaching



Sunday morning services will be premiered at 10:00 am on September 6, 13, 20, and 27.



GIVING TO TRINITY

Please help us to continue to shine the love and light of Christ into our community and world by supporting Trinity's ministry through your regular giving and special offerings. Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256 or by following the *Online Giving* link on the homepage of our website, www.trinitylutheran.ws. Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 N. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601. Please contact Kay Cook in the Church Office if interested in signing up for automatic bank draft.

COMMUNION BREAD DISTRIBUTION

On Saturday, September 12, from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm small loaves of homemade communion bread will be distributed in the lot adjacent to the red canopy door. All are invited to come to the church on this day to pick up bread to be used during home communion celebrations for the next few weeks.

GUEST PREACHER AT TRINITY

On Sunday, September 6, The Rev. David W. Coffman will be preaching at Trinity. Pastor Coffman is a 1993 graduate of Newberry College and a 2001 graduate of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. In addition to serving as the Chair of the Board of Trustees for South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers, he also serves as Chaplain with Agape Care South Carolina in the Midlands. David has three children, Madi, Belle, and Dylan, and lives with his husband Greg in Columbia.

MUSIC MINISTRY

We thank all who have participated in our virtual music making during this pandemic. Our worship has been musically well-supported thanks to our vocal and instrumental soloists, who have led hymns and psalms and offered performances recorded here at church or in their homes. If you have not yet joined in on a virtual musical event, and would like to give it a try, contact Pastor Jim Parham and/or Henry Wilcox via e-mail (jcpaham@trinitylutheran.ws or hwwilcox@trinitylutheran.ws) or phone (242-5702).

On Wednesday, September 2 at 7:00 pm Pastor Parham will host a ZOOM call for the Adult and Handbell choirs. This call will be a social gathering giving the choirs the chance to catch up with one another and to talk about other opportunities for the choirs in the fall. Look for the ZOOM invitation as well as other emails about upcoming events from Pastor Parham in the coming days.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation (Sunday School) is taking on new forms during the COVID-19 crisis. Currently, parents are being surveyed to discover what venue will be best for faith formation activities in the fall. Families are encouraged to contact Deacon Amy Brown to take part in the planning. We anticipate that new activities will begin in mid-September, giving families a break to adjust to their new school schedules.

Adult Faith Formation begins with Coffee and Conversation at 8:45 a.m. on ZOOM on Sunday mornings, followed by a discussion oriented class. The class ends by 9:45, so participants can be ready for worship. Peggy Schotsch is leading the group in exploring the course *Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White: Religion, Morality and Politics*. Based on the book by Methodist minister Adam Hamilton, the study includes video clips to aid in discussion. All adults are welcome to join the Zoom meeting.

LUTHERAN CHURCH YOUTH

Middle school and high school youth will meet separately on Sundays in September in the playground parking lot for socially distanced meals and fellowship time. Those who wish to attend are asked to bring their own food, a tailgate chair and a mask (which will be worn while the group is setting up). The events are each limited to 6 youth & a weekly RSVP is required. Those who plan to attend should sign up through the church office. The groups will not meet on Sunday, September 6 nor in the event of rain. Youth in grades 6 through 8 will meet at 5:00 pm and youth in grades 9 through 12 will meet at 6:30 pm.



Lutheran Church Youth

LAUNCH GROUP

LAUNCH is Trinity's Young Adults Group for people in their 20s to early 30s. The group will meet on Wednesday, September 16 at 7 pm in the playground parking lot of the church for a socially distanced meal. Those who wish to attend are asked to bring their own food, a tailgate chair and a mask (which will be worn while the group is setting up). The event is limited to 8 people & an RSVP is required. Those who plan to attend should sign up with Deacon Mandi Whitley.

MASK MAKERS

Do you sew? If so, you are needed to join in making masks for those in need in the community. In particular, we are making masks for our neighbors at Towers East. Fabric is available for the masks. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at the Church Office if you can help with this project.

BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group, which is open to all readers, meets regularly to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be on October 15 to discuss *Night Boat to Tangier* by Kevin Barry. Other upcoming selections include *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis on December 17, *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd on February 18, *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel on April 15, and *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger on June 17. Email Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws to receive a ZOOM invite to the meetings.

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>9:00 MORNING COFFEE - IN PERSON 10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE K5 - GRADE 5</p> <p>12:15 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>6:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 7:00 ADULT AND HANDBELL CHOIRS VIA ZOOM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>6:00 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM 6:00 WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP IN PERSON</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE GRADES 6 - 12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>9:00 MORNING COFFEE IN PERSON 10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE K5 - GRADE 5 10:30 STAFF GATHERING</p> <p>12:15 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>6:30 WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION IN PERSON <i>BRAVING THE WILDERNESS</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> <p>10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE GRADES 6 - 12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> <p>11:30 - 12:15 COMMUNION BREAD DISTRIBUTION AND FOOD DRIVE</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>9:00 MORNING COFFEE IN PERSON 10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE K5 - GRADE 5</p> <p>12:15 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>6:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 7:00 LAUNCH - IN PERSON</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE GRADES 6 - 12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>9:00 MORNING COFFEE IN PERSON 10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE K5 - GRADE 5</p> <p>12:15 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>6:00 ONLINE WORSHIP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <p>10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE GRADES 6 - 12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <p>9:00 MORNING COFFEE IN PERSON 10:00 - 1:00 TRINITY LEARNING ZONE K5 - GRADE 5</p> <p>12:15 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>6:00 ONLINE WORSHIP</p>			

BACKPACK BUDDIES FOOD COLLECTION

Trinity is continuing to provide a food box each week to twelve families in our neighborhood who rely on the Backpack Buddies program to feed their children. Donations of non-perishable food items will be collected at the red canopy door on Saturday, September 12 from 11:30 am to 12:15 pm. Items of special need include:

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Pasta

Spaghetti Sauce

Dried Beans

Rice

Canned Fruit

Canned vegetables

Canned meat

Individually packaged snack items

Breakfast Cereal

Toilet Paper

Items may also be brought to the breezeway, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

Many thanks for helping Trinity support and sustain this ministry as the need continues.

GRACE BAGS

During the month of September, Grace Bags containing simple pop-top food items will be available in the Breezeway for parishioners to pick up Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, to keep in their cars or in their homes to give to folks in need of a simple meal.

COMMUNITY RELIEF FUND

United Way of Greenville County has launched the COVID-19 Community Relief Fund to assist Greenville County's most vulnerable neighbors and to help respond to the physical health, mental health, and economic impacts of the pandemic. Donations may be made online at www.unitedwaygc.org or checks can be mailed to United Way of Greenville County, 105 Edinburgh Court, Greenville, SC 29607 and marked Community Relief Fund.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Lutheran World Relief is working to prevent the catastrophic spread of the coronavirus for our most vulnerable neighbors in countries like Uganda and Democratic Republic of the Congo where health systems are not prepared to handle an outbreak of this magnitude. Contributions can be made online at donate.lwr.org or by mailing a check to Trinity designated for Lutheran World Relief.

FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

Continuing through September, Trinity, in partnership with Advoco, Table 301, and Francis Produce, is hosting "Nourishing Neighbors", a weekly event held on Wednesdays on the front lawn to provide a boxed lunch, fresh produce, and reusable masks to our neighbors at Towers East.

THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE

Theology Roundtable is a group which meets several times month to discuss theology and faith. In September the group will meet September 13, 20, and 27 at 4:00 pm. Currently the group is discussing the book *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr. If you would like to join this group, which is meeting by ZOOM, please contact Peggy Schotsch at schotsch@bellsouth.net.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Women's Bible Study and Fellowship Group will meet on Thursday evening, September 3 at 6:00 pm by ZOOM. Participants will continue their study of the book *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren. Contact Terry Morgan at 230-6252 or tfmorgan101@gmail.com for the ZOOM invite.

VIRTUAL POTLUCK

You are invited to join Deacon Amy Brown in a Virtual Potluck on Zoom on Sunday evening, September 13 at 6:30 pm. Participants will eat together on Zoom, and will show and/or describe their favorite potluck dish. Recipes will be shared with the group after the event. This will be a casual gathering time for fellowship and the food of your choice. Please contact the church office to reserve your seat!

WOMEN'S BOOK DISCUSSION

Women of the congregation are invited to gather in the parking lot adjacent to the playground on Thursday, September 10 at 6:30 pm to discuss *Braving the Wilderness* by Brene Brown. All participants must pre-register through the Church Office as the registration is limited to eight participants so as to maintain safe distance. Participants should bring a lawn chair, water, and wear a mask. Pastor Crowell will be facilitating the discussion.

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		1
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 6 8:45 FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP	7 OFFICE CLOSED	8 7:00 RACIAL JUSTICE BOOK STUDY VIA ZOOM
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 13 8:45 FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM 5:00 MIDDLE SCHOOL LCY - IN PERSON 6:30 HIGH SCHOOL LCY - IN PERSON 6:30 VIRTUAL POTLUCK VIA ZOOM	14	15 7:00 RACIAL JUSTICE BOOK STUDY VIA ZOOM
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 20 8:45 FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM 5:00 MIDDLE SCHOOL LCY IN PERSON 6:30 HIGH SCHOOL LCY - IN PERSON	21	22 7:00 RACIAL JUSTICE BOOK STUDY VIA ZOOM
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 27 8:45 FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM 5:00 MIDDLE SCHOOL LCY - IN PERSON 6:30 HIGH SCHOOL LCY - IN PERSON	28	29 7:00 RACIAL JUSTICE BOOK STUDY VIA ZOOM

MORNING COFFEE GROUPS

Each Wednesday during the month of September a member of Trinity's Pastoral and Program Staff will host a coffee hour on the playground at 9:00 am. All participants must pre-register through the Church Office and share a cell number so that the host can be in touch with any last minute information. Each gathering is limited to eight participants to insure safe distancing. Each participant should wear a mask and bring a lawn chair and coffee. The schedule is as follows:

- Wednesday, September 2 - Pastor Crowell hosting
- Wednesday, September 9 - Pastor Parham hosting
- Wednesday, September 16 - Deacon Mandi Whitley hosting
- Wednesday, September 23 - Deacon Amy Brown hosting
- Wednesday, September 30 - Pastor Crowell hosting

LOYALTY SUNDAY EVENT

On Sunday, October 4, members and friends of Trinity will have an opportunity to make their ministry commitments for 2021. Commitment packets, which include time and talent sheets as well as financial commitment cards, will be mailed later this month.

Financial commitments may be made online via the Realm platform or Commitment Cards and Time and Talent Sheets may be returned to Trinity on Sunday, October 4 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm at a drive-through event sponsored by the Stewardship Committee. At this event, in addition to placing these materials in the alms basin, guests will also be handed safe, pre-packaged refreshments, canned sodas, and bottled water in their cars as they move through the parking lot. Please join our Trinity family for this fun and festive event. Materials can also be mailed to the Church Office.

REBUILD UPSTATE

Trinity Rebuild Upstate Workday- Saturday, October 10th 8:00-5:00

Come help a neighbor with much needed repairs to their home so they can safely stay in it! Rebuild Upstate is still working with volunteers, with new COVID 19 guidelines in place, in order to continue to work through the long list of homeowners on their waiting list. The minimum age requirement is 13. Hand washing stations and hand sanitizer will be available. If you'd like to sign up, please email Lura Godfrey at luradg@charter.net. If you have any questions about the COVID 19 guidelines, Lura can send a copy of the procedures by email. Every volunteer will receive a copy of the guidelines and two forms to complete prior to the workday. Please come spend the day (masks on!) working together to make a huge difference in a family's life!

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Lay Assistants

September 6

Lisa Rehm
Andrew Weiner

September 13

Chip Bettler
Ryann Roth

September 20

Sue Boeker
John Otten

September 27

Kris Ballew
Mac Wannemacher

Assisting Ministers

September 13

Deacon Amy Brown

September 20

Kay Cook

September 27

Deacon Mandi Whitley

TRINITY LEARNING ZONE

During the month of September, Trinity will be opening its doors as a learning space for our students in order to provide a safe and loving space during this time. Children in K5 through 5th grade will gather on Wednesdays in the Multipurpose Room from 10 am - 1 pm. Youth in grades 6 through 12 will gather on Fridays in the Multipurpose Room from 10 am - 1 pm. A weekly registration is required through the Church Office and the groups are limited to 6 students. Masks and physical distancing will be mandatory. Students should bring their computers, schoolwork and lunch. Adjustments to these plans will be made as Greenville County Schools update decisions.

FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation is receiving grant applications from September 1 to October 15. The purpose of the foundation is to enhance the outreach ministry of the congregation by making grants to community human service agencies to which the congregation relates, institutions and agencies of the South Carolina Synod of the ELCA, and members of the congregation who attend an ELCA seminary or church-related educational, leadership, or service event. Grant applications may be obtained by calling the Church Office.

WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Heather Peden Fanning, Jeff Greene, James Long, Jeanine Stratton, and Mac Wannemacher have been discharged.

BIRTH

Alexander Joseph Robert, son of Dan & Jeanine Stratton on August 3

DEATHS

Rick Horsfall on August 9
the brother of Louise Waldrep
the brother of Ann Whitley

ATTENDANCE FOR AUGUST

	<u>8/2</u>	<u>8/9</u>	<u>8/16</u>	<u>8/23</u>
Onsite	5	5	6	5
Online devices	<u>559</u>	<u>524</u>	<u>539</u>	<u>625</u>
TOTAL	564	529	545	630
Midweek	<u>8/12</u>	<u>8/19</u>	<u>8/26</u>	
Onsite	4	4	4	
Online devices	<u>164</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>128</u>	
TOTAL	168	178	132	

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR AUGUST

(DOES NOT INCLUDE OFFERING FROM AUGUST 30)

	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$ 96,186	\$ 769,488
Given to Budget	<u>\$ 47,847</u>	<u>\$ 695,768</u>
Difference	\$ (48,339)	\$ (73,720)
PPP Loan Proceeds		\$ 122,837
Given to World Hunger	\$1,153	\$ 18,889



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 421 North Main Street
 Greenville, SC 29601-2090

CHURCH STAFF

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Beth C. Oswald
 Nursery Attendant

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

In an effort to stay connected, please consider extending birthday greetings to the following members. If you would like the church to know your birthdate please contact the Church Office to submit this information through Realm.

Faye Banks - September 2
 Bailey Batts - September 20
 Annaliese Bennett - September 11
 Luther Boliek - September 24
 Wyatt Boliek - September 11
 Amy Brown - September 19
 Amanda Cook - September 11
 Dylan Elliott - September 12
 Eunice Harrington - September 9
 (her 90th birthday)
 Roger Hawkins - September 5
 Pat Hensley - September 27
 Annie Ives - September 15
 Mark Kilstofte - September 25
 Allison Kirk - September 26
 Heather Kleckley - September 18
 Jack Koon - September 30
 Emile Labrousse - September 21
 Brittany Lampson - September 28
 Jane Lampson - September 16
 Caroline Massey - September 27
 Joe Mulcahy - September 22
 Lisa Panhorst - September 4
 Susan Park - September 3
 Shelly Raynes - September 18

Ryan Sease - September 24
 Nancy Teachey - September 29
 Larry Todd - September 22
 Chelsey Troutman - September 8
 Meghan Troutman - September 14
 Lara Wannemacher - September 25
 Andrew Weiner - September 22
 Joyce Weiner - September 1
 Mary West - September 14
 Henry Wilcox - September 25
 Anna Wise - September 22
 Lani Wise - September 11
 John Wood - September 16