

TRINITY TIDINGS

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

August 2023

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Dear Siblings in Christ,

Since my entire professional life has been spent working in the church (and for a few years also as an elementary school teacher), August always has a rhythm and energy all its own. Time, its value, its relentless passage, and how to steward what time I have always intensifies in August.

August is a transitional month for many others as well, such as families with school-age children, school staff, and the businesses and services that support them. College and university communities transition to fall schedules. Students return to campus and activity ramps up. South Carolina farmers gear up for the corn harvest, and many business owners prepare for a busy fall season. Summer is running out and the heavy demands of the fall loom large. Even before Covid drove uncertainty and anxiety off the charts sending the world's mental health into the dumpster, some were already calling the kind of anxiety common to this time of year "August Anxiety" or "August Blues."

In addition, some of us endure heavy burdens that have little to do with the month or the season. Our queer siblings face relentless and insidious threats to their safety and welfare. Many close to us reel from a cancer diagnosis, struggle to rehab from a heart attack or stroke, walk with the heavy grief from losing a loved one, and live with the unresolvable panic of unemployment and relentless debt. Time, its value, its relentless passage, the fear of losing it, and what to do becomes almost overwhelming.

Throughout August, we encounter Gospel stories that drive right to the heart of our feelings of anxiety and helplessness before the threats, expectations and demands of daily life. We see Jesus bringing healing, salvation, and nourishment to desperate, fearful, hopeless people. My August prayer for us is that we remain *ever mindful* that the one who fed thousands with a few pieces of bread and fish, who calmed the angry heavens and seas with a word, and who broke through ageless, petrified walls of hate and cultural bigotry to bring healing and salvation to a child, this one, Jesus the Messiah, is with you and me all the way.

Your brother in Christ,



Pastor Jim Parham

AUGUST WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, August 6

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

Sunday, August 13

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow in the back corner of the Gym

Sunday, August 20

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

Sunday, August 27

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym
Pancake Brunch in the Multipurpose Room

GIVING TO TRINITY



Trinity is grateful for all the prayers, contributions, and displays of support from members, friends, and guests. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to trinitylutheran.ws, by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



MUSIC MINISTRY

August brings the start of the 2023 fall music season. We invite all recently-joined and long-time members who feel the urge to become part of the music ministry to take the leap this fall and join us in this holy and nourishing work.



ADULT CHOIR returns from summer break on Wednesday August 23. Rehearsals are in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Pence Building from 7:00 to 8:15 pm.

HANDBELL CHOIR will have an organizational meeting in late August to confirm bell assignments and set up the fall ringing and rehearsal schedule.

TRINITY'S INSTRUMENTALIST COMMUNITY

There are opportunities for anyone interested in sharing their instrumental skills in worship. If interested in setting up a rehearsal and playing date, please contact Pastor Parham at jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-242-5702.

PAGEANT ENSEMBLE

Trinity instrumentalists, please mark your calendars now to join the instrumental ensemble for the December Christmas Pageant. This year celebrates 8 years of gathering all band and orchestral players into an ensemble that leads the carols and hymns for this service. If interested, please contact Pastor Parham for more information.

NURSERY FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

A nursery is available during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday morning, whether the congregation is worshipping in the Sanctuary or the Gym. Practices and protocols follow all DHEC recommendations for daycare centers. All staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated and are trained and approved in Trinity's Child Protection Policy. A copy of the updated guidelines can be obtained through the Church Office.



SUMMER FAITH FORMATION

The final Sunday of the intergenerational faith formation series, *Journey Together*, will be held in the Multipurpose Room on Sunday, August 6 at 9:00 am. Beginning with a pick up breakfast, participants will enjoy reviewing the summer topics and a special story by Beth Hill.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUNDAY

On Sunday, August 13 during worship, there will be a blessing of students and teachers as a new school year begins. Students and teachers of all ages are encouraged to worship at 10:00 am in the Gym.

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation for Children

In the spring a new children's learning opportunity during worship began. Children through Grade 5 are invited to leave worship after the children's sermon to hear the scripture reading in ways more appropriate to them. Using the lectionary stories heard in worship each Sunday, the children sing and listen to the scripture or a related book, and enjoy an activity related to the theme of the day. The children will return to worship in time to share the peace.

Faith Formation for Youth

Youth in grades 6 through 12 this fall are invited to stay after worship once a month for Lunch and Learn, a time for fellowship building and faith formation lessons and activities. Youth will gather on Sunday, August 13 in the Youth Room. Pick up time is 12:45 pm.

Faith Formation for Adults

On Sunday, August 13 a new adult faith formation class will begin at 9:00 am in Rooms 12 and 13 of the Activities Building. Penny Bostain will lead the group in exploring *Bible Stories for Grown Ups: Reading Scripture With New Eyes*. The class ends in time for worship at 10:00 am. Those interested in participating in the class via Zoom should contact Deacon Amy Brown for sign-in information.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

On Sunday, August 6, Trinity children will gather for a back-to-school event. Following worship, all children (up to rising 5 graders) will meet in the Youth and Children's Room for lunch and back to school games and events. Pickup time is 1:00 pm. Parent volunteers are needed to assist with lunch and games.

Retreat



All Trinity youth (rising 6 graders through grade 12) are invited to Lutheridge. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect with friends after the busy summer. The group will leave Saturday, August 19 at 10:00 am and will return on Sunday, August 20 at 1:00 pm. On Saturday participants will experience the GIC course, have pool time, and some other activities. On Sunday, there will be an outdoor church service. Overnight accommodations will be the Wilderness Cabins. The estimated cost is \$125.00 and includes all activities, cabins and 3 meals. For more information or to register contact Angie McCormack at ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws.

On Sunday, August 27, following worship, the congregation is invited to a pancake brunch and games to celebrate back to school. The event is sponsored by the Youth and Children's Ministry. Youth are invited to participate by preparing pancakes and leading the games. All congregation members are invited. Please register by calling the Church Office.



PRAYER GROUP

The Trinity Prayer Group will be praying from home during the month of August. If you have a prayer request please complete a prayer card during Sunday worship or email a request to Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com or Merry Mulcahy at marmulcahy@icloud.com.

The group is currently reviewing Trinity's prayer ministry with hopes to increase its support of all the ministries of Trinity as well as individual prayer requests from our congregation. Please check for updates on the prayer ministry here in the *Tidings*.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Trinity will be participating in Habitat for Humanity's Nicholtown Build, located at 122 McCullough Street, on Saturday, August 12. The work day is from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Volunteers can work the whole day or any hours they are available. Lunch will be provided for those working the whole day. Volunteers are needed on various projects. No experience needed. Tools will be provided. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Trinity would like to have 10-12 volunteers. Contact Pat O'Neill at oneillpattonw@hotmail.com for more information or to sign-up to volunteer.



SPECIAL CHILDREN'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Because children are so very honored and valued in the life we share together at Trinity and because it is important that children have the opportunity to engage with scripture and worship in a way that is fun and age-appropriate for them, Trinity is trying something new! During August Trinity is continuing to experiment with a new practice of providing time during Sunday morning worship -- beginning after the children's sermon and extending through the Sharing of the Peace -- for children to leave the worship space with adult leaders (who have been Child Protection Policy trained) to participate in interactive activities, stories, games, and crafts related to the scripture texts for the day. Children may choose to participate in these special activities or remain in the worship space with their families during this time. This experiment will be evaluated over the coming months. Congregational comments are encouraged and may be shared with Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws or with Pastor Susan Crowell at sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws.

NEW MEMBER CLASS AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

In September, Pastor Crowell will be teaching a new member class via Zoom for anyone interested in exploring the possibility of joining Trinity. These classes will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Wednesdays, September 6 and 13. Please call the Church Office if you would like to attend these classes that will be taught remotely this fall. New members will be received on Sunday, September 17 at the 10:00 am worship service in the Gym.

FALL STEWARDSHIP PLANS

The Stewardship Committee is excited to announce that the fall stewardship campaign has been reimagined and will feature the New Consecration Sunday model. This program shifts attention away from the business model of being church and toward a more spiritual model of being church. One of the goals is to help the Trinity family better understand the joy and blessing of giving by asking the question *What is God calling me to do?* instead of *What does Trinity need in order to pay for ministry expenses?* The campaign begins on Sunday, August 13.

Important Dates to Remember:

Thursday, September 21 - Leadership Dinner and Program that includes members of Congregation Council, Standing Committee Chairs, Stewardship Committee, Staff, and the New Consecration Sunday Leadership Team as well as partners and spouses. Time and location will be announced at a later date.

Sunday, October 8 - Celebration Sunday that will involve the entire Trinity family and will include worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary followed by a catered lunch in the Gym. Estimate of Giving Cards will be collected during this worship service.

Guest Leader/Preacher:

Andrew Steele, Chief Development and Mobilization Officer at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services in Baltimore, Maryland, will be leading the program and serving as guest preacher on October 8 at the Celebration Sunday. Andrew has long been a friend to Trinity. In addition to being a dynamic speaker with a heart for stewardship and the Church, Andrew is also passionate about Trinity's mission and ministry to be an inclusive, affirming congregation that is engaged in social justice ministries.

New Consecration Leadership Team:

Team Members include Mike Boliek, Debbie Brune, Amanda Cook, Lindsay Hawkins, Caroline Otten, Donna Potts (chair), Philip Wessinger, and Pastor Susan Crowell.

LUNCH AND BINGO WITH TOWERS EAST NEIGHBORS

Trinity's annual Lunch and Bingo event with Towers East neighbors will be Thursday, August 17. A hot dog lunch will be served at 11:30 am followed by fun rounds of Bingo. Practical prizes of additional paper towels and a can opener will be given to each neighbor. Anyone able to donate these prizes should please drop them off by the Church Office prior to August 16. Interested volunteers to help with lunch or as a host for Bingo should contact Patrick Preacher at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-242-5702



AUGUST 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
		1 10:30 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP
TENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 6 9:00 SUMMER FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCUTARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW 11:30 CHILDRENS BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT	7 5:30 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE	8
ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 13 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW 11:30 YOUTH LUNCH AND LEARN	14 5:00 OUTREACH COMMITTEE	15
TWELVETH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 20 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW 11:30 OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH 1:00 YOUTH RETREAT ENDS	21	22
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 27 9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW 11:30 CONGREGATIONAL PANCAKE BRUNCH	28	29

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2

3

4

5

6:30 QUEER-LED WORSHIP IN THE GYM

9

10

11

12

8:00 - 3:00 HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

6:00 LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

16

17

18

19

12:30 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

10:00 YOUTH RETREAT BEGINS AT LUTHERIDGE

7:00 BOOK GROUP

23

24

25

26

7:00 ADULT CHOIR

6:30 LOVE WINS BOOK DISCUSSION

30

31

7:00 ADULT CHOIR

SECOND SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to all who continue to contribute to the Food Pantry. Summer months always take a toll on the pantry though, so please consider additional donations as able. In addition to regular items, the pantry is in special need of canned meats, toilet paper, and canned vegetables that aren't green beans or corn. All are encouraged to bring donations to worship. A volunteer will be stationed at the Red Canopy Door from 9:30 to 10:00 am on the second Sunday of each month to assist in unloading donations. Upcoming dates are August 13 and September 10.



The following items are most needed: dried beans (16 oz), peanut butter (16 oz), cereal, canned fruit, rice (2 lb bag), pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned vegetables, individually packaged snack items, and toilet paper. If you are interested in volunteering to collect items during the Sunday Food Drives, please contact Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws

BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group is open to all readers. Participants meet on the third Thursday evening in the Church Parlor every other month to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be on Thursday, August 17, at 7:00 pm when the group will discuss *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Other upcoming selections include:

October 19, 7:00 pm - *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict
December 21, 7:00 pm - *These Precious Days* by Ann Patchett

This is a very casual group, and new participants are welcome at any time. Email Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws for more information.



AUGUST 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.

Rachel Balck - August 28
Tad Boland - August 21
Annette Connor - August 21
Nicholas Dillon - August 18
Natalie Geiger - August 25
Angela Glass - August 7
Paul Godfrey - August 2
Samuel Godfrey - August 14
Heidi Goodwin - August 10
Chaz Haines - August 13
Emma Grace Haines - August 9
Kim Haines - August 30
Dale Hamann - August 6
Chris Harmon - August 13
Sarah Jo Harmon - August 23
Cole Harrington - August 25
Dean Hybl - August 9
Nate Hybl - August 8

Melissa Kolb - August 15
Everett Lawrence - August 12
Betsy League - August 31
Mary Lockard - August 24
Sylvie Morrison - August 9
Will Mosher - August 25
Pat Newman - August 3
Austin Nix - August 14
Lisa Rehm - August 24
Jimmy Reynolds - August 16
Steve Robinson - August 5
Margaret Roth - August 5
Franklin Sease - August 21
Terri Sullivan - August 17
Nicholas Weiner - August 20
Jack Wilcox - August 18
Judy Williams - August 25
Cathy Wyatt - August 22



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Women's Bible Study



and Fellowship Group

The Women's Bible Study Group meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. The group usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month. All women of the church are invited to attend on August 1 at 10:30 am in Rooms 12 and 13. The group is discussing chapter two of the book *Falling Upward: Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* by Richard Rohr. If you need a copy of the book or have any other questions, please contact Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com for additional information.

MEN'S REFLECTION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Men's Fellowship

A Reflection and Fellowship Group for men is meeting on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 am to 7:30 am in the Church Parlor. The group will not meet in August. The next meeting will be September 14.

GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP

Please consider investing \$200 in GOAL Justice by mailing a check to Goal Justice, P.O. Box 757, Greenville, SC or by visiting GOALJustice.com and click on the DONATE button to pay by credit card or PayPal.

Why do we call this investing? Because there is a real, measurable return on your investing. In year one of GOAL Justice's operation in Greenville, through grass roots people power organizing in over 20 congregations, voices were heard. State funding is now in place to make sure every 988 call in South Carolina receives an in-state response and legislation has passed allowing cities and counties to use accommodations tax dollars for housing!

At the local level a majority of city council is committed to working towards a goal of providing \$10,000,000 of funding to the housing fund, with the Mayor specifically identifying funding sources. The County Council has proposed investing \$5,000,000 over the next two years towards affordable housing. More work is needed to measurably impact the affordable housing crisis but these are positive changes that are happening because so many showed up (170+ from Trinity) at the Nehemiah Action.

On behalf of all those seeking social justice and equity in our community, thank you.

NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

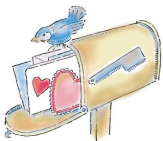
Trinity will host neighbors at Towers East for Nourishing Neighbors, a monthly event held on the front lawn that includes a bagged lunch, fresh produce, pantry staples, and fellowship on Wednesday, August 16 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. Future dates will be announced in September. This is an opportunity to build relationships with neighbors, make friends, and get to know each other in a relaxed and fun environment. Volunteers pack produce bags, prepare lunches, or serve on the front lawn. Questions may be directed to Anne Harmon at annerharmon1956@gmail.com or Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws.

OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch is open to all Trinity adults who want to enjoy fellowship and eat lunch together after worship once a month. On Sunday, August 20 the group will meet after worship at *Rocky's Hot Chicken Shack*, 420 Laurens Road, Greenville, 29607. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws to receive email reminders for this group or to make reservations for lunch.



TLC4TLC



TLC4TLC is for anyone who would like to write notes and cards for members who are ill, grieving, or unable to attend worship, as well as for those who are celebrating joys. If you would like to participate in this group please contact Debbie Farstad at deb fars@att.net.

QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting Group typically meets in the Activities Building on Mondays at 9:30 am to make quilts which are distributed by Lutheran World Relief. The group will resume meeting on Monday, September 11. No sewing experience is needed. For questions about this group contact Sarah Weeks at sweeks14@charter.net or 864-787-1160.



QUILTING GROUP

QUEER AND JUSTICE MINISTRY



Queer-led Worship: Taize Around the Cross, Thursday, August 3 at 6:30 pm in the Gym. New queer leaders are always welcome. Please email Patrick Preacher at pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws if you are interested. This service will be live-streamed.

LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Love Wins Social Time - Love Wins will meet at *Spare Time* for bowling and fellowship on Thursday, August 10, at 6:00 pm. Spare Time is located at 822 Congaree Road, Greenville.

On Thursday, August 24, Love Wins will meet to discuss the book, *The Finder of Forgotten Things*, by Sarah Loudin Thomas. The group will meet at 6:30. The location and more details will be provided.

For more information or to be added to the group, contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4016 or ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws



WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

DEATH

Kathryn Neubauer on July 7

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Debbie Jo Forbes - ICU, Prima Health Greenville Memorial
Steve Robinson - discharged

ATTENDANCE FOR JULY

Sundays	7/2	7/9	7/16	7/23
Online devices	242	196	214	175
In Person	<u>102</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>125</u>
	344	318	331	300

Queer-Led 7/6 41 in person, 225 online devices

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR JULY

DOES NOT INCLUDE OFFERING FROM JULY 30

	<u>JULY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$ 95,378	\$ 667,644
Given to Budget	<u>\$ 78,633</u>	<u>\$ 668,866</u>
Difference	\$ (16,745)	\$ 1,222
Given to World Hunger	\$ 870	\$ 14,835

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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GREENVILLE, SC

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