

TRINITY TIDINGS

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

September 2023

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421 North Main St.

Greenville, SC 29601-2000

864.242.5702

FAX 864.242.6442

www.trinitylutheran.ws

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger;
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.
(Verse 4, Hymn #641, All Are Welcome)*

Dear Members of the Trinity Family,

Several recent events have prompted me to reflect upon the almost seven years since Trinity began the intentional effort to become a more inclusive, welcoming congregation. This coming February will be seven years since Trinity's Congregation Council appointed a task group to study and evaluate Trinity's Wedding Policy, specifically with regard to same gender marriage. The lay members of this team modelled and continue to model brave, bold leadership in our life together. Rachel Balck, John Beckford, Dale Hamann, Richard Moose, Amanda Mast, and Merry Mulcahy, through prayer, study, and a genuine desire to be faithful disciples, helped change the trajectory of our more than one hundred-year-old community of faith. Supported by this team's leadership, the council made the brave decision to begin celebrating same-gender marriage in May, 2017. What a journey this has been! These seven years have held their share of heartbreak, challenge, joy, celebration, and transformation. I often describe this journey as "waterskiing behind a boat driven by the Holy Spirit."

At this almost seven-year mark, we have turned a significant corner. New people find their way to Trinity every Sunday morning to hear the good news of God's love in Christ for everyone, no exceptions. At the Congregation Council meeting in August, the council made the decision to begin two new ministry partnerships - one with the Greenville Gay Men's Chorus and the second with Girl Scout Troop #3475, an inclusive and affirming troop eager for a home in an inclusive and affirming church. How these decisions fill my heart (and the heart of Christ) with joy, hope, love, and gratitude!

I am convinced that the more we welcome, include, affirm, and celebrate beloved children of God who at first glance seem so different, the larger our individual and communal capacity to love becomes. That's what I want for my life...a larger capacity to love. That's also my prayer for our life together. May God continue to bless, strengthen, and sustain us as we continue to embrace Christ's mission of inclusion, hospitality, and radical welcome.

Peace, love, and joy,



Pastor Susan Crowell

COUNCIL NOTES

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

---noted that expenses through July are \$480.00 less than anticipated;

---received a report from the 429 Task Group noting that representation for the sale of the property has been narrowed to two firms and discussed various possibilities;

---celebrated the Property Committee's faithful work to repair the front doors of the Sanctuary and return the iconic doors to their bold red color;

--received and discussed a report from the Organ Committee noting that an addendum to the original contract has been signed that includes continuation of the project in two phases;

---decided to enter into a ministry partnership with the Greenville Gay Men's Chorus to include providing weekly rehearsal space for the group; and

---decided to enter into a ministry partnership with Girl Scout Troop #3475, an inclusive and affirming troop eager for a home in an inclusive and affirming church, to include providing space for their twice monthly meetings.

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

ADULT CHOIR - September is the start of the Adult Choir's choral singing season. Rehearsals are each Wednesday in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Pence Building from 7:00 to 8:15 pm. Each Sunday, the choir gathers at 9:30 am in the Choir Room for a brief rehearsal and warm-up. For worship at 10:00 am, the choir assembles in the balcony or around the piano in the Gym to support and strengthen congregational singing and to offer special choral music aimed at drawing our minds, emotions, and imaginations more deeply into God's word.



HANDBELL CHOIR rehearses most Wednesdays from 6:00 - 6:45 pm in the Handbell Rehearsal Room on the second floor of the Pence Building. The first rehearsal will be on September 5. If interested in exploring the possibility of handbells for the fall season, this is the perfect time to give it a try. Contact Pastor Parham at jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-242-5702 and plan to come to the September 5 rehearsal. There is still space in the choir for a few more ringers.

TRINITY'S INSTRUMENTALIST COMMUNITY

Enrichment of instrumental music is welcome in worship. If interested in sharing your instrumental skills in worship, please contact Pastor Parham at jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-242-5702.

PAGEANT ENSEMBLE 2023

Trinity instrumentalists, have you been looking for an excuse to pull out your dusty middle school or high school band/orchestra instrument after years of neglect? The perfect opportunity is coming up on December 17. This year is 8 years (minus the Covid years) of gathering all band and orchestral players (and friends!) into an ensemble that leads the Advent/Christmas carols for this service. Pastor Parham provides instrumental parts tailored for every instrument and skill level. If interested or just curious, please contact Pastor Parham at the phone number or email address above 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.



SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 3
Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

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

Sunday, September 17
Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym
Reception of New Members
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow in the back corner of the Gym

Sunday, September 24
Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary
Refreshments and Fellowship to follow on the front lawn

FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation for Children

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 and participate in communion.

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, September 10 in the Youth Room. Pick up time is 12:30 pm.

Faith Formation for Adults

A adult faith formation class is meeting at 9:00 am in Rooms 12 and 13 of the Activities Building. Penny Bostain is leading 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

Trinity Children (preschool - grade 5) will meet on Sunday, September 10, following worship. Lunch will be provided and participants will work together on a kindness activity. This event will benefit both those in attendance and as outreach for our church family. Volunteers are needed for lunch and to assist with the event. Please reach out to Angie McCormack for more information, to sign up, or help.



An ELCA Youth Gathering Event information session for grades 6 - 12 will be held on Sunday, September 17 from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm in the Multipurpose Room. Lunch will be provided. The Youth Gathering will be held July 16 - 20, 2024 in New Orleans, LA. Contact Angie McCormack at ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws for more information.

PRAYING FOR POSSIBILITIES

Praying for Possibilities is a new program at Trinity dedicated to praying for the ministries of the congregation. The written prayers highlight areas of the church where various ministries occur, specific programs, and members of the church staff. Members and friends of the congregation are invited to sign up for a specific week during the year when they are encouraged to pray through the prayers one time from home or while walking the grounds of the church or sitting in the Sanctuary. Prayers can be lifted up from home, while travelling, or at the church. Praying the prayers can be done at one time or spread out over the week. On the Sunday of the designated week, prayer volunteers are asked to pray for the worship service and the members in need of special love and care who are lifted up in the prayers during worship. A hard copy of the prayers is available along with an electronic copy. This new ministry requires a small amount of commitment with the possibility of tremendous blessing. To ask questions about the ministry or to sign up to participate, please reach out to Beth Bennett-Hill at bethbhnc@yahoo.com or 704-307-0521 or to Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com or 864-230-6252.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Please join the Trinity Family
on Sunday, September 24
following worship from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm
in the Multipurpose Room

for *Mental Health Matters*
an event that includes lunch and activities
that support and promote positive mental health

Activities will include:
creating cards and encouraging notes and assembling care packages
for Trinity's college students.

making personal encouragement journals as a resource for bad days
and enjoying the opportunity to pet and snuggle with several friendly pups.

Lunch menu includes sub sandwiches, pasta salad, fruit salad, and dessert.

This event is for children, youth, and adults.
There is no cost for the event.
Please reach out to the Church Office to register.

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. New members will be received on Sunday, September 17 at the 10:00 am worship service in the Gym.

FALL STEWARDSHIP PLANS

Please join the Trinity Family

Sunday, October 8
for a special Worship Service

in the Sanctuary at 10:00 am

followed by a catered
Congregational Lunch in the Gym.

In honor of Trinity's support of refugees,
lunch will be a traditional Afghan meal
with options that everyone can enjoy.

MAHJONG GROUP

Mahjong is a tile based game of strategy and skill that was developed in the 19th century in China. Trinity member Jackie Todd is leading a Mahjong beginners group that meets in the Church Parlor on Fridays at 10:00 am. If you would like to learn to play, please contact Jackie at jjtodd1224@yahoo.com.



SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 3</p> <p>9:00 SUMMER FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p>	<p>4</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP</p>
<p>FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 10</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 YOUTH LUNCH AND LEARN 11:30 TRINITY'S CHILDREN'S GROUP 11:30 WORSHIP COMMITTEE</p> <p>1:30 CONGREGATION COUNCIL</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 17</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH 11:30 YOUTH GATHERING INFORMATION SESSION</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:00 OUTREACH COMMITTEE</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST 24</p> <p>9:00 ADULT FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS LUNCH AND ACTIVITIES</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>10:00 MAHJONG GROUP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> <p>5:30 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 6:30 NEW MEMBER CLASS VIA ZOOM 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> <p>6:30 QUEER-LED WORSHIP IN THE GYM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>10:00 MAHJONG GROUP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> <p>6:30 AM MEN'S REFLECTION GROUP</p> <p>6:00 HAND BELL CHOIR 6:30 NEW MEMBER CLASS VIA ZOOM 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> <p>6:30 LOVE WINS GROUP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>10:00 MAHJONG GROUP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <p>12:30 THE WELCOME TABLE</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <p>6:30 CONSECRATION SUNDAY LEADERSHIP DINNER AT CITY RANGE STEAKHOUSE</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>10:00 MAHJONG GROUP</p> <p>4:00 KOENEMANN/SCHWARTZKOPF REHEARSAL</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>4:30 KOENEMANN/SCHWARTZKOPF WEDDING</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <p>10:00 MAHJONG GROUP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p>

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 date is 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, October 19, at 7:00 pm when the group will discuss *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict. Other upcoming selections include:

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.



QUILTING GROUP



QUILTING GROUP sweeks14@charter.net or 864-787-1160.

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 18. No sewing experience is needed. For questions about this group contact Sarah Weeks at

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
Luther Boliek - September 24
Wyatt Boliek - September 11
Amy Brown - September 19
Amanda Cook - September 11
Dylan Elliott - September 12
Sandra Hamann - September 5
Alex Kirby - September 21
Heather Kleckley - September 18
Brittany Lampson - September 28
Jane Lampson - September 16
Jo Lewis - September 12
Tara Miller - September 3

Lu Morrison - September 28
Billie Ann Moseley - September 5
Joe Mulcahy - September 22
Susan Park - September 3
Maria Roberts - September 10
Ryan Sease - September 24
Nancy Teachey - September 29
Lara Wannemacher - September 25
Andrew Weiner - September 22
Joyce Weiner - September 1
Henry Wilcox - September 25
Anna Wise - September 22
Lani Wise - September 11



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 September 5 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. Calvin Harmon is leading and facilitating this group with the intent of providing a brave, safe space for mutual sharing and encouragement. The morning includes a light breakfast as well as time for devotions and prayer. Upcoming meeting dates include September 13 and October 11.

GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP

In the first year of GOAL's existence, a real difference was made in justice by getting the 988 mental health crisis line fully funded and securing financial commitments from Greenville City and County Council to collectively provide \$10,000,000 of funding to the Affordable Housing Fund.

September brings the start of the second year and a fresh cycle of GOAL activity that begins with House Meetings where participants share the experiences of injustice that they have witnessed. This sharing paves the way for the November Community Problems Assembly where a vote on the issue will add to our efforts to bring justice and equity to our community. Please anticipate an invitation to a House Meeting from a fellow Trinity member and accept the invitation to learn more about GOAL or continue association with GOAL.

Last year over 1,500 community members in Greenville came together in the spring for the Nehemiah Action where eyes were opened and commitment was gained from elected officials. These 1,500 members came from 18 congregations. This year over 22 congregations that are a part of GOAL and through continued grass roots organizing, there is hope to have over 2,000 community members at the spring 2024 Nehemiah Action. This accumulation of people power is how the systemic issues plaguing our community are addressed.

THE WELCOME TABLE

It has been over three years since Nourishing Neighbors began. In that time, Trinity has built and strengthened many beautiful relationships with our downtown neighbors, particularly those living at Towers East. In an effort to continue moving toward a relational/partnership style of ministry with our community rather than mercy ministry, the Outreach Committee and staff are excited to revision this ministry with our neighbors. The Welcome Table, the new name for this new ministry, will occur one Wednesday per month. Those right here on this block will be invited to the Multipurpose Room to share in lunch and community building. This includes residents and staff of Towers East, unhoused neighbors, the Trinity family, Lutheran Services of the Carolinas, Lutheran Hospice, and any others in the community who might find their way to our doors. For this first event, a simple prayer service will follow the meal together. Future months may include time for board games, simple crafts, or presentations by a community service provider. All guests are invited to bring non-perishable food items to contribute to the pantry and to then also take what they might need from the food pantry. Produce and toilet paper will also be available for those who need it. The Welcome Table begins Wednesday, September 20. Doors will open at 11:00 am with a meal being served at 11:30 am. All are welcome! Please let the Church Office know if you plan to attend. Contact Patrick Preacher at pdpredcher@trinitylutheran.ws if you would like to volunteer.

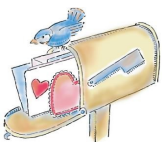


OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch is open to all Trinity adults who want to enjoy fellowship and a meal together after worship once a month. On Sunday, September 17 the group will meet after worship at *Willy Taco*, 217 Laurens Road, Greenville. 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 debvars@att.net.

QUEER AND JUSTICE MINISTRY



Queer-led Worship: Taize Around the Cross, Thursday, September 7 at 6:30 pm in the Gym. September's guest preacher is Jon-Phil Winter. Please join in worship to welcome him to the pulpit and enjoy a quiet evening of prayer and song. Allies who would like to serve as greeters or refreshment hosts for any of the QLW services can contact Patrick Preacher. Members of the LGBTQIA+ community are always welcome to serve in leadership roles. New queer leaders are always welcome. Please email Patrick Preacher at pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws if you are interested. This service will be live-streamed.

LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Love Wins will meet on September 14 at 6:30 pm. The group will meet at *Birds Fly South*, 1320 Hampton Avenue, Greenville. The group will have social time, fellowship, and, rather than reading a book or listening to a podcast, the group will share some favorites and recommendations. A recommended list will be started that can be shared with one another. Contact Angie McCormack at ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws or 864-630-4026 for more information or to get involved!



ADDITIONAL QUEER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Trinity's friends at New Day Christian Community Church have begun hosting social nights for LGBTQ+ people of faith and allies. The people of Trinity are invited to attend! The first gathering is taking place on Wednesday, September 6 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Gather Greenville, 126 Augusta Street, This is an excellent opportunity to meet other open minded people in the Greenville area and build community with LGBTQ+ people and allies of other faith traditions.

WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

DEATHS

Debbie Jo Forbes on August 5
the father of Ashley Munoz

BAPTISM

Brooks Henry Campanella, son of Mike and Meredith Campanella, on August 6

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Ida Blalock - Discharged
Dean Nix - Discharged
William Richards - Discharged
Donice Winslow - Discharged

ATTENDANCE FOR AUGUST

Sundays	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27
Online devices	254	260	214	271
In Person	<u>147</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>149</u>
	401	402	368	420

Queer-Led 8/3 29 in person, 202 online devices

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR AUGUST

DOES NOT INCLUDE OFFERING FROM AUGUST 27

	<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$ 95,378	\$ 763,022
Given to Budget	<u>\$ 64,479</u>	<u>\$ 738,708</u>
Difference	\$ (30,899)	\$ (24,314)
Given to World Hunger	\$ 440	\$ 15,305

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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID PERMIT #378
GREENVILLE, SC

CHURCH STAFF

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor
sjcrowell@trinitylutheran.ws

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor
for Worship and Music
jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws

Amy R. Brown, Deacon
Director of
Educational Ministries
arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws

Patrick D. Preacher
Queer and Justice Ministry
Coordinator
pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws

Angie H. McCormack
Youth and Children's Ministry
Coordinator
ahmccormack@trinitylutheran.ws

Kay M. Cook
Office Manager
kmcook@trinitylutheran.ws

Henry W. Wilcox
Accountant and
Digital Media Manager
hwilcox@trinitylutheran.ws

Karen M. Craig
Administrative Assistant
kmcraig@trinitylutheran.ws

Roy L. Cook
Facility Manager
rlcook@trinitylutheran.ws

Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant