



TRINITY *tidings*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH | MAY 2026

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR....

My beloved friends, and more importantly, brothers and sisters in Christ's love, part of the role of a pastor is to guide and direct a congregation to follow Christ in faithfulness while loving and caring for the flock. This can be a difficult role, that sometimes as seen as contrary, but it is one I take seriously.

Jesus loved his followers. He cared for them and cried for them and put himself out for them. But he did not mince words or tell them life, and especially faithful life, would be easy. Specifically, he said "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me." (Matt 16:24, Mark 8:34 & Luke 9:23).

On July 9th, we will be asking this congregation to make a difficult decision. It is a decision that I expect will not be unanimous, but one I would hope all will both honor its outcome and continue to live as a cohesive community of love and servanthood. I hope everyone will seriously, and even more importantly, prayerfully consider the options, and consider the fullness of each option.

I'd ask that you think not only about what is in your own personal interest, but also, what is in the interest of others. I ask you to consider the effect it will have on other people of this congregation and what will be asked of them. I'd ask that the decision that is made be one that will bring honor and glory to God.

From what I know of faithfulness, I also expect that the more difficult option will likely be the more in keeping with God's plan, and that the more difficult the decision, the more fruitful and beneficial it will be for the members of this congregation. Conversely, taking a choice that is less bold, will likely end up being the more difficult and less faithful path.

Continued on next page...

Pastor Continued...

There are three options offered.

I WILL BE OFFERING A SUMMARY OF EACH PLAN AND ITS POTENTIAL BENEFITS AND COSTS IN A SEPARATE DOCUMENT.

I would ask you to reach and digest each option carefully and individually and pray about it.

Then I would encourage you to read them and compare them and begin the process of digesting them.

FINALLY I WILL ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO PRAY DILIGENTLY ABOUT THIS. PRAY ON YOUR OWN AND PRAY AS A CONGREGATION ON SUNDAYS.

When we pray, we will follow the same general format, so consider what the spirit has revealed to you over the week that you might also voice it on Sunday.

Your voice, might be the voice of God's Spirit for another person.

In Christ,

Pastor John Hildner

PASTORS ABSENCE.....

Pastor John will not be in worship for four straight weeks in late May and most of June. Please, remember him in your prayers, but he wanted to share a little bit about his plans.

On Memorial Day, Pastor John will be traveling with his wife and best friends to Poland. This has been a trip long in the making, and so he will be away on May 31 and June 7.

He returns to Chicago on June 8, but will be leaving on June 12 to visit the Church he started his career in ministry, Advent Lutheran Church in Arlington TX. Advent will be celebrating it's 50th anniversary the year Pastor John celebrates his 40th year since his ordination.

Pastor will return on June 18th in town, but on the weekend of June 20-21, he will be joining with his siblings, children, nephews and nieces and cousins, as they inter both his Mother and Father at St. Luke's Cemetery in Chicago.

He will be back at Trinity on June 28th to lead worship, but his celebrations will continue as that is the third birthday of his granddaughter. Pray God keep him and his family safe in their travels.



**THE HEAVIEST
BURDENS FALL ON
THE SMALLEST
SHOULDERS**

LWR.ORG/CHILDREN

Right now, millions of children are bearing the crushing weight of crisis.

In **Lebanon**, children are living in midst of relentless violence – crowded into shelters, uncertain of food, health care or safety. In **Ecuador**, children of asylum seekers turned away from the U.S. are left with nothing, trapped in limbo and at risk of hunger, homelessness and exploitation.

Our love can help carry the weight.

HOW TO GIVE

You can give directly through Lutheran World Relief at lwr.org/children, by scanning the QR code below or by mailing a check to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061. Please write **CHILDREN** in the memo line.

Gifts can also be made through our congregation. Designate "**LWR CHILDREN**" when making your gift and we will rush a gift from the church to Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you for sharing God's love with our most vulnerable neighbors.

LWR has partners and staff on standby in Lebanon and Ecuador, ready to scale up their response as soon as resources are available.

Until your love reaches every neighbor.



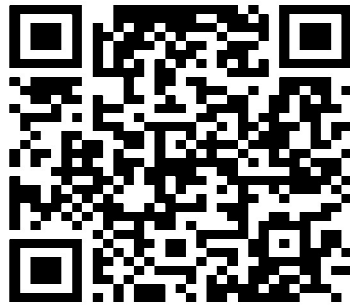
**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

LWR.ORG/CHILDREN

Financial Update: General Fund 2025

| | INCOME | EXPENSES | NET SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT) | SUNDAY AVERAGE ATTENDANCE |
|-----|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jan | \$ 11,098.30 | \$ 15,093.68 | \$ (3,995.38) | 25 |
| Feb | \$ 10,149.70 | \$ 13,588.82 | \$ (3,439.12) | 25 |
| Mar | \$ 10,686.45 | \$ 13,395.28 | \$ (2,708.83) | 25 |
| Apr | \$ 12,618.41 | \$ 12,723.28 | \$ (104.87) | 31 |
| May | \$ 10,455.19 | \$ 11,973.61 | \$ (1,518.42) | 24 |
| Jun | \$ 11,554.78 | \$ 13,140.38 | \$ (1,585.60) | 25 |
| Jul | \$ 11,441.46 | \$ 13,177.53 | \$ (1,736.07) | 28 |
| Aug | \$ 10,751.82 | \$ 12,265.77 | \$ (1,513.95) | 27 |
| Sep | \$ 10,027.30 | \$ 12,253.08 | \$ (2,225.78) | 24 |
| Oct | \$ 11,800.13 | \$ 11,624.84 | \$ 175.29 | 35 |
| Nov | \$ 13,904.40 | \$ 15,084.33 | \$ (1,179.93) | 24 |
| Dec | \$ 35,991.70 | \$ 16,106.91 | \$ 19,884.79 | 26 |
| | \$ 160,479.64 | \$ 160,427.51 | \$ 52.13 | 26 |

Donations can be made electronically from your smartphone using the "Vanco Mobile" app available from the App Store or Google Play, or use our website QR code, or go to the Donations link on our website tlcrm.com or our secure website at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YRVQ/home>



Thank you for your continued support!

THANKS TO ALL WHO WENT ABOVE AND BEYOND, DONATING SO GENEROUSLY IN DECEMBER.

TRINITY WAS ABLE TO END THE YEAR

IN THE BLACK !

TLC CRAFT FAIR

3rd

Saturday of the Month

10 am to 2 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church
Email: TLCMARKETSRM@gmail.com
Phone: (847) 398-7122

Crafters Join us!

SAVE the DATE



The Trinity Ladies Group, will meet on May 12. We will start the meeting at 12 noon and share lunch time together. Afterwards will be trivia sharing!

Why don't you come?

Arlington Heights Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony 2026

The Village of Arlington Heights' [107th Annual Memorial Day Parade](#) will take place on Monday, May 25th, 2026. This annual event is organized by the American Legion and Veterans Memorial Committee of Arlington Heights.

The parade steps off at 9:30 a.m. sharp. The parade begins at Arlington Heights Road and Sigwalt Street, goes west on Sigwalt, turns north on Dunton, turns west on Euclid, and south on Chestnut. The parade concludes at Memorial Park, where the Memorial Day Ceremony takes place, at 11 a.m.



Calling All Veterans! Please Join Us to Participate in the Memorial Day Parade

If you served in any one of the US Military Services, we would be most honored to have you participate in the Memorial Day Parade – and you don't have to be from Arlington Heights. All vets from everywhere are welcome! Please feel free to "fall in" with one of the veterans organizations or join the groups of vets who join the parade. If you need to ride in the parade, we have volunteer Jeeps and trailers to drive you the whole route.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS FOOD PANTRY

The Lutheran Church of the Cross Food Pantry needs our help on Saturday, May 9th anytime between 3:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Postal carriers will be collecting food donations in our area and delivering it to local food pantries that day. The food expiration dates need to be checked, then the food needs to be sorted and packed into boxes.

You can help for whatever amount of time works with your schedule. Lutheran Church of the Cross is located at 2025 S Goebbert Rd in Arlington Heights. Call 847-437-5141 if you need more information. Many hands make light work and your help is appreciated!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Lutheran Community Partners invites you to join with members of local ELCA churches for a food packing event at Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg on Saturday, May 16th, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

There are standing, sitting, or lifting tasks. You can choose from tasks such as labeling, scooping, weighing, sealing, carrying boxes, or restocking supplies.

Together we will pack nutritious meals to help combat hunger and malnutrition in children around the world. Please see the registration form at church for more information.

LUTHERAN COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

Trinity has been engaged with several other Lutheran Churches in Mount Prospect, Prospect Heights and Arlington Heights to discuss ways we can share ministry and strengthen our ministries. The Churches involved beyond Trinity are Grace Lutheran, Lutheran Church of the Cross, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary, and St. Marks, Mt. Prospect.

From these discussions we have participated in a joint Palm Sunday walk and luncheon, and some people have joined us at the Puzzle race and Painting party. Some other things we have talked about is helping share ideas about financial book keeping and auditing, helping those who develop publications learn from each other, as well as to learn about other new software. The hope is that through doing things together, sharing ministry, we might have a bigger impact, be able to advertise more effectively and share things so we are not all reproducing all the same programs and projects.

It does mean sometimes we may lead and other times we may get out of the way so other ministries can have a more powerful impact.

Some things coming up:

- Postal Carriers Food Drive: The Arlington Heights postal carriers bring their collected items to Lutheran Church of the Cross. On May 9 people are needed from about 3pm on to check, sort and organize the food donations received. Lutheran Church of the Cross has received as much as 55 thousand pounds of food.
- Feed My Starving Children: On Saturday, May 16 from 2:30 to about 4 pm, the churches will work together to package food that will feed a family for a day, and communities for a month or more. The work is fun and team building. If you cannot participate, you can donate to purchase the nutritious ingredients.
- Martha and Mary will be having an evening Intergenerational Vacation Bible School that we will be invited to participate in on August 11-13
- Lutheran Church of the Cross offers a monthly "S'More Time with God". An evening of making Smores, sitting around a campfire and building relations while honoring God.
- God's Work, Our Hands is September 12, and we will be looking at some ways that we might be able to gather, share a meal and offer multiple ways to serve God.

Lastly, out of these meetings we have learned and followed through with some conversation with St. Mark, who has been looking for a ¾ time pastor, but they have not found any candidates. Conversation with Trinity has been initiated that if Trinity might be able to fund a ¼ of the funds we could share a pastor. St. Marks is still discerning if this is the right course for them, but it has been discussed at their congregational meeting.

Suggested Scripture Readings for May

| Sundays and Principal Festivals | First Reading | Psalm | Second Reading | Gospel |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 3rd: Fifth Sunday of Easter | Acts 7:55-60 | Ps 31:1-5, 15-16 | 1 Peter 2:2-10 | John 14:1-14 |
| 10th: Sixth Sunday of Easter | Acts 17:22-31 | Ps 66:8-20 | 1 Peter 3:13-22 | John 14:15-21 |
| 14th: Ascension of Our Lord | Acts 1:1-11 | Ps 47 or Ps 93 | Eph 1:15-23 | Luke 24:44-53 |
| 17th: Seventh Sunday of Easter | Acts 1:6-14 | Ps 68:1-10, 32-35 | 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 | John 17:1-11 |
| 24th: Day of Pentecost | Acts 2:1-21 or Num 11:24-30 | Ps 104:24-34, 35b | 1 Cor 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21 | John 20:19-23 or John 7:37-39 |
| 31st: The Holy Trinity | Gen 1:1--2:4a | Ps 8 | 2 Cor 13:11-13 | Matt 28:16-20 |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-----------|--|---|--|
| <p>26</p>  <p>THE GOOD SHEPHERD</p> <p>Good Shepherd Sunday - Special Offering for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois</p> <p>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</p> <p>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> <p>May Birthdays</p> <p>Ralph Cope 06</p> <p>Jaime Vigna 09</p> <p>Denise Wendt 24</p> <p>Ray Kaese 25</p> <p>Ron Hedke 27</p> | | | <p>1</p> | <p>2</p> <p>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</p> |
| <p>3</p> <p>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</p> <p>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>5</p>  <p>Fellowship Committee</p> <p>7:00pm Fellowship Ministry</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7</p>  <p>National Day of Prayer</p> | <p>8</p> | <p>9</p>  <p>Volunteers needed</p> <p>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</p> <p>3:00pm Volunteer at Lutheran Church of the Cross Food Pantry</p> |
| <p>10</p>  <p>Food Collection</p> <p>Mother's Day</p> <p>TLC Second Sunday Cereal Food Drive</p> <p>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</p> <p>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12</p>  <p>Ladies Fellowship</p> <p>12:00pm Talk, Lunch, Crafts - TLC Ladies Club</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p>  <p>ASCENSION Day</p> <p>Ascension of Our Lord</p> | <p>15</p> | <p>16</p>  <p>Craft Fair</p>  <p>Volunteers needed</p> <p>10:00am TLC Craft Fair</p> <p>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Volunteer at Feed My Starving Children Food Packing Event</p> |
| <p>17</p> <p>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</p> <p>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</p> | <p>18</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p>  <p>CHURCH COUNCIL</p> <p>7:00pm TLC Council Meeting</p> | <p>22</p> | <p>23</p> <p>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</p> |
| <p>24</p> <p>Pentecost</p> <p>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</p> <p>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</p> | <p>25</p> <p>Memorial Day</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> | <p>29</p> | <p>30</p> <p>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</p> |
| <p>31</p> <p>Trinity Sunday</p> <p>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</p> <p>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</p> <p>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</p> | <p>1</p> | <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Trinity Lutheran Church</p> <p>3201 Meadow Drive</p> <p>Rolling Meadows, IL 60008</p> <p>847-398-7122</p> <p>www.tlcrm.com</p> </div> | | | <p>5</p>  <p>REGIONAL CONVENTION</p> <p>MCS-ELCA Synod Assembly</p> | <p>6</p>  <p>REGIONAL CONVENTION</p> <p>MCS-ELCA Synod Assembly</p> <p>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</p> |