



Trinity Lutheran Church
605-498-2343
info@teatrinity.org
www.teatrinity.org

TRINITY CONNECTION

AUGUST 11, 2023

“Then he said to them, ‘Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.’” -- Luke 12:15

Dear friends in Christ,

Some of you know that my wife and I like to garden. Last summer I grew a particular sunflower that had over two dozen blossoms on each plant. The flowers were lovely in the garden and found their way into many cut flower arrangements. Because I didn't plant any sunflowers this spring, I was happily surprised when several sunflower plants emerged from our flowerbed from the seeds that naturally dropped last fall. All summer I've been looking forward to seeing them bloom again. Now begins the good news-bad news story.

Even though I know quite a bit about plants, I was deceived by a counterfeit. While several sunflowers did bloom, one especially large plant that I had assumed would blossom yellow recently revealed itself as a noxious weed. I'm not sure what it is called, but it looked like a sunflower right up until blossoming time. Here is a side-by-side comparison of the two. Hmm. That is one wily plant. By closely resembling my desired outcome, I tended it carefully and even “weeded” around a weed. Bah humbug.



I heard a sermon many years ago that described sin as a counterfeit of the good. Unless we are careful, the quest for security for self and family can end with greed sneakily growing up right next to the good intention. I think one of the reasons Jesus warns us about greed is because he knows the bad sometimes masquerades as good. This Sunday we begin a three-week sermon series based on questions that have come from members of the congregation. One of the requests was to hear a sermon about money and tithing. Since Jesus has a lot to say about guarding our hearts so that our possessions don't begin to possess us, nurturing generosity is one of the ways to keep greed at bay.

This afternoon, I'm going to cut down that ugly weed and harvest some authentically beautiful sunflower blossoms.

Peace and best wishes,
Pastor Tom Opoien

Church Calendar

Summer Office Hours

8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Thursday

8:30 am - Noon Friday

Tuesday, August 15

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

11:45 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery

Wednesday, August 16

7:00 pm: Sunday School Volunteer Meeting

Thursday, August 17

11:15 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery

1:30 pm: WELCA Bible Study

4:00-7:00 pm: Preschool Open House

5:00-6:00 pm: Tea Community Food Distribution

5:30 pm: TOPS

Sunday, August 20: Celebration Sunday

8:00 am: Worship; 4 year old Milestone

9:00—12:00 pm Church Directory Signup

9:15 am: Coffee and Cookies; Sunday School Kickoff

10:30 am: Worship (online and in person),
4 year old Milestone

Tuesday, August 22

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

9:30 am: Blood Pressure Screening

10:00 am: Over 55 Group

11:15 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery

Upcoming Important Dates

September 4: Church office closed due to holiday

September 5: Bloodmobile

Attendance

Sunday, August 6

9:00 am: 145

Church Finances

Week of August 6, 2023

Total Operating Cost: \$13,205

Actual Total Giving: \$ 6,676

Difference of: \$ 6,529

Outstanding Expenses: \$35,674

August Globe Offering \$ 65

Total operating cost represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Margaret Larsen at 605-351-8561.

Ways to Give

Online Giving: www.teatrinity.org Click "GIVE"

Text Giving: (605) 777-7223

Envelopes: In-person or Mail to the church

August Globe Offering

FEEDING SD BACKPACK PROGRAM - TEA AREA

Prayer Requests

- Sonia Ensz ▪ Ken Kahl ▪ Greg Myrmoe
- Ray Kelly ▪ Dorothy Fritz
- Melva Hilmoe's brother & Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Michael Schmidt's uncle Larry Schmidt
- Jami Atkin's dad Kevin Roth
- Gordon & Dorothy Fritz's son Carl & daughter Margaret
- Delores Wells' brother & brother-in-law, Roy Wells & Jerry Boellaard
- Amy Kuhnert's family member, Jeremy Josephson
- Larry Panning & Jo Garner's sister-in-law, Pam Panning
- Dick & Alma Gors' friend, Joann Muller
- Sympathy to Jared Frank and family in the passing of his father Dave Frank



Matching Gift: Tea Area Food Pantry

Now—August 18

The Tea Area Food Pantry will be matching donations up to \$1,500 due to a generous anonymous donor. Funds will be matched from now until August 18. Donations can be dropped off in the church office. Please make checks out to "Tea Area Food Pantry". Thank you for your generosity!



WELCA Bible Study

**Thursday, August 17
1:30 pm
in the Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for a faith filled bible study, a short meeting and refreshments! All are welcome.

Tea Community Food Distribution

**Thursday, August 17
5:00 - 6:00 pm
Trinity Lutheran Church**

If you need help with food, or know someone who does, call the church office at 605-498-2343. Registration is required. Please register by Wednesday, August 16th



Celebration Sunday

**Sunday, August 20
8:00 am Worship
9:00 am Signup for Directory Photos
9:15 am Coffee/Cookies & Sunday School
10:30 am Worship
11:30 am Signup for Directory**

Join us as we kick off our fall schedule! We will return to our 2 worship times of 8 am and 10:30 am.

Sunday School will kickoff with the youth meeting their teachers and participating in a God's Work Our Hands service project! Don't worry there is still time to sign up for Sunday School, see article below with registration information.

Check out the "Directory Photo Signup" table to signup for a date to have your family photo taken. More information will be coming out on this soon, watch your newsletter! All are welcome and we can't wait for you to join us!

Milestone Ministry

**4 year old Milestone—Receive Bibles
Sunday, August 20 at 8:00 or 10:30 am**

Join us at either service and we will be handing out story bibles.

Trinity Church Directory

Photo Session Dates:

September 16 - 22

October 1 - 6

October 10 - 14

Specific times will be available at signup..



Trinity Lutheran Church Directory is coming soon! But first we need your photo, our photographer will be available for a variety of dates and times, pick a time that works best for your family! The directory won't be complete without YOU!

Signup will be available August 18th, watch your mailbox in the coming weeks! You can also signup after worship starting August 20th, look for the "Directory Photo Signup" table in the Gathering Space.

You will have the option to view and order your photos directly from the photographers website with no high pressure sales onsite. Plus, digital downloads will be available for purchase!

Printed church directory will be available to purchase or download the free photo directory app! This will allow you to have all your church friends contact info right at your finger tips either in print or on your phone for ease of access. If you have questions, please contact the church office by calling 605-498-2343 or email info@teatrinity.org

Over 55 Group

Tuesday, August 22

9:30 am—Blood Pressure Screening

10:00 am—Meeting and Potluck Lunch

in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for fellowship a short meeting, a presentation of St. Dysmas Prison Congregation, a devotion and a potluck lunch! All are welcome.

OVER
55

Lutheran World Relief school kits now available!

Now — Sept. 30

Back to school sales are starting and our Lutheran World Relief school kits are now available in the Gathering Space to pick up! Each empty bag has a supply list attached. Feel free to pick up a bag and purchase the supplies and return to the Gathering Space by the end of September. Contact the church office with any questions.



2023—2024 Sunday School Registration and Volunteer Signup

Signup for 2023-2024 Sunday School!

- Sunday mornings between worship services (9:15 - 10:15 am)
- First day of Sunday School is Celebration Sunday, August 20th
- Sunday School Ages: Pre-K to 4th grade

We are also looking for volunteers of all kinds:

classroom teachers, music leaders, occasional volunteers and junior teachers!

Call the church office to register or learn more at 605-498-2343!

2023—2024 Kids For Christ (KFC) Registration

Wednesday evenings
7:15—8:15 pm
following 6:30 pm worship

2023-2024 KFC Registration is open! KFC (Kids for Christ) Youth Group meets on Wednesday evenings during the school year - alternating 5th grade one week and 6th grade the next week. These early middle school years can be challenging for kids to navigate. KFC offers an opportunity for them to come together to learn how to grow their relationship with God, learn how to grow their relationships with each other, and we have some fun along the way. We also provide various music, service projects, and volunteer opportunities throughout the year.
Call the church office to register or learn more at 605-498-2343!

2023—2024 Confirmation Registration

Wednesday evenings
7:15—8:15 pm
following 6:30 pm worship

2023-2024 Confirmation Registration is open! Confirmation meets on Wednesday evenings during the school year and is for 7th and 8th graders!
Call the church office to register or learn more at 605-498-2343!



Trinity Lutheran Preschool registration is still open!

3 & 4 year olds
Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 11:00 am

4 & 5 year olds (Pre-K)
Monday/Wednesday/Friday
8:30 - 11:30 am

Trinity Lutheran Preschool 2023-2024 registration is available and we have a few openings left. We are a Christ-centered preschool with play based learning program. Our themed lessons and virtue focus will enrich the whole child by incorporating all learning styles and senses. Learning outcomes will enhance a child's spiritual, social-emotional, physical and intellectual development.
Call the church office for more information or to register.

Meal Train for Sonia Ensz and family: Shared by Kerri Plucker

Kerri Plucker has started a Meal Train for Sonia Ensz and family. Sonia is finally home and resting!! This was created to ease the burden of meal planning. Any support and help is very appreciated by the Ensz family! God Bless! Contact the church office for more details regarding the signup.

Thank you from Wulf family

Thank you to the members of Trinity for the many prayers offered for our niece Grace Dainauski. Prayers were answered and continue to be answered.
God is good, Clayton and Megan Wulf and family

August Food Pantry Donation: Cream Soups

Due to the raising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients in the past few months. We are featuring a monthly collection item. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when out shopping to help those in need! In the month of August we will be collecting cream soups. Donations can be dropped off in the Gathering Space. If you have questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact the church office or call Ruth at 605-321-7325.

Trinity's Quilters Group meet once a month on the first Wednesday of the month. Join us, no sewing experience is necessary!

