



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

TRINITY CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 3, 2023

Dear friends in Christ,

Most of us would agree with Oscar Wilde when he writes, “A fool knows the price of everything and the value of nothing.” We also would agree that the most important things in life aren’t things at all.

Still, we sometimes forget and fall back into the habit of placing too much value on our personal possessions. Our tendency toward this idolatry is why Jesus regularly contrasts wisdom and foolishness in his teaching and preaching around the topic of money and possessions. Repeatedly, we hear the theme. A wise man builds his house on rock while the foolish man builds on the liquid foundation of sand, a foolish farmer puts his deepest trust in larger granaries instead of trusting the creator who gave life both to the seed and the farmer. Do not store up treasures of possessions on earth because where your treasure is your heart will follow.

Jesus gives his followers a way to approach possessions and wealth that help us own the possessions instead of the possessions owning us. That approach is gratitude, generosity, and trust. We these three core values are seen especially in Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount in Matthew five and six.

Gratitude. Jesus invites us to view everything that we have as a gift from God. As we regularly say together in the offertory prayer, “ourselves, our time, and our possessions.” And in the Lord’s Prayer, “Give us this day our daily bread.” We are grateful for all that God gives.

Generosity. We are invited to hold on to our possessions lightly and be intentional about giving them away. Christian generosity is an act of worship, a sacrificial discipline, and our duty and delight.

Trust. Whether we have many possessions or few, we trust that God will provide. Do not worry about possessions but strive for the kingdom of God and these things will be given to you as well.

Over the next two weeks as we all take part in our congregation’s annual reminder about gratitude and generosity, may we be reminded where our deepest value is found, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Peace and best wishes,
Pastor Tom Opoien

Milestone Ministry

High School Milestone—Balancing Work, School and Play

Celebration:

Wednesday, Nov 8 at 6:30 pm worship

5th Grade Milestone - First Communion

Lesson #1 Sunday, Nov. 5
9:15 - 10:15 am
in the Fellowship Hall

Lesson #2: Sunday, Nov. 12
9:15 - 10:15 am
in the Fellowship Hall

Lesson #3: Saturday, Nov. 18
9:00 am - Noon
in the Fellowship Hall

Celebration:

Sunday, Nov. 19 at 8:00 am or 10:30 am worship or Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 pm worship

Join Deacon Christie and learn about what communion means. In the Lutheran Church, we have 2 sacraments, Holy Communion and Baptism. Each is a gift from God. Communion is not a reward for the completion of these sessions but instead a gift to explore what Holy Communion means to us as believers.

Trinity Lutheran Blood Drive

Monday, November 13

9:00 am - Noon and 1:30 - 5:00 pm

in the East Parking Lot

We will be hosting a Blood Drive once again. The blood bank is looking for a big turnout to boost their low levels. Call the church office to signup!

Trinity's Pizza Ranch Night

Monday, Nov. 13

5:00—8:00 pm

Pizza Ranch, Tea SD

Back by popular demand, Trinity's Pizza Ranch night is back! Bring your friends, family or neighbors and join us at Pizza Ranch in Tea for dinner. Trinity will receive 10% of the dine in orders plus any money put in the tip jars. We can't wait for you to join us!



Fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering: Date Night Daycare

Friday, Nov. 17

6:00 - 10:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

\$10 Donation suggested per child

Registration deadline: Wednesday, Nov. 15

Back by popular demand! Enjoy a night out and support Trinity's Youth! All proceeds will go toward the youth attending this summer's mission trip to Wausau, WI. We welcome kids ages 1-12 year olds. Food will be provided from 6:30-7:00 pm. Contact the church office for more information or to signup.

College Student Care Packages Donations Needed

Donations due to the church office: Sunday, Nov. 19

The Board of Outreach is needing donations of snacks (individual size) to help fill their care packages that will be sent to Trinity's college students! Monetary donations will also be accepted to help buy additional snacks and postage. If you have questions, contact the church office at 605-498-2343

Hy-Vee Scrip Cards Available: Limited Availability

We have a limited number of Hy-Vee Scrip Cards available. First come, first serve! 5% of the sales go back to the youth to help pay for the youth attending the 2024 National Youth Gathering or summer camps! Thank you for your continued support of Trinity's youth!

Thank you from Journey of Hope!

Thank you for partnering with the non-profit, Journey of Hope. The generous donations of deodorant and toothpaste are greatly appreciated. You have helped bring dignity to those in need.



Volunteer Drivers Needed

Did you know that Trinity partners with Active Generations and are a host site for the meals to be picked up? The Meals on Wheels program consists of a hot meal delivered to client's door between 10:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Trinity Lutheran delivers meals every

Thursday and we are looking for one or two more volunteer drivers. The route typically takes 30-40 minutes and all deliveries are in Tea city limits. Volunteer would deliver roughly every 2 months! If interested, contact the church office by calling 605-498-2343

Winter gear now available and accepting donations!

Items most in need:

- Adult coats (sizes XL, XXL, XXXL)
- Kids boots (all sizes)
- Kids coats and snow pants (all sizes)



Board of Outreach is collecting new and gently used cold weather gear in the east entrance of the church and is available to the public. We are currently collecting coats, jackets, snow pants, hats, gloves, and boots that will be made available to our neighbors in the community. Used items are accepted, but please launder before you drop them off. We accept new items as well. Simply drop off the items in the bin in the Gathering Space. If you have questions, contact the church office at 605-498-2343

November Food Pantry Donation: Hamburger & Tuna Helper

With the raising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when shopping to help those in need! In the month of November we will be collecting hamburger and tuna helper. 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.

Congratulations to Trinity's 2023 Confirmation Students!

Evan Atkins
Landen Bolte
Addison Brech
Samuel Bullis
Emersyn Cauwels
Tygan Fischer
Tyler Frank
Avery Franzen
Lauren Gearman
Avery Hangman

Torsten Haugen
Benjamin Heibult
Levi Hinman
Jaxon Johanneson
Brax Johnson
Wyatt Kleinschmit
Daylen McKnelly
Sophia McNaughton
Shayden Olean
Hudson Petersen

Ariana Poppens
Reyna Reisenweber
Brandt Smolik
Anna Somsen
Piper Stadtfeld
Sydney Stahlecker
Miah Thorstenson
Leah Walder
Alexandra Wallum

Trinity Lutheran Preschool had so much fun at their Halloween parties this week!



Thank you to everyone who came out to the Truck or Treat at St. Nicholas, it was chilly but fun!

