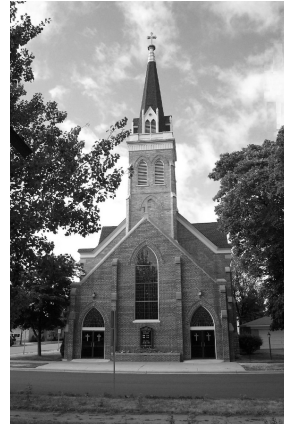




Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School



Trinity Tidings

Volume 17, Issue 3
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What's Next?

The past few months have shown us that we can't live on earth forever. With the hurricanes, fires, viruses, murder hornets, tornados, and flooding, it is apparent that this world is not a safe place.

Those same months have shown us that we're not going to create a heaven on earth either. We witnessed rage, injustice, riots, looting, hatred, bickering, and blame. There are plenty of complaints and very few answers.

The news sounds more and more like Jesus' description of the days before Judgment Day. He told us to expect earthquakes, famines and plagues (Luke 21:11). He said that people would persecute, betray, hate, and deceive. He warned us that lawlessness would increase and that love would grow cold (Matthew 23:10-12).

The good news is that Jesus didn't stop there. He told us that the gospel will be preached to all nations (Mark 13:10). He said that we will survive the signs (Luke 21:18). He promised that we will be saved (Matthew 23:13).

Things seem different these days. We have masks, restrictions, mandates, and confusion. Church is different, too. More and more



Trinity Ev. Lutheran
Church & School

1501 Thomas Street
Marinette, WI 54143
715-732-9868
Trinitymarinette.com

Mission Statement:

"Lighting the Way"

John 8:12: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Matthew 5:16: let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

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ministry is online and it's a challenge to share the Gospel in our community. We don't get to meet together to encourage each other and study God's Word as we used to do.

But even more is still the same. People are not really any different than they have been since the Fall into sin. The need for forgiveness and salvation is still critical. And God's promises are still good. Jesus' death on the cross still forgives sin and God still saves people through Word and Sacraments.

It is ever more important that we show the love of God to each other and share the message of salvation in our community. We are a light shining in the deepening darkness. There has never been a greater need for us to live our faith and to serve one another in love.

With all the new mandates, we've had to rearrange our lives. You may have found yourself spending more time with your family. Let's spend more time with our Lord, too. Pray together for our country, our community, our church, our school, and our friends. Study the Word together. Greet your neighbors and bless them. Tell them you're praying for them and ask how they are faring.

Love one another. Love each other the way Jesus loves us. People can see Jesus when we do. And God might just give us a chance to tell people about our loving Savior with people who want to share a little bit of that love.

God bless you as we walk together through this dark valley. We are not alone. Psalm 23:4.



A Note from the Principal's Desk

Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church. Sounds like a typical greeting and you know right away whom I am addressing, Members. So what is a member? The Dictionary defines member as *noun* 1. a person, animal, or plant belonging to a particular group. I am sure a lot of people are members of a bunch of different things such as gyms, sporting teams, or other organizations. As members we enjoy some sort of benefit and a sense of belonging by being a member to a particular group or organization. I would go on to guess that most people are active members and contribute to the organization in some way shape or form.

As members of Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church we are a group of like minded believers in Christ and are all members of God's family through faith in Jesus. It seems that some members believe their salvation is linked to being members of the physical church in some way. We have members that are members but never attend church or any functions or serve on any boards. One of the benefits to being a member and attending church is to be encouraged in our faith by seeing all those who have the same beliefs as we do. Our salvation is guaranteed through faith in Jesus and not as members of the building in which we gather to worship our savior.

As members we need to take an active role in the church to support the preaching of the word of God. God says in Hebrews 10:25, NIV: "**not giving up meeting together**, as some are in the habit of **doing**, but encouraging one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Also in James 2:17, NIV;" In the same way, faith by itself, if not accompanied by action is dead." In Revelation 3:15-17, NIV: "I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either or the other! 16 So, because you are lukewarm--neither hot or cold--I am about to spit you out of my mouth. 17 You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not know you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked." We often avoid church because our sinful nature does not want to hear the

hard truth, that we need our Savior and will be lost if we reject him. We come to church to serve our Lord not to be served and show our appreciation for the sacrifice our Lord and Savior made to save those that would reject him.

This is a call to action. We have many opportunities to serve our Lord and show our respect and gratitude for all He has done. We can all find a way to serve in the house of the Lord and share the Gospel especially in these dark and uncertain times. We are always in need for ushers and greeters. We are looking to live stream the 8 am service if you are interested in helping with that contact Pastor. We could use help with folding bulletins, doing the slides for the service, helping with the food pantry. We welcome anyone who is willing to help. May the Lord guide you and bless you always.

Donn Yunke
Chairman of the Board of Elders

Board of Education Report: Fall 2020

Members of the Board: Tim Baneck (chairman), Kris Charapata (treasurer), Paul Kamin (secretary), Todd Thayer.

We Need You to Serve: The Board of Education currently has 2 vacancies. Please consider serving the Lord in this leadership role. Contact Tim Baneck (715-330-5250) for details.

PreK Enrollment Total:

16 (2020-21)
24 (2019-20)
22 (2018-19)
24 (2017-18)

K-8 Student Enrollment:

46 (2020-21)
51 (2019-20)
40 (2018-19)
40 (2017-18)
46 (2016-17)
39 (2015-16)

School Choice Enrollment:

21 2020-21	(19 FTE)
17 2019-20	(16 FTE)
16 2018-19	(13.5 FTE)

School Staff:

Teachers/Principal = 4 faculty (3.5 FTE)
Classroom Aides = 2 part-time (PK and K-1 classroom)
Afternoon Daycare for PK = (21.25 hrs/week)
School Secretary = 1 part-time (21.25 hrs/week)
School Janitor = 1 part-time (15 hrs/week)

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program: This program offers FREE tuition for families who live in Wisconsin and meet certain income requirements. If you know of someone in the region who desires a Christian Education for their child, have them contact Principal Danell at 715-732-2956 or Tim Baneck at 715-330-5250. Registration for the 2021-22 school year begins in February and ends in April.

2020-21 Goals: (Developed by Faculty and Board of Education)

WELSSA: Complete a total of 265 standards by January 31, 2021

Identify curriculum and assessment resources for Social Studies to align with learning standards

Develop stronger relationships between our school and church: a) better communication; b) all member families send their children to TLS; c) more member involvement in the school

Highlights Since the Last Newsletter:

1. The first day of school for K-8 students was August 24. Preschool started September 3.
2. TLS is providing face-to-face instruction to students every scheduled day of school. A pandemic plan was developed and approved by the Board to address how to deal with any potential COVID infections by students and/or staff
3. We received our Chromebook computing devices in August so that all grade 2-8 students will have access to instructional lessons via the Internet. These digital learning devices are being used in class, and, if there is a need to provide distance learning, students will be able to use one of the Chromebooks to continue their learning progressions at home.
4. To increase health safety for students and staff, funds from the MJ Trust were used to install 6 “touchless” bathroom sinks as well as a water cooler that enables touchless use/water bottle filling.
5. The ½ time teacher vacancy is being filled by long-term substitute teachers Kelly Danell and Beth Kamps. Additional principal release time is also being provide by having our school secretary supervise lunch and recess duty for an additional 1 hour/day.
6. Sunday School will be offered online, starting September 27. Contact the Church or School Office for more details.
7. Confirmation classes have begun with three instructional options: 1) face-to-face in church basement, 2) online, 3) materials available on the web site for parents to teach children at home.