





Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School

Trinity Tidings

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I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go the house of the LORD." –PSALM 122:1

Aren't we all looking forward to that—to the day when we can *all* gather again in God's house to praise his holy name together? When God ends the pandemic, the government lifts the restrictions, and we can gather freely again to worship together.

We're still worshiping. We're still serving. But we're not doing it together. Some of us are gathering in the Lord's house, six feet away from our brothers and sisters in Christ. Some of us are watching live-streamed and recorded services from home, connected in the Word, but separated physically.

We might even be getting used to it.

There are, after all, some advantages to worshiping at home in front of a computer. We can sleep in a little bit. We can worship in our pajamas with our coffee in our hands. We don't have to drive anywhere and our couches are definitely more comfortable than the church pews.

So, when we can worship together again, will we? Or will we just keep watching live-streamed worship from the comfort of our living rooms?

What would God have us do?

Whenever God describes worship in the Bible, he talks about people gathering. The infant Christian church was "devoted to meeting in the temple area, as they continued to break bread in their homes" (Acts 2:46). God urges his children in Hebrews 10:25: "Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have the habit of doing. Rather let us encourage each other." When Jesus promised his presence, he said, "where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them" (Matthew 18:20).

Worship at home is definitely convenient, but are we meeting together? Are we encouraging each other? Are we gathering in his name?

We will always do everything we can to bring the Word to everyone who cannot meet with us in the Lord's house. But, for everyone who can, there is no substitute for meeting together in God's house—praying together, singing together, celebrating communion together, encouraging each other, and sharing God's love with each other.

I am looking forward to being able to meet with you in God's house just as soon as the restrictions are lifted.

I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go the house of the Lord!"

Rw. Jon & Leid

A Note from the Principal's Desk

Greetings to you from the faculty, staff, and students of Trinity Lutheran School!

We have so many blessings to share! As I have mentioned in previous articles, and it still holds true, we continue to be open for in-person instruction five days a week! We are thankful for a fantastic staff who is doing what they can to stop the spread of germs.

Recently, a team of four educators visited our school to evaluate our ministry through the WELSSA accreditation process. A total of 279 standards were evaluated. We are excited to announce that we have been recommended for full accreditation by WELSSA and the National Council of Private Schools beginning with the 2021-2022 school year! This will be a huge recruitment tool moving forward as well as a confirmation of the fact that we have a GREAT school! God is good!

The school continues to benefit from financial assistance (ESSER and GEER funds) for school items that help mitigate the spread of COVID. We recently purchased many additional math and science manipulatives so that there would be significantly less sharing of items between students and classrooms. Some of the items purchased consisted of fractional pieces, base-10 blocks, magnatiles, sets of 3D shapes, play money, and personal mini whiteboards. These little things serve such a big purpose in student learning, and we are very thankful for them!

Our Preschool and Kindergarten Open House is on March 11. If you know of anyone who would be interested in learning more about Trinity, please have them call the school at (715) 732-2956. We are always looking to increase our enrollment so that more and more families can benefit from a solid Christian education. Our enrollment process for the 2021-2022 school year is just getting underway. Families can register early to get a discount on their registration fees.

May God continue to bless you!

News from the Board of Education

CONGRATULATIONS ON BECOMING NATIONALLY ACCREDITED: A team of outside educators recently performed an assessment of educational practices, staff qualifications, curriculum, and many other school operations to conclude that Trinity meets and exceeds national school accreditation standards. Many thanks to all staff and members of the congregation who participated in the preparation for the on-site visit, especially Principal Josh Danell and the teachers. This work started in 2018, with many hours of work to show evidence of proficiency in the hundreds of educational standards that needed to be met.

WISCONSIN PARENTAL CHOICE PROGRAM FOR FREE TUITION: The online application window is February 1 through April 15, 2021. Contact the school (715-732-2956) to see if your child qualifies for a tuition voucher. As of February 28, we have received 13 student applications for the 2021-22 school year. We currently have 21 school choice students enrolled at TLS.

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR! Contact our school office (715-732-2956) to learn more about Trinity Lutheran School, take a school tour, and/or talk with Principal Josh Danell.

PRE-SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE: On March 11, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Contact the school office to set up a 15-minute appointment to tour the school and meet the teachers.

THE BENEFITS OF A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AT TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL (TLS):

In a world where Christian beliefs seem under assault, parents can be assured that their child will benefit from a Christ-centered education such as what is provided at TLS. Below are just some of the many benefits:

- Immersion in the word of God. Needless to say, daily exposure to Biblical lessons reinforces the moral and spiritual development of growing children who receive steady leadership from their teachers.
- Christian educational materials. Public-school materials typically lack a Christian viewpoint and may even actively disparage Christian values. TLS uses curriculum materials that align with our Christian values, and the school's library can exercise greater care in avoiding inappropriate books.
- **Superior academic achievement.** A Christian school tends to attract highly dedicated teachers who are motivated to teach students who themselves are motivated to learn and excel.
- **Emphasis on shared values.** Being surrounded on a daily basis by like-minded individuals experiencing the same Christian education helps greatly with maturing your child into a responsible adult who understands how to live every day in God's love with equally moral neighbors.
- Social interaction with peers. Students are able to interact and make friends with other practicing Christians in a way that is less lonely than struggling through the daily challenges of dealing with ignorant or even outright amoral individuals with no understanding of the message of the Bible and no respect for the supreme sacrifice made by Christ.
- **Respect for family values.** TLS recognizes the critical role of parents and will keep in close touch with parents over issues arising from their children's spiritual and educational development.
- Safe, disciplined, family environment. Clear rules and an expectation of self-disciplined behavior from pupils does wonders in encouraging inner reserves of dignity, respect, and safety for other people. TLS is a small school with a family atmosphere, where students are not just a number but personally understood and cared for by every staff member.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES: Scholarship applications will be available later in March and the Scholarship Committee will meet to determine the scholarship awards by May 1. For new families and those who may have encountered financial challenges since March, another window of opportunity will be available in early fall.

Colfax Street Reconstruction Project

The City of Marinette will reconstruct Colfax Street as part of the 2021 Street Construction Program. The project limits are Newberry Avenue to Carney Boulevard. The construction starts May 1st and is estimated to be completed in 60 days.

Trinity Lutheran PTO

Hello Trinity members,

We would like to take this opportunity and introduce you to the Trinity School PTO, and tell you some things that we have been working on.

This year our PTO board consists of: President: Amy Peterson, Secretary: Meghan Rutherford, and Co-Treasurers: Katelyn Mackay and Chelsea Monfils. With COVID and the daily changes that it brings with it we have shifted gears and turned to holding monthly virtual meetings. We are hoping next year we can get back to face to face meetings!

We started our year off with our annual Christmas wreath fundraiser, we sold a total of 75 wreaths this year. These wreaths are made locally here in Marinette and are a great fundraiser for us.

We decided this year that we want to incorporate some service projects for the students and families to take part in. In December we did a food drive which brought in a total of 827 items, which stayed right here in the church and our community.

In January we did a Penny War again between all of the classrooms. The kids had a lot of fun putting silver coins, which were negative points into the buckets of the other classes. This ran for two weeks and the students and families brought in a total of \$809.59 to be put towards field trips.

February we ran another service project this time focusing on our local health care workers. We teamed up with the Bellin Clinic in Marinette and had the students and families bring in some much appreciated items for the staff.

For March we are doing a new fundraiser program for us called the "Believe fundraiser" this is an online fundraiser and items are shipped as fast as 72 hours from the order date. Think of it like Amazon.. Only benefiting the school. We are trying to raise enough funds to purchase rubber mulch for the playground.

We truly appreciate all of the support that you give towards the PTO.

God's Blessings, Trinity Lutheran PTO