

*****Trinity at a Glance*****

September 6, 2026

- **SHARE YOUR LOVE FOR JESUS TO THE NEXT GENERATION**

Teach a Sunday Session lesson! You can lead on already designed and prepared for you or you may create your own. Session themes are listed next to each date on the sign up sheet on the information Kiosk. Put your name on the line next to the date you want to lead a lesson, and the Christian Education Committee will prepare everything you need (a member of the Committee will accompany you, also). Thank you for helping to speak the good news of God's love for all people to our youth. Sharing your faith makes a difference!

- **Help Us Open the Community Clothing Closet!**

In collaboration with **Partners in Pride**, Trinity is creating a **free, gender-affirming community clothing closet** in the former Rummage Sale room off Fellowship Hall. We have lots of great clothing ready to go-and we're hoping to open the closet by October! Now we just need a few volunteers to help organize the space, arrange the clothing, and make it welcoming and easy to use. Would you be willing to lend a hand one **Sunday morning after worship or sometime during the week?** Even a few hours would make a big difference. **Sign up at the back of the church with a day and time that works for you.** With a little help, we can get this important ministry and community outreach up and running!

- **Fall Book Club: The Divine Art of Dying**

How do we prepare to live well all the way to life's end? What does our Christian faith have to say about hope, letting go, reconciliation, gratitude, and the promise that nothing can separate us from the love of God? This Fall, TLC Book Club invites you into a thoughtful and compassionate conversation as we read *The Divine Art of Dying* by Herbert Anderson and Karen Speerstra. Written by a pastoral theologian and a hospice patient, the book explores the spiritual journey of preparing for our own deaths-not with fear, but with honesty, faith, and grace. Pick up your copy from

<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/9781506478876/The-Divine-Art-of-Dying-Second-Edition>

Please note: this is not a class about dying; it is a conversation about living faithfully in light of God's promise. This will be a welcoming space for conversation, reflection, and prayer. *All are welcome!*

We will meet on **Tuesdays at 6pm, in the Education Building Community Room:**

September 8: Read Part 1

September 22: Read Part 3

September 15: Ready Part 2

September 29: Read Part 4

- **Rotary Club** will be hosting a **Culver's Night on Wednesday, September 16th, 5-8pm. Come out and join the fun!**

- **Rally Day** will be Sunday, **September 13th, 9am. Volunteers are needed for Rally Day!** The Volunteer Sign Up Sheet is in the back of the Sanctuary by Java Junction. Come sign up! Have fun and help us make this a successful event!

- The next **Trinity Lutheran Blood Drive** is happening **Wednesday, September 16th, 12pm to 5pm.** For an appointment call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Appointments are preferred but not necessary. Contact Carol Wahlstrom for more information, carolwahlstrom@gmail.com , and to volunteer.

At our last blood drive on August 19th, **the Red Cross collected 21 units of blood!** Thank you Trinity Lutheran for giving your time, your generosity and the gift of life!

- **Affirmation class and first Sunday Session** will begin at **9am September 20th.**

- **Sunday, September 20th is Quilt Sunday** this year. Quilt Sunday is a beautiful display of the Trinity Stitches' work laid out on the pews in the Sanctuary. You don't want to miss this!

- **German Dinner Tickets** are on sale now at \$20 each. Tickets can be purchased at the Office during regular business hours, from any Rotary member or by calling 815-343-7655. Save the date in your calendar; **Friday, September 25th 5-7pm** at Trinity Lutheran Church. Proceeds support Rotary's scholarships for Marquette Academy, Ottawa High School Opportunity School, IVCC, and Trinity Rose Montessori School.

- **Mission and Outreach Committees want to express their thanks to everyone who supported last Sunday's free community meal.** Whether you provided food items or helped out serving in the kitchen, your assistance was greatly appreciated. Approximately 100 meals were served. Thank you for sharing some TLC love in our community!

- **Save the Date! Saturday, October 10th, 6pm**, in collaboration with Partners In Pride, Trinity will be showing “**1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture.**” This **free showing** is of a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations, and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the personal stories of the film’s creators. 1946 is at once challenging, enlightening, and inspiring.
- **Partners in Pride are in need of hangers for their Community Closet.** If you have any extras please bring them to the Church Office in the Education Building, Mon-Fri, 9-2 pm.
- **The 2027 calendars are in!** The suggested donation is \$25. However, people are asked to give as their heart leads. Calendars are available by contacting either Kate Reed (815) 830-2061 or Marj Nelson (815) 973-1286 by phone or text. There are also a few in the Office for purchase. Profits from the sale of the calendar will go towards funding the Growing Hope Globally Project.
- Another **Objective of the Growing Hope Globally Project** is to implement and consolidate short marketing chains, community fairs, and local public procurement that favor fair prices for producers and consumers and prioritize the exchange of fresh, nutritious, and culturally relevant products; such as to establish value chains for avocado, sheep, and textile products. **Please consider donating to this worthy cause!**
- As announced, **Church Council and Pastor Phil are prayerfully exploring a potential partnership with Open Table United Church of Christ.** Open Table’s leadership has approached Trinity about using available space on the main floor of the Education Building as they consider their future facility needs.



No decision has been made. If an agreement is reached, the arrangement could provide additional opportunities for shared worship, fellowship, and community ministry, while generating at least \$1,000 per month in additional income for Trinity. The Council recognizes that there are practical questions to consider, including scheduling, building use, responsibilities, liability, and finances. Just as importantly, the congregation is invited to consider what sharing its building might say about Trinity’s commitment to hospitality, welcome, and making room for its neighbors.

Congregational conversations will be scheduled for after worship on Sunday, September 6th and Sunday, September 13th (Rally Day). This will be an opportunity for Trinity members to ask questions, share concerns, and listen together. Questions may be submitted in advance to Pastor Phil or Council Officers Mike Matteson and Carol Wahlstrom. Please join the Council in prayerful discernment as Trinity considers how God may be calling our congregation to use the space entrusted to it. Thank you!

- **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Please pray for Sandy’s health and Kim Wahl’s health.

- **THIS WEEK @ TRINITY:**

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| ○ Monday (9/7): | | <i>Office Closed in Honor of Labor Day</i> |
| ○ Tuesday (9/8): | 10a | Sit Fit (Community Room) |
| | 6p | Book Club (Education Building) |
| | 7p | Finance Committee (Board Room) |
| ○ Wednesday (9/9) | 1p | Bible Study (Community Room) |
| | 6:30 | Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) |
| ○ Thursday (9/10): | 10a | Sit Fit (Community Room) |
| | 1p | Trinity Stitchers (Sewing Room) |
| ○ Friday (9/11): | | <i>Patriot Day</i> |
| ○ Saturday (9/12): | | Noon Voter Registration |
| ○ Sunday (9/13): | | <i>Pastor’s 5 year anniversary at Trinity!</i> |
| | | <i>Rally Day!</i> |
| | 9a | Sunday Session |
| | 10a | Holy Communion (Sanctuary) |