



August 2026

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

The Trinity Lutheran

100 Year Centennial 1928 - 2028

We strive to reach and welcome all with the love of Christ

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK: *Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! - Psalm 150:6*

A blessed August to each one of you. Words cannot express how much I miss you, and the life of Christ we share together. I look forward to the day I can return to you as your pastor and continue growing together with God's Word as our center once again.

I am truly thankful for each service we have had since I have been gone, with so many people stepping out of their comfort zones. I see God breaking out in this community of disciples, some taking a lead role in the service, with readings, and even preaching! I watch the services with joy (and sorrow at not being there). I am so thankful for our Council President, Bob Guinn, and everyone on Council, as they have stepped up and helped to lead our community of disciples in this time of uncertainty which none of us ever anticipated would occur. I pray to our good, gracious, and healing God that we need never experience it again, and that healing comes swiftly to all who suffer from chronic illnesses. And I am very thankful that our beloved Synod send us the kind and most caring Pastor Carla Rush as an interim pastor, to give Holy Communion, the Word of God, and to care for you as a good pastor would. I know you will welcome her with a Trinity welcome that only you can.

During a test a few months ago, it was discovered that I would need to have surgery for something which I had no idea I had. This was discovered during a test for something completely different, not what the test was looking for; it was simply an "incidental finding." And God carried me through successfully. I may need another surgery, but time will tell. I continue to see doctors to push them to help me find answers to this chronic disequilibrium I am experiencing. This is a frustratingly slow process, but I am determined to become well again, and resume once again all the joys I have experienced as your pastor.

I rejoice and praise the Lord every day that Trinity, Olney, is where I landed as your pastor. I praise the Lord in thanksgiving, even before the healing answer is here, that I may be restored to you soon, and begin once again worshipping our Creator God, Three-in-One, together.

Thank you, Trinity, for your continued faithfulness of loving our God and meeting together to worship God as a community, and continuing to love and care for each other and our entire community.

With hope for our future together, I pray blessings for every one of you.

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Pastor Kathi



Give Hope. Take Action. Share Faith.

PULPIT SUPPLY

August 2	Babbs Pitts	Service of the Word
August 9	Pastor Carla Rush	Holy Communion
August 16	Autumn Ryden	Service of the Word
August 23	Pastor Carla Rush	Holy Communion
August 30		



June 9, 2026

Present: Bob Guinn (President), Steve Berry (Worship), Carol Diel (Service/Witness), Mark Scherer (Treasurer), Becky Cantrell (Secretary), Liam Ryden (Youth), Guest from our Congregation: Barb Stiff, Absent: Pastor Kathi, Autumn Ryden (Stewardship), Chuck Sanders (Property) and Karyn St. Pierre (Fellowship)

- The meeting was called to order by Bob Guinn the Council President. Bob started the meeting with prayer. This was followed with opening devotions.
- Mark Scherer then went over the pages of the Financial report. The motion was made by Steven Berry to accept the Financial Report and second by Carol Diel, the motion passed.
- The next item listed on the Council's Agenda was the Pastor's Report and Bob Guinn informed the Council that we currently haven't received a report from Pastor Kathi. Bob Guinn also informed the Council members that we will have a short meeting with Pastor Amy Zietlow following our worship service the following Sunday morning and asked that we all attend.
- The Church's sign has been moved from Nathan Steven's location on Main Street and is now located across from the Olney IGA, Brian Scherer's property, west of the Ole Print Shop.
- This was followed by some discussion on the new automatic doors that have been installed at the west entrance of the church. All Council Members present voiced that they were happy with the way the new automatic door openers are working.
- The Council Members had a discussion then as to what should be done with all the items left over from the Pre-School. Mark Scherer was going to contact other Pre-schools in the area.
- This was followed by a brief discussion about a satellite office.
- Bob Guinn let us know about an e-mail he had received from Pastor about A Synod Assembly offering for Madagascar.
- The Council Members then discussed the Diaper Bank.
- The Council Members then discussed getting quotes on carpet for the narthex, parlor, and the church offices.
- Next Mark Scherer talked about where things are with Vacation Bible School, Mark thinks they have plenty of volunteers. Bible School this year will be July 6,7,8, & 9.
- Then Steven Berry (Worship), presented to the Council the request regarding ordering 100 All Creation Sings Hymnals. Carol Diel made the motion to order the motion was second by Becky Cantrell motion carried.
- Steven Berry motioned to approve the reports. Mark Scherer seconded the motion the motion carried.
- Adjournment with the Lord's Prayer

Becky Cantrell
(Secretary)



Our church family mourns the loss of **Karyn St. Pierre**, a devoted servant of God whose unwavering faith and dedication left a permanent mark on our church. Please join us in lifting up her family in prayer.

SPECIAL CARE MEMBERS

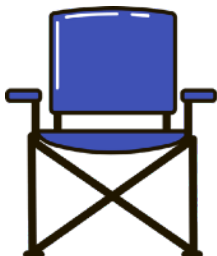
Tessie Anderson
Brookstone Estates, Room 3
1110 N East St
Olney, IL 62450

AT HOME MEMBERS

Audrey Scherer
600 S Christy Ave
Sumner, IL. 62466
Norma Jean Scherer
1807 Hall St
Olney, IL. 62450

Play in the Park

Saturday Aug 15, 5 - 7 p.m.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

3 Jeff Pipher
4 Bob Guinn
9 John Ashby
9 Jean Weber
10 Kacie Rodgers
10 Susan Stark
12 Becky Cantrell
13 Chloe St. Pierre
15 JoAnn Jennings
15 Covington Trout
16 Tyler Stuck
17 Carol Diel
18 Lisa Holdren
19 Matt Powell
25 Kathy Cook
29 Susie Graham
31 Sandy Britton



ANNIVERSARIES

1 John & Connie Ashby
10 Brad & Lora Stuck
19 Chuck & Carol Diel
29 Sam & Kacie Rogers

Someone You Should Know!



LIVE

LOVE

Volunteer Spotlight



TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH (ELCA)

Steve Berry

How long have you been part of Trinity Lutheran? I have been a part of Trinity Lutheran since shortly after birth.

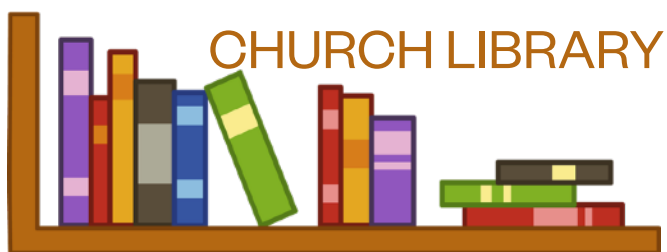
What are you passionate about? How did you discover that passion? I have a passion for people. I have had a passion for music since I was young and it has developed over time. I began playing clarinet and took to it immediately. I love to play.

Finish this sentence: Discipleship is....Or following Jesus means.... Placing my trust in Jesus. I can grow in faith by following the teachings of The Ten Commandments, The Lord's Prayer and the Apostle's Creed.

Why are you part of this congregation? I am used to attending church here. I enjoy church and our congregation.

What is one thing you're deeply grateful for right now? I am grateful for each day and being able to experience reasonably good health. I am grateful for past and present family, including Trinity family.

What is your favorite memory you have here at TLC? It is difficult for me to choose favorites. I remember VBS on Elliott Street. Also, being an acolyte as well as many fun gatherings and meals in the fellowship hall and Hazel Scherer at the organ.



The featured book from the church library is Faith Still Moves Mountains by Harris Faulkner. In this nonfiction book Faulkner tells real-life stories about how God responds to prayer and faith, directly and indirectly helping those in need. It is available for checkout in the Narthex during the month of August.

Connecting Others with Trinity

YOU can help new folks find and connect with Trinity and our ministries in very easy ways:

- 1) Invite! Invite friends and neighbors to one of our events or worship services. Offer to pick them up, make a particular date and sit with them. Introduce them to others in the congregation.
- 2) LIKE and SHARE or even COMMENT ON our posts on social media. There's lots of different things that you can like and share. Every time you see a post from TLC, if you do nothing else, click the thumbs up or heart and that will increase how many folks see it.

Thank you so much for helping spread the word about our congregation, what God is doing in this place, and all the love we have to share - in Jesus' name!



COMMUNION OPTION

The Lutheran teaching has always been that we receive the whole benefit of the sacrament - forgiveness, salvation, communion with God, eternal life, Real Presence, ect. - in and under and through just the wine or just the bread. However, for reasons of welcome and inclusion, we've also been offering gluten-free wafers (rice-based) and grape juice for folks who can't have the bread or the wine for health or personal reasons. This practice has been in place at Trinity for quite a while.



Some churches have also come to know that those with Celiac Disease or other restrictions that go beyond gluten-free are now offering a grain-free wafer made from cheese.



While this may feel like a departure from the strict biblical image of bread and wine, it is also good to remember that Jesus was using the items set out before him as part of the Passover meal and that early Christian communion included lots of different foods - including honey and cheese. It was only in later practice that communion became focused on the bread and wine.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Scripture reminds us that God goes before us in all things, and that wisdom is a gift to be cherished. **Sunday, August 9** at morning worship we celebrate the start of a new school year with our annual Blessing of the Backpacks. These bags represent the daily work, learning, and growth of our young people, educators and adults. We pray that as they carry these heavy bags, they feel the light yoke of Christ sustaining them. Everyone who uses a backpack is invited to receive this blessing. So bring your backpack to church on **Sunday, August 9.**



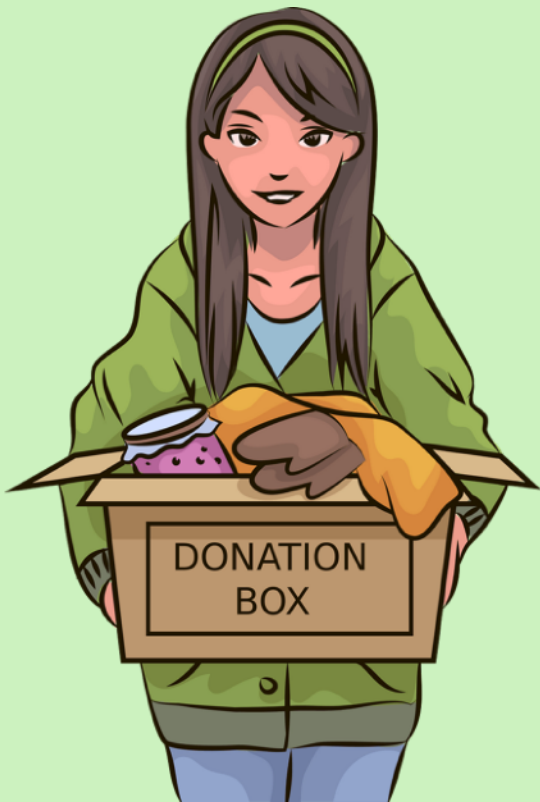
Fall Kids Mall of
Richland County



400 backpacks
400 children served
clothing, toiletries and school supplies

THANK YOU

HOW YOU CAN HELP?



There are two crates in the Narthex beneath the bulletin board. One is for food, the other shampoo and bar soap. Food items should be easy to open and prepare. These items are taken to the Richland County Health Office where these items are given to the homeless for some meals to get by as they seek help. We do support Good Samaritan food bank with a monthly cash donation.

Shampoo and bar soap are taken to Good Samaritan where people in addition to food can receive personal hygiene items.



Rummage Sale

Trinity is having its own rummage sale during Olney's city-wide rummage sale August 21 and 22 from 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. This is a fundraiser for our 100th Anniversary with our next meeting August 11 at 10 a.m. Bring your items to the Preschool classroom.

Questions, talk with Rosemary West.



News, information, thank you notes. All on the bulletin board in the Narthex.



Starting Sunday, August the 2nd we will be changing to Setting 8 in the ELW

Did You Know?



The "dog days of summer" refer to the hot, sultry, and typically most uncomfortable weeks of the summer season. Traditionally spanning from July 3 to August 11, this period falls in the middle of summer's peak heat. Contrary to popular belief, the phrase has nothing to do with dogs lounging in the heat or the heat driving dogs mad. Instead, it comes from ancient astronomy.

The "Dog Star": The phrase is tied to Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky, which is part of the constellation Canis Major (Latin for "Greater Dog"). During this midsummer period, Sirius rises and sets in conjunction with the Sun.

Because it is so brilliant, ancient civilizations like the Greeks and Romans believed the star's combined energy with the Sun was the cause of the scorching summer temperatures.

BIBLE

Bible Study is a 1 hour class on zoom the first Thursday of the month beginning at 5:30. Pastor Gary leads this class. We are currently studying the book of Matthew. Wouldn't you like to learn more about the books of the Bible?



CHURCH WORKDAY

Saturday, August 29
8:30 a.m.



Cardio Drumming is coming to First Presbyterian Church! Enjoy a cardio work out that combines up-beat music, dance, balance, strength and a ridiculous amount of fun.

Seniors...Tuesday 11:30 a.m.
Parents and kids...Thursday 4:00 p.m.
Adults...Friday 5:00 p.m.

Call Charlotte at 480-208-0072 for more information.

God's Work. Our Hands.



An Annual Day Devoted to Love of Our Neighbors and Church

We Celebrate the ELCA, Service, Community

“God’s work. Our hands.” is the ELCA’s annual day of service, taking place Sept. 13, 2026. It is a blessed opportunity for all our congregations to celebrate who we are as a church, engaging in projects and activities that explore our convictions as Lutherans: that all life in Jesus flows from a living, daring confidence in God’s grace. The ELCA is one church, freed in Christ to love and serve our neighbor every day. Our project this year, under the direction of the Stewardship Committee, is partnering with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Several options we are considering: care bags for seniors, hygiene kits for individuals who are either unhoused or entering substance use treatment, books and toys for children. More information to follow soon so be prepared to donate and work for our church, community and Jesus Christ.



Central/Southern
Illinois Synod

Synod Days



FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY: Living out our baptismal calling to ...

- live among God's faithful people
- hear the Word of God and share in the Lord's supper
- proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed
- serve all people, following the example of Jesus
- strive for justice and peace in all the earth

A day of worship, learning, fellowship, and relationship-building for all generations in each of the six conferences of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY

2026 Central/Southern Illinois Synod Days

Northwest Conference

Sunday, Aug. 23, 2:00-7:00 p.m.
Lake Hill Winery
1822 East County Road 1540, Carthage
Registration closes Aug. 3

West Central Conference

Saturday, Aug. 29, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Our Lord's Lutheran Church
150 Wilma Drive, Maryville
Registration closes Aug. 10

Northeast Conference

Saturday, Sept. 12, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
St. Paul Lutheran Church
210 North Deerfield Road, Pontiac
Registration closes Aug. 24

Northern Conference

Sunday, Sept. 20, 1:30-6:30 p.m.
Bethel Lutheran Church
200 Colona Avenue, Bartonville
Registration closes Aug. 31

East Central Conference

Sunday, Oct. 4, 2:00-7:00 p.m.
Grace Lutheran Church
313 Prospect Street, Champaign
Registration closes Sept. 21

Southern Conference

Saturday, Oct. 17, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
1501 Broeking Road, Marion
Registration closes Sept. 28

SYNOD DAY PROGRAM

Each synod day includes:

- Cross-generational worship
- Activities for children and families
- Shared meal
- State of the synod video
- Q&A with synod staff
- Mission moments from each conference
- Four “Spirit Lab” workshop options (each person may choose two)

“SPIRIT LAB” WORKSHOPS

The Foolishness of Trying to Save Your Church: Letting Go So We Can Go!

Led by Bishop Greg Busboom

Jesus Journeys and Faithful Field Trips

Led by Deacon Jason Fisher, Director for Evangelical Mission

Body Building with Love: Tools for Adaptability

Led by Pastor Kristen Schmid, Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Communities

Here I Am, Send Me!: A Vocational Workshop

Led by Pastor Amy Zietlow, Assistant to the Bishop for Transformational Leadership



He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

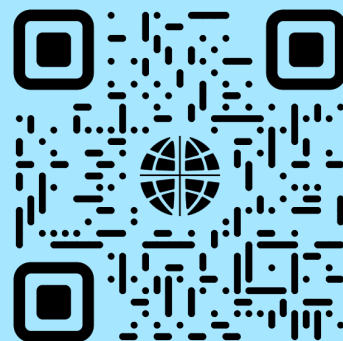
REGISTRATION

The cost is \$10 per adult (18 and over), \$5 for youth (3-17), and free for children under 3, capped at a total of \$25 per family.

Registration is open now at CSIS-ELCA.org/synoddays26 or by using the QR code.

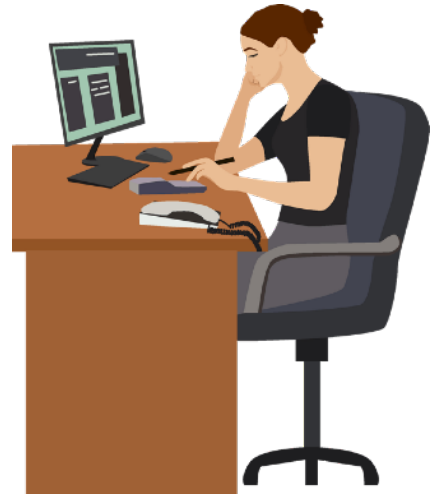
If your schedule conflicts with your conference's Synod Day, you are welcome to attend another conference's day.

Synod Days are open to **ALL** in our synod, not just those who participated in the Synod Assembly.



CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Kathi Boland
Administrative Assistant	Debbie Judge
Custodian	Nathan Behnke
Pianist	Keegan Tucker
Organist	Ryan Morris
Music Director	Andrew Flynn
Council President	Bob Guinn
Treasurer	Mark Scherer



COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Prayer Chain	John Scherer
Funeral Dinners	Carol Diel/Sharon Kurtz
Fellowship	
Learning	Chuck Sanders
Memorials/Special Gifts	Sarah Kincaid
Property	Chuck Sanders
Service/Witness	Carol Diel
Stewardship	Autumn Ryden
Finance	Mark Scherer
Youth	Liam Ryden

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

618.392.4181
trinityolney@gmail.com
trinityolney.org

DATE	LECTOR	PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION ASSISTANT
August 2	Ethan Mehl	Daniel Scherer	Liam Ryden Ethan Mehl	
August 9	Savanna Ryden	Liam Ryden	Maddy Bellinger Mary Scherer	Carol Diel Liam Ryden
August 16	Matt Powell	Connor Akers	Kylie Holdren Drake Holdren	
August 23	Rachel Fisher	Savannah Ryden	Luke Slagley Ben Powell	Carol Diel Savannah Ryden
August 30	Babbs Pitts	Alexis Ryden	Conner Akers Ridge Davis	