

THE TRINITY LUTHERAN

May, 2024



TLC Council minutes April 2024

Meeting: April 9, 2024

Present: Pastor Kathi Boland, Babbs Pitts, Mike Kurtz, Autumn Ryden, Kevin Scherer, John Scherer, Brooklyn Diel, Angela Slagley, Beth Saler

Following the opening devotions of Dwelling in the Word, President Babbs Pitts opened the meeting.

Financial report Mike Kurtz John Scherer moved to accept the financial report as presented by Mike Kurtz, Angela Slagley seconded: the motion passed. Mike Kurtz raised the question of the need for a church year calendar to help the council keep track of this and other “to do later” items.

Mike will check at the TrustBank regarding the status of the Junior / Senior League account and also of the lockbox Trinity had at one point. The council approved temporarily upping our credit card limit to \$6,000.00 to cover costs for the upcoming Youth Assembly and also obtaining a new credit card if that is deemed helpful for the Youth Assembly. Pastor Kathi reported that food costs, etc. at the assembly are credit card only – no cash will be accepted. Beth Saler moved approval for the credit card changes. John Scherer seconded and the motion passed.

Weekday Children’s Ministry: Mike Kurtz. The Mom’s Morning Out program is continuing to do very well with 13-14 children typically there each week. Six are currently signed up for the possible summer program. The teachers are very happy with the MMO move to the stage. The preschool is in better financial shape than it has been in the past. Approximately \$1,700 was raised during the eclipse weekend and there have been several donations given to the program. Fall enrollment numbers will be very important to the future of the preschool.

The preschool board still needs more members.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Kathi Boland. The report outlined Pastor’s upcoming vacation schedule. Beth Saler moved and John Scherer seconded to approve the report: the motion passed. Council also approved the request that Pastor join the community support board.

Confirmation / Eclipse weekend: All comments have been very positive with excitement and gratitude for our young people and for level of hospitality we were able to extend to the synod and to the community. Thanks were expressed to John Scherer for his very helpful eclipse work and to Barb Stiff for the interior signs she made to direct people throughout the building. Babbs Pitts will write a follow up report about the eclipse weekend for the synod.

Other reports:

Property: Kevin Scherer. The carpet repair is completed at the front of the sanctuary; the back area can be dyed and repaired. The carpet repair was done at a much more reasonable cost than had been feared. The spring work day went well with a small but hard-working crew accomplishing quite a bit.

Service: Angela Slagley. Enough money was raised to pay for 3 wells + \$10.00. Rhoda will write the check for Men in Mission. Angela is collecting eclipse glasses to be sent to Africa. Cataracts caused by intense sun exposure are a major contributor to blindness in Africa; the glasses are an important shield. Beth Saler reported the county health office also is collecting eclipse glasses for Africa.

Stewardship: Brooklyn Diel: Brooklyn is doing a monthly write up about differing aspects of stewardship. It's much more than the money we put in the collection.

Worship: Beth Saler: Themes for upcoming services were shared with the council.

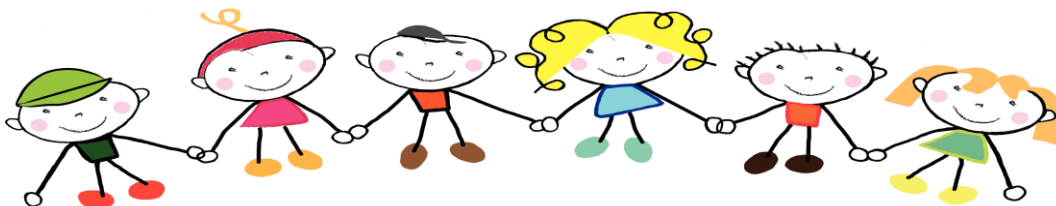
Fellowship: Autumn Ryden: The activities for that team are running smoothly.

ELCA Disability Grant: Babbs Pitts will meet with a contractor to develop specifications for what it will take to make our entrances more accessible. Babbs will ask Barb Stiff to coordinate the projects.

Youth Gathering: Actual cost projections are coming in higher than the original estimates and we are currently about \$2,000.00 short. Council members discussed various possibilities for raising more money. Donations will be essential and we may need to use some memorial funds.

Document / cash safety: Mike will check with Bob Fehrenbacher about the feasibility of adding a fireproof box to the office. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Saler



Register Now!

Mom's Morning Out & Trinity Preschool

for 2024-2025 school year

**Mom's Morning Out provides fun & creative activities
every Wednesday from 8:30-11:30 am on school attendance days**

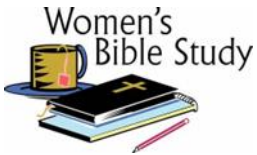
Curriculum that meets IL Early Learning Standards

Classroom setting and many other unique learning experiences.

Register at 618 392-4181

5330 E. Frontage Rd. Olney, IL.

Or contact us on Facebook



“ Looking forward to People of Faith.....Is there any part of our day that doesn't connect us to God? Even if we suspect the

answer to that question should be no, it isn't always easy to find what's sacred in the every day. That's why we'll be reading and sharing Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life by Tish Harrison Warren. It's available from Amazon.

We'll begin focusing on this book Thursday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the Forum Room. You don't have to have been involved in the group before this. You don't have to read ahead unless you want to (Forward + Chapter 1). You don't even have to have the book. The important thing is you being there to listen and share ideas both about the book and about how the group wants to move forward.

DURING THE HOURS that our preschool is in session (Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:30 - 11:30 & MMO Wednesday) the church door will be locked as we look to keep our young folks safe. If you need to come in and have a key, please lock the door after yourself. If you do not have a key, please call the church office to have Rhoda let you in. 618-392-4181. Thank you!

LECTORS, ACOLYTES, & SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: Please head to Sign-Up Central to get your names on the lists! Thank you for serving & caring.



PLEASE LET THE OFFICE know if we need to add or update any personal information such as mailing or email address. Let the office know if you would like your birthdate or anniversary date included in the monthly newsletter. You can email the office at trinityolney@gmail.com or call 392-4181. Thank you.

Our Mission Statement
Trinity Lutheran Church strives to reach and welcome all with the love of Christ

PENTECOST: Join us for worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 19 as we celebrate the birthday of the church.

SAVE THE DATE! Vacation Bible School will be held at Trinity from July 15-19.

DEAR PASTOR KATHI: Thank you for the devotion. I love the thought of it. Thank you to the church for getting me the Hymnal. Thank you for being a good confirmation teacher. Love, Kylie H.

THANK YOU, Pastor Kathi and those who put together the Easter baskets. This made me feel like a kid again. Love Audrey Scherer

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE (those already Confirmed and those who are still in Confirmation) will be leading a short service at the Stone Bridge facility on the first Sunday of every month at 11:30am. Join us on May 5th for the first service. Anyone who wishes to come is welcome; please feel free to spread the love of Jesus with the residents with us!

THANK YOU: We received this thank you note regarding our Lenton offering. **Dear Trinity** Lutheran and First Presbyterian, thank you all so very much for the donation you made to our students here in Olney! We promise to put these funds to use meeting the needs of our struggling students. With gratitude, RCCU 1 Counselors

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Sunday, May 5 service is "Blessing of Wheeled Things!" Our service will be outside, weather permitting. Bring your bicycles, tricycles, walkers, strollers, wheelchairs, motorcycles, or any wheeled device (and helmets!), to receive a prayer and blessing as we head into summer and more time outside.

PLEASE CONTINUE to pray for our Sister Congregation, Salem Lutheran Church in Peoria.

THANK YOU to this amazing congregation for welcoming Bishop Busboom and all our Synod siblings throughout the Eclipse Weekend Extravaganza! All the food, the welcoming spirit they found here - everyone was very complimentary. I am so proud to say I am your pastor!

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Nancy McClenathan
Becky Holstrum
Babbs Pitts, President
Beth Saler, Council Secretary
Matt Powell
John Scherer, Vice President
Kevin Scherer
Brooklyn Diel
Angela Slagley
Autumn Ryden ~ Youth Representative
Mike Kurtz ~ Church Treasurer

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Prayer Chain~ John Scherer
Convalescing Meals ~ Becky Holsturm
Funeral Luncheons ~ Carol Diel, Sharon Kurtz
Fellowship ~ Autumn Ryden
Learning ~ Nancy McClenathan
Memorials & Special Gifts ~ Sarah Kincaid
Property ~ Kevin Scherer
Service ~ Angela Slagley, Beth Saler
Stewardship ~ Brooklyn Diel (liaison)
Witness ~ Becky Holstrum
Worship ~ Beth Saler
Finance ~ Mike Kurtz
Youth~ Matt Powell

STAFF:

Pastor ~ Rev. Kathi Boland
Pianist ~ Keegan Tucker
Choir Director ~ Andrew Flynn
Sunday School Coordinator ~
Altar Guild ~ Steve Berry
Church Secretary ~ Rhoda Slichenmyer
Financial Secretaries ~
Custodians ~ Paul's Janitorial Service

GROUPS: Remember When ~ Rosemary West



WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

Board Members

Bob Crum, Treasurer
Sandy Britton, Secretary
Mike Kurtz, President
Doug Slagley
Jeff Pipher

- 9 Josephine Donaldson
- 10 Sarah Kincaid
- 11 Maddie Bellinger
- 13 Crystal Trout
- 16 Jarron Smith
- 21 Kelsi Wilson
- 24 Adam Neil
- 25 Barb Jennings
- 26 Babbs Pitts
- 28 Mike Kurtz
- 31 Cole Michael Saler

TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Director ~ Brooke Wheeler
Teacher ~ Peggy Brookheart
MMO ~ Brooke Wheeler
Peggy Brookheart
Brookelyn Mitchell



18th Drew & Lisa Holdren

SPECIAL CARE MEMBERS (as of 5/01/2024)

Patricia Roberts	Stonebridge, 1304 N. East St. Olney
Mary Lou Sager	c/o Colonial Assisted Living Community, 1622 S Hart St. Room 133, Vincennes, IN 47591
Don Fritschle	Stonebridge, 1304 N East St., Olney, IL 62450

AT HOME MEMBERS:

Audrey Scherer	600 S Christy Ave. Sumner, IL 62466 618 936-2169
Gary Cowan	1525 Cypress Rd. Olney, IL 62450 618 838-2300
Floyd Meentemeyer	Helia Healthcare of Olney

MAY GOD COMFORT the family of Loran & Beverly Budde on the death of their son Brent, Monday, April 22. A service for Brent will be held at the Rotary Center at East Fork Lake on May 4th. This Saturday, we gather at the Rotary Park to grieve and console the Budde family, as they spread his ashes upon the water there. We meet at 2pm and you may stay as long as you would like.

MAY GOD COMFORT the family Melissa Zerkel who passed away on Saturday, April 27 at Carle Richland Memorial Hospital. Melissa was the wife of Loren Zerkel of Trinity.

MAY GOD COMFORT the family of Don Margraff, III who passed away, Thursday, April 4th. Don was the son of Nancy and Don Margraff.

OUR BIBLE/BOOK STUDY - Looking forward to People of Faith.....Is there any part of our day that doesn't connect us to God? Even if we suspect the answer to that question should be no, it isn't always easy to find what's sacred in the every day. That's why we'll be reading and sharing Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life by Tish Harrison Warren. It's available from Amazon. We'll begin focusing on this book Thursday, May 2 at 10:00 a.m. in the Forum Room. You don't have to have been involved in the group before this. You don't have to read ahead unless you want to (Forward + Chapter 1). You don't even have to have the book. The important thing is you being there to listen and share ideas both about the book and about how the group wants to move forward.

THIS YEAR'S SYNOD ASSEMBLY will elect representatives to the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, July 28-August 2 in Phoenix, Arizona. The Central/Southern Illinois Synod is allocated nine voting members: bishop, vice president, two rostered ministers (female and male), three lay people (at least one female and male), one youth or young adult (female or male), and one person of color or whose primary language is not English (lay or rostered, female or male). All travel expenses for Churchwide Assembly are covered by the ELCA.

If you are interested in serving, there is a survey you must fill out online. The nomination deadline is **May 1**. Please talk with Pastor Kathi after TODAY'S service, and give her a piece of paper with your name and email address, so she can email you the link for you to fill out online.

HELLO, my name is Mike Spaniol. My wife, Carolyn, and I stayed in your church parking lot the night of 4/7 & 4/8 to watch the solar eclipse. We were from Oregon. My sister also stayed with us those two nights and my brother drove down from Charleston, IL. the morning of the eclipse along with a niece and her two young sons. We had a great time. We got there in time on Sunday night to hear John's talk about what was going to happen on Monday afternoon. We also had breakfast the morning of the eclipse and pork sandwiches around noon. Thank you for providing us a safe secure location for our eclipse viewing experience. Please accept this check to help out with the expenses you incurred in putting on your eclipse watching party. Mike Spaniol.

THANK YOU to the many, many people who worked tirelessly on every detail of the Eclipse weekend. What a wonderful Play-in-the-Park! Council President Babbs Pitts went out of her way to get us a bounce house - which was greatly enjoyed by SO many young people. The Confirmation students - all of them - impressed Bishop Busboom in their time with him! Dr. Jill had fun games for us to play with him. Sunday's service was spectacular; those who were confirmed are shining stars in this congregation. Holden Evening Prayer was so touching and meaningful - thank you lead singers and pianist Jean Weber! Pastor heard that Walk-With-a-Doc was well attended. And John Scherer's program on Sunday evening was spectacular - we all felt well prepared and well-informed for the show God put on display Monday. Bob Fehrenbacher spent the night in the parking lot in his RV to ensure all our campers needed nothing. The beautifully decorated bulletin boards (thank you, Barb Stiff and Young Friends and Confirmation class), and the sign welcoming everyone (thank you, Maddy!) were the perfect touch. The "Alleluia! He is Risen" yard signs were spectacular! The Preschool Fundraisers were a big hit as always. Mike, Sharon, Peggy, Bob, and Sue didn't stop for a minute the whole day. Again, so many had a hand in these events. Please forgive me if I have forgotten anyone. May God receive all the glory for this incredible weekend!

THANK YOU to my church family for cards and prayers during my recovery. It was very much appreciated. God Bless, Donna May

A HUGE thank you to these adults for joining the Intergenerational Confirmation Class on March 20: Keegan Tucker, Dr. Jill Scherer, Mark Scherer, Beth Saler, Larry Saler, Sue Crum, Rhonda Inyert.

HONORS

Drake Holdren - High Honors. Drake also qualified as the only 7th grader to the State Competition for the Middle School competition for the Math Team.

Ben Powell was selected as Student of the Month and made High Honors for term 3.

Owen Powell will graduate on May 18 from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a Bachelor's Degree in Education.

Carolyn Powell will graduate on May 18 from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point with a Bachelor's Degree in Education. She has accepted a position as an Emotional Behavioral/At-Risk Special Education teacher at PJ Jacobs Junior High School in Stevens Point.

Maddie Bellinger received all A's on her grade card.

Brooklyn Dial, High Honors

Kylie Holdren, Honors

Ethan Mehl, High Honors

Reese Roark, High Honors

Autumn Ryden, High Honors

Liam Ryden, High Honors

Luke was on honor roll for 3rd quarter. He has earned a merit badge in Boy Scouts for Public Health & swimming.

Has your student received an award? Please call or email the office so we can celebrate with them! We don't want to leave anyone out!



May 2024 Newsletter

Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. Righteousness goes before Him and prepares the way for His steps. Psalm 85:11-13

Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are well into springtime! Our God confers upon us seasons, which God preordained at creation – giving us seasons and days and years, all which can be marked with signs from the stars in the sky! (Genesis 1:4) I pray that you are able to go out and enjoy the warmer weather, the birds who sing of God’s glory, and the blue skies. All of these remind us of the awesome power and creativity and diversity of God’s imagination. God is indeed good to us. May 2024 Newsletter Faithfulness springs forth from the earth, and righteousness looks down from heaven. The Lord will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest. Righteousness goes before Him and prepares the way for His steps. Psalm 85:11-13 Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are well into springtime! Our God confers upon us seasons, which God preordained at creation – giving us seasons and days and years, all which can be marked with signs from the stars in the sky! (Genesis 1:4) I pray that you are able to go out and enjoy the warmer weather, the birds who sing of God’s glory, and the blue skies. All of these remind us of the awesome power and creativity and diversity of God’s imagination. God is indeed good to us. The month of May has many events in store for us to appreciate – all while life is slowing down a bit for us since our extraordinary Eclipse events. What an incredible time for us at Trinity – to experience so many seemingly miraculous events all in three days: our wonderful Bishop spending time with us; Play in the Park; Holden Evening Prayer; Confirmation of five of our outstanding Confirmation Students; Walk with a Doc; Ranger John’s incredible presentation of all that was about to take place during the eclipse; having many Synod siblings join us for overnight, and breakfast and lunch on Monday; and then – oh, then! What a marvelous display of God’s power, bringing signs of heaven for us to see upon the earth – a total eclipse of the sun! I am still reveling in all of this, thanking God for these gifts. I pray you think about all of these, too, remembering God’s goodness to us, and join me in giving thanks. But on to May! May 5 we would love to have an outdoor service (weather permitting) to Bless All Wheeled Things! Bring anything you use that has wheels – walkers, bicycles (and helmets), motorcycles (and helmets), wheelchairs, strollers, etc. to receive prayer, anointing, and blessing. May 12 is Mother’s Day, and we will give thanks for all those who are Moms, grandMoms, great-grand Moms, adopted Moms, foster Moms, those who have served in roles as Moms, and all who wish they were Moms. All of us were gifted with a Mom – to varying degrees of “goodness.” We will give thanks for life, given to us by them. We will think about God being a heavenly Mom to us as well. May 18th at 5pm we will gather for Play in the Park – one of our favorite days at Trinity! Bring a dish to share and come and enjoy the companionship of the saints in the congregation! Then, May 19th is Pentecost Sunday – the birthday of the church! Remember to wear RED that day which represents the gift of the Holy Spirit. May 26th is in the middle of Memorial Day Weekend! We remember, honor, and give thanks for the United States military personnel who died while serving our country. You can see there is much going on in May at Trinity, and I am so thankful that you are part of it. YOU help to make Trinity what it is – a great place to thrive and grow and worship God! It is your faithfulness which springs up from the earth, and it is God Who sees and rewards. God gives increase to our work, bringing a harvest of good to God’s kingdom. I pray that our deeds, done in faithfulness and love, will help to bring heaven to earth.

In Christ’s love

Pastor Kathi

PLAY IN THE PARK

"PLAY IN THE PARK" Join us on May 18th at 5:00 p.m. for Play in the Park! Please make plans to attend and if you are able, bring food to share.



This month the church library is featuring a nonfiction book, entitled Breakthrough: the Miraculous True Story of a Mother's Faith and Her Child's Resurrection by Joyce Smith and Ginger Kolbaba. In January 2015, John broke through the ice, was submerged for 20 minutes and his heart stopped. After 45 minutes of unsuccessful CPR after his rescue, Joyce Smith, John's mother, cried out for God to save him and John's heart started beating. John's miraculous full recovery baffled medical experts.

This book will be displayed in the narthex during May and is available for check out.



NOTICE: We are trying to get a count on the number of outdoor keys that have been loaned out to council, committee members, etc. If you have an outdoor key to Trinity, please let Pastor Kathi know asap. Thank you for your help.