

The Epistle

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Our Mission Statement

Trinity Lutheran Church is a place to gather, refresh the faithful, and reach out with word and service to all others through the Holy Gospel.

August 2025



Vicar's Article

Our Journey through Pentecost continues with the fire of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. Our Tree of God grows in the loft at the front of the church. In June we sprouted leaves sharing our personal experiences of God in

lives. Do I feel God at Church? At Home? In the people around me? In the eyes of those I pass the peace with? In July our tree started to grow new leaves. Where do I ask God to in my life? Who do I hold in my prayers? Where do I wish I felt God's presence more? What change would have to happen to make Christ felt in that person, situation, or place? Now in August we have nurtured the Tree at the heart of the Kingdom of God all summer with experience and prayers, where have those gifts blossomed? Where do you see God's Grace abundantly? Give thanks for the gifts of the spirit around you. At Trinity, this is a year of Gratitude. God's Grace and the Love of the Holy Spirit unite and work through all of our lives every day as we work and grow together in the call of Christian Community. Embrace God in your life, step boldly into the Holy Spirit's call to new mission, and be renewed by Christ's abounding gifts of Grace.

Vicar Aaron Carr (He/Him)



NEWS FROM CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

WE ARE LOOKING FOR a God's work, our hands project for September. If you have

any ideas, please talk with Cedar, Julie Haugen, Steve or Renee VanAtter!

Save the date: God's Work, Our Hands project either September 6th or September 7th. More info to come!

AUGUST NOISY OFFERING on August 31st will be for The Shoe that Grows. Over 1.5 billion people suffer from soil transmitted diseases worldwide. Without shoes, children are especially vulnerable to disease & parasites that cause illness and even death. Since children's feet grow so quickly, they often outgrow the donated shoes within a year, leaving them exposed to illness and disease. That is where The Shoe that Grows can change things. The shoes are made of durable materials that last a child for 5 years and the cost is only \$20 a pair. The Shoe that Grows is based right here in downtown Nampa! Check out what the shoe looks like on the table in the Narthex.

JUNE NOISY OFFERING on Sunday June 29th for the Duck Valley Indian reservation brought in \$332.44! This amount is separate from the school supplies we raised for them, a total of which will be reported soon. Thanks so much to everyone for your generosity and continued support!

JULY NOISY OFFERING on Sunday July 27th was changed to the Pastor's Emergency fund. This change came as a result of a growing need in our

community, a need which is bordering on extreme and had emptied the current fund. This money is given out to people who come to the church seeking assistance with gas vouchers and occasionally paying for utilities and medications. It is also a fund to assist members of our church in times of desperate need, the same as the community. Thank you to all for your continuing generosity. We managed to replenish the fund enough to hopefully get us through the rest of the year.

TOILETRIES NEEDED

This summer, while traveling, please collect and bring in unused travel toiletries. These items will be used in our food pantry and are always needed and appreciated. Items to give include shampoo, conditioner, soap, body wash, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Please place items in the designated box in the Narthex. Thank you!

DONATIONS BY VERSE

Keep an eye open for a verse or prayer in the Sunday bulletins that mentions a food item. Please bring the food items mentioned for that month. In August the bible reading for the 31st is from Psalm 81 Verse 16. In which God promises to give the people of Israel the finest of wheat and the best honey. Following this example, please bring in cereals, oatmeal (boxes of individual packages), rice (microwaveable and bagged), and cream of wheat. Thank you!

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

2025 is the 80-year anniversary of loving our neighbor for Lutheran World Relief. This all started in 1945. Please check out LWR.ORG/80 for more information. Thanks! Church in Community

GIFT POLICY

Most of us are accustomed to giving to Trinity by putting some cash or a check into the offering plate on Sunday mornings. Some of us arrange for our offerings to be sent directly from our paychecks or IRAs.; some of us use the QR code to send money from our smart phones. So, the concept of giving "money" makes sense to us. However, there are other ways to give. Many of which we rarely think about. Things like stocks and bonds, real estate, copyrights, patents, jewelry; the list seems endless, but (in reality) it isn't. Why? Because some gifts are easy to receive and others, for a small nonprofit like a church, may be more difficult to deal with. With that issue in mind, 5 years ago Trinity created its "gift acceptance policy". This was reviewed and updated in 2022 and 2024. You can find a copy

posted on the hallway bulletin board and also on the church website, in the "Give" tab under "Ways You Can Give". Take a few minutes to look at this policy and think about creative new ways to support your church!

CHURCH CAMPOUT JULY

We are grateful for all who attended the church Campout, and all those whose efforts made the event possible. Particularly Steve and Julie Ward for hosting again this year.

DONNELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING FUND

The healthy snacks that we donated to the Donnelly Public Library for its children's programs were so very much appreciated and are already being used with its summer program. With new legislation effective 7/1/2024, adult reading materials must be kept strictly separate from children's library items. This is do-able for large libraries like Caldwell, Nampa, and Boise. However, smaller libraries, with 1000 - 1500 square feet of floor space, find the logistics of this new law to be challenging. They just don't have enough space to keep these materials apart. Donnelly Public Library's solution has been to move its children's programs outdoors into teepees. This was so much fun in the summer and fall; but, with the cold temperatures and snowfall amounts in Valley County, it became a problem last winter. One of the teepees collapsed under the weight of the snowpack.

This library is now raising money to add floor space to its building and has established a "building fund". Considering this circumstance they face, Trinity Lutheran Church decided that collecting a "special offering" at the Campout was another way to help this valiant little library. Donations are still being accepted and if you feel so led, please make your check out to Donnelly Public Library (with "Building Fund" on the memo line) and give it to the church office. All these offerings will be gathered up and sent to the Donnelly Library in early August.

RALLY WEEKEND BARBECUE

Even though many schools start in mid-late August, the "official end of summer" is Labor Day Weekend. After that, the church's fall programming starts in earnest; including our Sunday School and Adult Education programs--which kick off on Rally Sunday, September 7th. Since most of us will be in town that weekend, the church has planned a barbecue gathering on the church lawn for Saturday evening, September 6th. Burgers, dogs and water will be furnished, so bring a side dish or

dessert and your most comfortable lawn chairs. It will be a wonderful opportunity to visit with people you have missed during the past few months. Start time is tentatively scheduled for 6:00 pm but watch for more details so you stay in the know!

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

This little gem is compiled each fall, with distribution beginning about a week before the First Sunday in Advent. It is authored by members and friends of Trinity Lutheran, and it contains inspirational readings and (sometimes) puzzles or recipes. It is intended to help us prepare for Christmas in a way that focuses on Jesus and His impact in our lives. And none of this happens without YOUR help! The deadline for submitting entries is October 20th--just about 3 months from now. What better way to spend one of your hot August afternoons than drafting a devotion to share with your church family?! Questions? Ask Edith Hannett, Tami Robinson or Penelope Smith.

UNCERTAIN TIMES

Anyone who is invested in the stock market, who buys groceries, or who watches the news is frequently reminded that we are living in times of financial uncertainty. This can be extremely unsettling and can cause us to shrink back into a smaller comfort zone, changing how we use our money. Perhaps eating out less often or skipping those lovely coffee drinks from (your choice) Dutch Bros or Starbucks or Flying M or Moxie Java; borrowing books from the library instead of buying them. Anything to help you feel more secure and more in-control! As Christians, we learned of how often Abraham's children faced uncertainty -- and of the challenges faced by the early church -- and are reminded of the importance of putting our trust in God, who is faithful. There are so many verses in Psalms (9:10; 28:7, 46:10). The Old Testament has many stories: Numbers 14:7-9; Isaiah 26:3-4; Jeremiah 29:11. And, of course, the New Testament: Matthew 6:26; Philippians 4:6-7; 1 John 5:14-15. In addition to our 2025 focus on Gratitude, perhaps we might also add Trust to our spiritual practices.

Hi Greeters!

I think we are all aware that Sharon Jones was one of our most welcoming members. She was an expert at noticing new faces that came through our doors and making sure that they received a word of welcome and a friendship bag. We (Gospel & Growth) want to try something new going forward. We are asking you to be both watchful and willing as you greet people on Sunday mornings. Gospel &

Growth will make sure that we have friendship bags ready to go but are asking the Greeters each Sunday to give one to those new people you meet. If you have questions or suggestions, please talk to Edith Hannett, Tami Robinson, or Penelope Smith. Thank you!



TUESDAY STUDY GROUP

PSALMS on Tuesdays from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. The Tuesday Study Group has

finished our exploration of other religions and how Christians can interact with them. On **February 11th** we began our new focus on the psalms. Each participant brings his/her own favorite translation of the Bible (perhaps Vicar Aaron will bring his Hebrew version?!) and we study the different genre of the psalms. It is generally accepted that they group into the following categories: Lament (of the community and of individuals); Specialized Lament (penitential and imprecatory); Thanksgiving (of the community and the individual); Specialized Thanksgiving (salvation history and songs of trust); Hymnic Psalms (hymns and doxologies); Liturgical Psalms for Public Worship (covenant songs, royal/enthronement songs, songs of Zion, and temple liturgies); and Community/Wisdom Psalms. If you have an interest in the psalms, or an interest in a study group - this would be a good time to join us. If your schedule has you out of town frequently, this would be an ideal topic for you - each week's lesson is self-contained, and you won't feel lost if you miss a week or two. Please consider joining us in the Koinonia (blue) room on Tuesdays between 1:00 - 3:00 pm as we trek through the psalms together.



Statistical Comparison for June-July 2024/2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
06/02	38	06/01	40
06/09	45	06/08	34
06/16	43	06/15	22
06/23	38	06/22	38
06/30	59	06/29	37
07/07	42	07/06	34
07/14	47	07/13	34
07/21	46	07/20	29
07/28	41	07/27	12



OFFICERS/COMMITTEE LIAISONS 2025

President Larry Mills (25)
Vice-President Bryce Quarve (26)
Secretary Sierra Armbrust (25)
Treasurer and Accounts Payable Coordinator
 Karissa Armbrust (renewable)
Financial Secretary Kristina Radke (renewable)



COUNCIL TEAM ASSIGNMENTS

Christian Education/Youth: Sierra Armbrust (25)
Church in Community: Cedar Hilger (27)
Communication: Lloyd Kellar (26)
Gospel and Growth: Sierra Armbrust (25)
Hospitality: Edith Hannett (27)
Property: Darrell Miller (25)
Stewardship: Phil Cronk (26)
Trinity New Hope: Andrew Hanson (27)
Worship & Music: Larry Mills (25)
Mutual Ministry: Bryce Quarve (26)

CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Audit: Karen Bair (26), Cathy Winwood (25), Emily Bentley (27)
Endowment: Jeff Henderson (25), Edith Hannett (26), Julie Ward (27)
Memorial: Kallie Ziemer (25), Joyce Becht (26), Peggy Miller (27)
Nominating: Sierra Armbrust, Larry Mills, Sharon Jones, Pat Benoit
Mutual Ministry: Carl Radke, Jerry Armbrust, Bryce Quarve
Synod Assembly Voting Members: Jerry Armbrust & Cathy Winwood
Luther Heights Reps: Janet Metzger & Cathy Winwood

TLC Game Night

Friday August 1, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Join in for a night of fun

All ages are encouraged to attend and
bring a friend

Bring your favorite game and
a snack to share

For any questions call
Edith (510) 673-5872



THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that donated to July's Noisy Offering.

Thank you to everyone who helped with and came to the Church Campout this year! Especially Steve and Julie Ward for hosting.

Thank you, Penelope Smith, Tami Robinson, and Edith Hannett, along with everyone else coordinating behind the scenes to help make our Church Campout happen. Trinity on a Journey takes more hands than our average summer attendance and I know everyone looks forward to this time to recharge and to connect each year.

Thank you to all the committees working together to prepare the direction for Trinity through the Summer and into next Fall. I know that planning a churchwide flow, theme, and integrating it with a stewardship campaign, annual theme, and the sale of Trinity New Hope has been a lot of work. Thank you all.

Thank you to everyone on the alter guild, ushers, greeters, audio/video, musicians, and worship team who continue to show up or coordinate alternates through the summer. Even when many of us go on adventures our liturgy and worship have remained vibrant and rich thanks to your efforts.

IN OUR PRAYERS

For healing: Colton (Fran & Elwood's grandson – brain tumor)
Sharon Jones' nieces (Alzheimer's)
Monica Perez (friend of Edith Hannett – in need of a kidney)
Francis Frisbee (recovering from surgery – Amanda Hanson)
Angel Bray (Margreta Spady's granddaughter – cancer)
Abby (Fran & Elwood's granddaughter – seizures)
Eileen Warner (Received pacemaker. Kristina Radke's Mom)
Karen Bair (doing well, thanks for all the prayers!)
Linda Larson (in treatment for lymphoma – Mary Braudrick)
Tina Zielinski (Ankle/Leg healing daughter of Randy & Martha Miller)
Cody (Youth with heart condition – Emily Bentley)
Addie (Teenage Crohn's disease – Cathy Winwood)
Rita (Renee's sister -- Renee VanAtter)
Linda Dombeck (heart issues – Mary Braudrick)
Gail Leininger (recovering from shoulder surgery – Mary Helen)
Trent Glover (recovering from a fall and surgery)

For Andrew (from Elizabeth Schnabel)
For Berger Family (mourning loss of daughter from Mary Helen & Gail)
For Klayton Hanson (from Karson Hanson)
For Dan Baldwin (from Jessica & Aaron Carr)
For Diana (searching for employment – Elizabeth Schnabel)
For Chris & Cooper Koons (hoping for good test results – Anita Koons)
For Ward Family (mourning loss of Sylvia Ward)
For Jeff (Son awaiting test results – Elwood & Fran Webb)
For Family of Amy Bal (died from pneumonia -- from Radke Family)
For Colton family & friends (mourning loss of Travis Colton – Kellar family)
For Sharon Jones's family (mourning loss of Sharon Jones)
For Kellar Family (mourning loss of James R. Kellar, Lloyd's brother)
For Family of Di Seba (mourning loss of Diana Seba)

People in the Armed Services:

Brett Collins (grandson of Helen Collins – Marines)
John C. Collins II (Helen Collins' grandson – Navy SEAL)
Bill MacDonald (Navy)
Amanda Love (Cathy Winwood's Niece – Army)

*Prayer concerns will be removed after two months on the list
unless you let the office know otherwise.*

Trinity Servants For August 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church Servant Assignments (please find your own replacement and notify office if you can't serve.)

	August 03 Pentecost 8	August 10 Pentecost 9	August 17 Pentecost 10	August 24 Pentecost 11	August 31 Pentecost 12
<u>Assisting Minister</u>	Bryce Quarve	Kim Mills	Kim Mills	Steve VanAtter	Steve VanAtter
<u>Crucifer</u>	Jason Mills	Aldwin Kellar	Steve VanAtter	Alexa Ward	Giada Armbrust
<u>Acolyte</u>	Abigail Radke	Elizabeth Schnabel	Zander Radke	Aldwin Kellar	Karson Hanson
<u>Reader</u>	Jason Mills	Jeff Henderson	Trent Glover	Abigail Radke	Penelope Smith
<u>Children's Message</u>	Vicar Aaron	Steve VanAtter	Vicar Aaron	Larry Mills	Vicar Aaron
<u>Music</u>	Karissa Armbrust	Karissa Armbrust	Bryce Leifeste	Karissa Armbrust	Karissa Armbrust
<u>Audio/Streaming</u>	Jason Mills & Andrew Hanson	Sarah Henthorn & Jason Mills	Larry Mills & Sarah Henthorn	Elizabeth Schnabel & Larry Mills	Bryce Quarve & Elizabeth Schnabel
<u>Greeters</u>	Darrel & Peggy Miller	Lloyd & Judy Kellar	The Benoits	Bentley/Hilger Family	Edith Hannett & Michala Mills
<u>Ushers</u>	Lloyd & Judy Kellar	Steve & Renee VanAtter	The Radke Family	Steve & Julie Ward	Darrel & Peggy Miller
<u>Altar Guild</u>	The Benoits	Kristina Radke & Leiningers	The Benoits	Peggy Miller	Lloyd & Judy Kellar & Leningers
<u>Offering Counters</u>	Bryce Quarve & Darrel Miller	Larry Mills & Phil Cronk	Cedar Hilger & Andrew Hanson	Lloyd Kellar & Sierra Armbrust	Sierra Armbrust & Larry Mills
<u>Fellowship</u>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<u>Flowers</u>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	VanAtters
<u>Wine</u> Randy & Martha Miller	<u>Eternal Candle</u> Randy & Martha Miller	<u>Communion</u> <u>Bread</u> Judy Kellar	<u>Church Cleaning</u> Hanson Family		

Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar for **August 2025**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Office Closed	2 Office Closed
3 Pentecost 8 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	4 Office 8:00 – Noon	5 Office 8:00 – Noon Noon - Al-Anon 1-3 pm Study Group	6 Office 8:00 – Noon	7 Office 8:00 – Noon 6:30 pm Al-Anon	8 Office Closed	9 Office Closed
10 Pentecost 9 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	11 Office 8:00 – Noon	12 Office 8:00 – Noon Noon - Al-Anon 1-3 pm Study Group	13 Office 8:00 – Noon	14 Office 8:00 – Noon 2 pm Gospel & Growth 6:30 pm Al-Anon	15 Office Closed	16 Office Closed
17 Pentecost 10 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	18 Office 8:00 – Noon 9:00 am Epistle Articles Due	19 Office 8:00 – Noon Noon - Al-Anon 1-3 pm Study Group 7 pm Church Council	20 Office 8:00 – Noon	21 Office 8:00 – Noon 6:30 pm Al-Anon	22 Office Closed	23 Office Closed
24 Pentecost 11 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	25 Office 8:00 – Noon	26 Office 8:00 – Noon Noon - Al-Anon 1-3 pm Study Group	27 Office 8:00 -- Noon	28 Office 8:00 – Noon 6:30 pm Al-Anon	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed
31 Pentecost 12 10 am Worship and Communion (Noisy Offering) (Backpack Blessing) 11 am Fellowship Time						

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