

September 2018

Dear Friends of Trinity,

I want to introduce you to a new Missions funding initiative from the English District in which we will be participating.

It's called *A Dollar For Missions*. It's so easy you'll wonder why no one has thought of this before! Here's how it works:

One dollar per Baptized member per week. Simple!

Every weekend there will be a container in the hallway where donations can be made. Each week, all baptized members in attendance at church drop \$1 into the container. Week after week, for one calendar year, we'll do this.

Your participation is not mandatory. It's completely freewill. One dollar per baptized member per week. That's all. Participate as much or as little as you desire, or not at all. Age is not a factor. From the youngest to the oldest, baptized members of Trinity put in \$1 per week.

Is this a substitute for your regular offerings? Well, no. The funds that we raise go directly to English District mission projects. These funds are over and above your regular giving.

This initiative will begin in September, so watch for the container and display. I truly hope everyone gets involved. It might be fun for the little kids to drop a dollar into the box every week and will teach them the importance of giving.

I pray that our Lord will truly use the funds raised for the proclamation of His Gospel to the ends of the earth!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org



2018 Newsletter

Summer is over, schools are back in session. It is time to get back to our regular fall schedules. Our church organizations will also resume.



Our fall/winter worship schedule will resume on Saturday & Sunday, September 8th & 9th as follows:

Saturday - Contemporary Service – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - Traditional Service – 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School Rally Day & Bible Class – 9:15 a.m.



Ushers – the new fall schedule was emailed out to you. If you did not receive one, please stop in the church office and pick one up. Be sure to check the schedule for the dates you are scheduled to usher.

A big “Thank You” to all our ushers for the work they do to make our services run smoothly.



Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 9th at 9:15 a.m. If have any questions or need more information, please talk to Judi Donovan or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



From Council President, Jeff McDonald

We have engaged Suevel Studios to begin the maintenance work on our stained-glass windows at Trinity. The goal here is to get the windows in working order and repair any existing damage to them that exists. We have a handful of panes with cracks in them and there are several places where the mortar needs to be replaced to prevent any further damage from being done. We hope to have this repair work done with minimal disruption to our members and we hope also that this does indeed buy us another 15 to 20 years before the full restoration of these windows is needed. The unknown in this equation is just what it will take to get the lower windows on the sides of the sanctuary functioning again, but that will be determined as the project moves along. Some may simply require lubrication while others are bound to require more extensive work. When the windows have been restored, please take care when opening and closing them to apply pressure solely to the window frames and not the window panes. While our stone walls in the sanctuary are extremely solid, the windows are comparatively much more fragile and should be handled as delicately as possible. This care will only prolong the life of the windows, allowing them to be enjoyed by future generations or years to come.

By now you have likely had a chance to see the new offices at Trinity as well as the new carpeting in the current library. I hope you like what you see! Personally, this project exceeded my expectations and I'm thrilled with the finished product. Rather than put the old television set back in the library along with the large table on which it sat, we are installing a flat screen television in that room that will give us a lot more space in the room and will also give us a better audio/visual option for any presentation that might require the use of a television screen. This update was an inexpensive one as the materials for it, including the television and wall mount, were donated to Trinity so this did not involve any additional expense for us thanks to the labor for the project also being donated by our property committee, who put a lot of sweat equity into this project. Please join me in thanking them for their efforts.

Next up is the kitchen remodel, as was mentioned in last month's newsletter. We want to make sure we aren't taking on a bigger project than we intend to here, so we will be working with the Village and other officials to make sure we can simply update the kitchen without having to undertake any more extensive upgrades to our existing space. Assuming that is a go, we will be exploring this project further over the next couple of months with the goal of moving

forward with it as soon as possible. If you have an eye for design and have ideas for an effective layout in that room, please contact me as we are very open to member input on how to make this kitchen more useful for all of us.

Last, I want to give you a quick overview of the money associated with some of these projects. We raised about \$50,000 for our windows and we expect to spend no more than half of that amount on the current maintenance work (ideally, we would like to keep this under \$20,000 in total, but we won't know for sure until the work is started). That means we should have close to \$30,000 available now for the kitchen. Early estimates, which were admittedly pretty rough, were that the kitchen might run close to \$35,000 to remodel. Like any other project in a building as old as ours, though, there are likely to be added costs as we go along. Surprises are rarely a good thing in the context of remodeling, yet they are regrettably common in older buildings like ours. Assuming we stay on budget, that means we would be about \$5,000 short for these two projects. If push comes to shove, we have funds available to us to cover this, but then that would deplete our window fund as well. So I will close by asking you all to consider any funding of this project that you are moved to provide. If we are able to complete the window maintenance work and the kitchen and have funds left over at the end, they will be designated to go right back into the stained-glass repair fund for use when the full window restoration is done. I never cease to be amazed by the generosity of our congregation and I try to limit my begging to only the larger projects. We are currently debt free as a result of the generosity of our members and our adherence to the idea that we don't spend money that we don't have. I hope you all agree that our physical plant at Trinity is in great shape and that the changes we're making at the church are beneficial to all of us. Whether it is the new lift, the new exterior railing and stairs, the new sidewalk, the new gym windows, the new organ, the new air conditioning units, the new offices, or something not on this list, we have evidence of the improvements we've made all around us at Trinity and I hope you are enjoying them as much as I am. I am hopeful that the fellowship hall kitchen remodel project will be our last one for a good while, so I will close by asking you to consider supporting this project between now and the end of the year. If we can complete this project and retain a decent fund for our stained-glass windows, I believe we will be in excellent shape.



Confirmation Classes will be held this year through Google Classroom. If you have not signed up yet, please contact Pastor Hoag for information. Confirmation is for all seventh and eighth grade students.

All confirmations students are required to serve as acolytes during the year at one of the church services. They are also required to attend church at least once a month and fill out a sermon sheet to be handed in to Pastor Hoag.

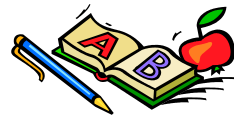


Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 5th at 8:30 a.m. in the library. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join.

Thursday night Adult Bible Study will begin on Thursday September 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Come and join the group.



Church Council will meet on Sunday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. All congregation members are invited to attend.



Preschool News and Information

2018-2019 Trinity Pre-School

Spots still available please tell your friends and neighbors!

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2018, the tuition per month will be \$110 for two day students and \$135 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2018. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973. Pre-School orientation is on September 4, 5, 6 & 7th. First day of Pre-School will be Monday, September 10th.



Our organizations will be back in full swing in September.

Ladies would you like to get acquainted with fellow church members? All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend one of our ladies' groups. Joining a group helps you get acquainted with fellow members. *Due to Labor Day being the first Monday, Chancel Guild and Social Ministry Meetings have been pushed back one week.*

Chancel Guild will meet on Monday, September 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Social Ministry will meet on Monday, September 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Jan Toepke's house.

Please call the church office if you have any questions or would like further information about any of these organizations.



Choir practice will begin on Wednesday, September 12th at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always welcome – “both male and female”. If you have any questions, please call the choir director, Julie Verchimak at 815.723.1429 or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



Chancel Guild: All ladies are welcome to join us.

Next meeting is September 10th at 6:30 pm; hostesses are Janice Prospero and Christine Stark. We will be preparing for the October Annual Salad Luncheon.



Weekly Coffee Fellowship. Thank you to all the coffee hosts who have been serving each month. We had a couple first time hosts this year, and truly appreciate your help. **Coffee Fellowship is held after the 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning service. It is a great way for members to get acquainted. Be sure to stop in.**

**We are in need of a volunteer for the
The Fourth Sunday of the month.**

“Fourth Sunday” – Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to make coffee on the 4th Sunday, but we are still in need of volunteers for November. This is a once a year commitment. The sign-up sheet is on the hall table. Please take a turn and volunteer because without you there will not be coffee served for those months. If you have any questions about what is involved in this, please call the church office at 815.485.6973



Chancel Guild – Annual Fall Salad Luncheon



**Wednesday, October 4th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$8.00 Carry Outs Available! Men are welcome!**

The Women’s League members will be furnishing the desserts. This is Chancel’s only fundraiser and all proceeds will be used to replace and or purchase altar linens and supplies. Tickets may be purchased from any chancel member or through the church office. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, call the church office at 815.485.6973.



MEMBER UPDATES FOR August 2018

Baptisms:

Frederick Stephen Tomany, son of Daniel and Kellimarie (Geiger) Tomany, born June 7, 2018, baptized August 19, 2018



Social Ministry

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 10th at Jan Toepke's home at 7:00 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are welcome. We are always open to some new ideas or suggestions.

Chemo Bags will be filled on September 18th here at Trinity at 1:00 pm. Anyone interested in helping, please come out and join the group for the afternoon.



YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Craft Fair – Our Craft & Vendor Fair will be Saturday, October 13, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. We are currently looking for crafters and vendors who wish to have a booth at our fair. Applications for space can be picked up in the church office or on our website. Contact Donna Cuthbert at rusty351@ameritech.net or Michelle Hoag at hoagmichelle@msn.com to register.

Script Cards - The Youth will continue with *the Scrip Fundraiser Program using the proceeds for the "National Youth Gathering"*.

The National Youth Gathering will be held July 11-15, 2019 in Minneapolis. Parents and youth are invited to learn more about the Youth Gathering on Sunday, September 9th in the library at 6:00 PM.

Due to the Labor Day holiday weekend, our next scrip order deadline will be moved to Monday, September 10th. Orders can be placed in the gold envelope in the church office. Cards will be ready for pick up at church the following weekend. Any questions can be directed to Angie Minett at minett411@yahoo.com or [\(815\)467-2537](tel:8154672537) or Gary Purnell at [\(815\)485-9017](tel:8154859017). You can

also check out shopwithscrip.com to learn more. Thank you for your continued support of this fundraiser!



ALTAR FLOWERS: Flowers are placed on our altar every weekend to enhance and beautify our altar area in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday, wedding anniversary, or in celebration of God's blessings. **A 2018 flower chart showing open weekends has been posted in the cabinet across from the church office.** The flower order forms are attached to the cabinet. If you would like to sponsor flowers on a particular weekend, complete the form and place it along with a **check made out to Trinity Lutheran Chancel Guild** in the Chancel Guild mailbox in the church office. Please note the cost of the flowers has increased to \$30.00. If you want a date already chosen, it may be possible to share the date and the cost with permission from the person who has already selected the date. If you have any questions, please call Kay Purnell at (815) 485-9017 or email her at purnellk51@hotmail.com. Flowers may be picked up **after** the 10:30 am service. Thank you to all who participate!



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Thank you to everyone for continuing to support St. Matthew's through food, clothing, monetary donations or delivering these items to St. Matthew's. These items help St. Matthew's in feeding the hungry and homeless in the Pilsen neighborhood. We are asking that members donate food and paper supplies for their twice weekly meals, to be placed in the designated containers by the parking lot entrance. Household items should be placed in the storage closet area at the far North end of the church basement. Please place the items carefully so they do not block the aisle to the boiler room.

In addition to the food items for St. Matthews Church, there is a need for cleaning products. Examples would be: paper towels, rags, general purpose cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners, hand washing soap, hand lotions, hand sanitizers, dishwashing soap, etc. These items can be left in the upstairs bin also.

Thank you to Chuck and Sandy Peters and Virgil for taking the items collected to St. Matthews in the month of August.



Thanks to everyone who signed up last month as a reader, greeter or a volunteer for the MorningStar serving. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Readers and Greeters. The sign-up sheets for September are on the table. Please sign up for the date(s) you would be willing to help out. Readers ... if you'd like a copy of the readings ahead of time, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

MorningStar Mission. The September sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. Serving will be September 17th.



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Thrivent Financial – Will be hosting a Retirement Seminar entitled “5 Keys to Retiring Fearlessly”. It will be held here at Trinity on September 18, 2018 at 10 AM. Refreshments will be served. You can sign up on the hallway table.



ShareFest – is looking for volunteers to help the following dates:

Sept. 8th – Recyclepalooza Collections at Spencer School 1701 S. Spencer Rd.

7:30 – 10:30 am 10:15 am – 1:00 pm 12:45 - 3:30 pm

Sept. 11th - Patriot Day Ceremony in the Village Commons

Sept. 15th or 16th Forest Preserve Workday Hickory Creek Junction 9am till noon

Sept. 22nd – Service Project Saturday local fix-up/clean up projects 9am till 1pm
(volunteers meet at 8:30 am in front parking lot at St. Jude 241 W. 2nd Ave)

To volunteer, call or text 815/342-2199 or sign up on line at [info@ShareFest WillCounty.com](mailto:info@ShareFestWillCounty.com)



Portals of Prayer from October through December will be available in the wall rack in the Narthex and also on the hallway table by the middle of September. Pick up a copy.



Church office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 2.