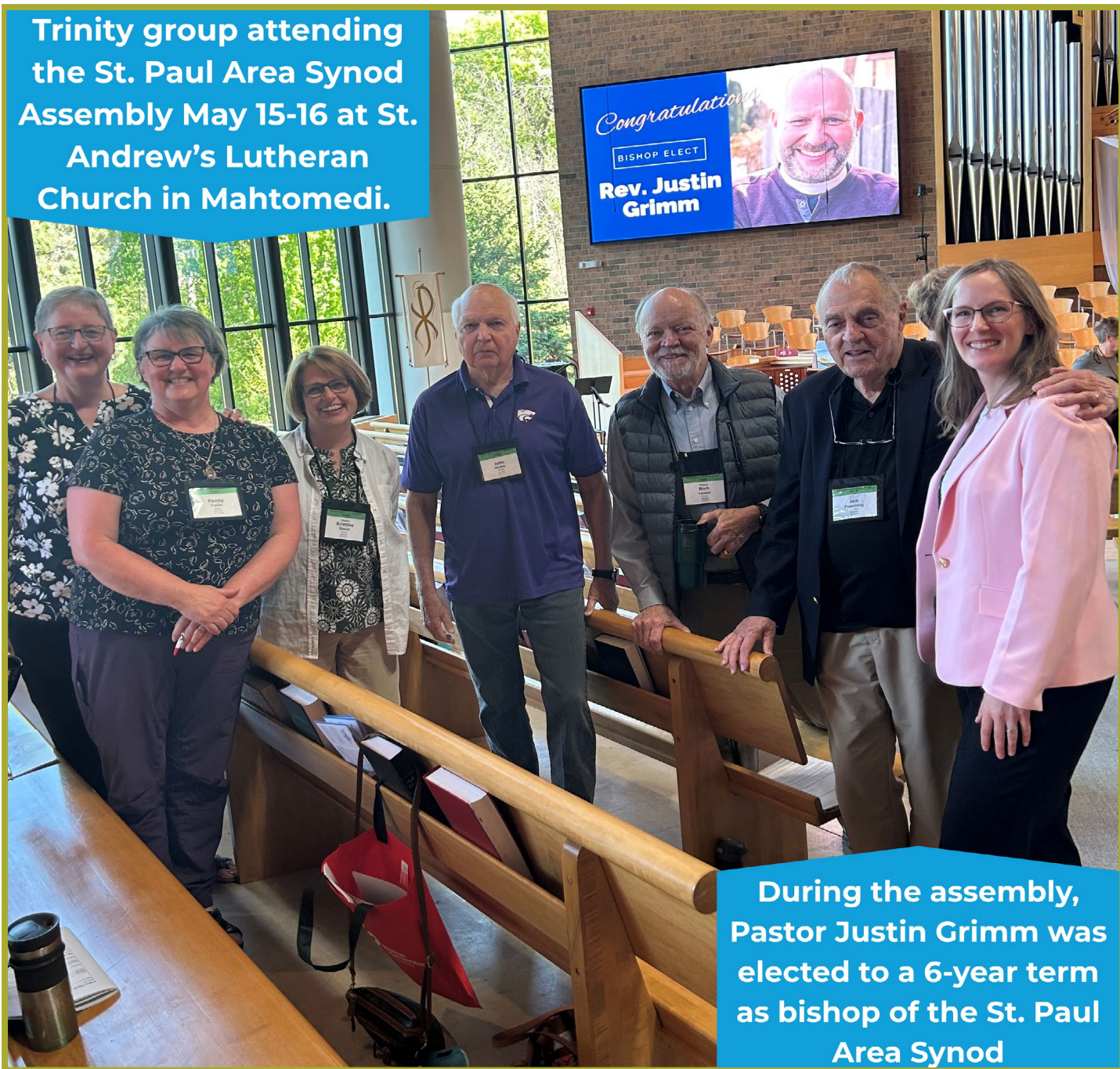


TRINITYTODAY!

Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world.
June 2026 | volume 51, issue 6

Trinity group attending
the St. Paul Area Synod
Assembly May 15-16 at St.
Andrew's Lutheran
Church in Mahtomedi.



During the assembly,
Pastor Justin Grimm was
elected to a 6-year term
as bishop of the St. Paul
Area Synod

Letter from the Pastors Page 2 - 3
Last Month at Trinity Photos Page 5
Trinity Drive-In Information Page 6

LinkTree QR Code
Scan this code to see what
is happening at Trinity!
Virtual viewers click [HERE](#)
for access to LinkTree





INTERIM PASTOR JEN HACKBARTH

Friends in Christ,

Trinity is experiencing what it means to live without debt. Hallelujah! Ephesians 3:20-21 guided the three-year Comprehensive Campaign that closed this spring: “Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

This passage closes the first section of Ephesians, a letter written to encourage and guide early Christian congregations. It serves as both a beautiful prayer and a turning point into a discussion of what it means to live a grace-filled life. Ephesians reminds us that through God’s grace and salvation, we are united together in Christ with shared hope and calling.

Over the generations—and especially during the past three years—Trinity has experienced the power of God at work within this congregation. When the aspirational goal of paying off the entire mortgage was first introduced, it seemed far beyond what we could ask or imagine. Yet together, through faith and generosity, Trinity accomplished it.

The positive impact of the Comprehensive Campaign and the large anonymous gift will continue to shape Trinity for years to come. This freedom from debt is a genuine gift, but the deeper gift is the congregation’s willingness to continue showing up—not because we must, but because we are united and led by Jesus.

With Trinity’s mortgage now fully paid off, the congregation enters a new season of financial stability and opportunity. While eliminating nearly \$3 million in debt is a remarkable achievement, the long-term impact depends on thoughtful planning and faithful stewardship.

By paying off the mortgage in April, Trinity will save about \$57,000 during the remainder of the current fiscal year. As of mid-May 2026, approximately \$38,000 of these freed up funds have been designated to a few deferred maintenance needs.

Trinity has ordered a new dishwasher for the kitchen, along with a new water heater and water softener. The congregation is also repairing an HVAC system leak and installing hard-wired CO2 detectors and AEDs throughout the building.

These projects support Trinity’s core value of Radical Hospitality by ensuring the building remains safe, comfortable, and welcoming for everyone who enters.

Planning is already underway for the 2026–2027 fiscal year congregational budget. Without mortgage payments,

Trinity’s council and Finance Team will prepare a budget that begins to address several pressing priorities:

- Caring for a building with years of deferred maintenance.
- Providing staff salaries and wages that better honor their faithful service after many years of only cost-of-living increases.
- Expanding generosity and support for congregational ministries.
- Strengthening operating reserves.

Trinity’s mission remains the same: Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world, loving God, and loving neighbor.

As we look ahead and prepare to welcome new pastors in the near future, we do so with gratitude and confidence, knowing they will partner with a congregation committed to living into God’s abundance together.

Thank you, thank you, for your generosity in Christ.

*Interim Pastor
Jen HackbARTH*

Pastor Jen will lead a 4-week study on the book “Holy Spirit: Creative Power in Our Lives” by Dr. Lois Malcolm. All are welcome to discuss the Spirit’s essential role in God’s work in the world. Books will be ordered and interested participants can pick them up in the church office in early June. The study will meet in the Living Room at Trinity at 6:30pm on June 24 and July 1, 8, & 15. No need to RSVP.

INTERIM PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION KRISTINE STEDJE



As summer arrives in the northern hemisphere, we gather for worship and faith formation at the Drive In! It is great to be out in God's nature, claiming our love for the earth, river and sky. I have been fascinated by the recent trip to the moon this spring and the incredible pictures the Artimus astronauts shared with the whole world.

In the opening verses of Genesis, God exhibits a certain creative style. On the one hand, it is an orderly account. On the other hand, God's creational work exhibits a certain messiness, with the wind sweeping across the face of the waters.

Creation is not a sudden one-day affair; God does not snap the divine fingers and immediately bring the creation into being. God takes time in creating...there was evening and morning, one day, two days. Given that God has been creating through the millennia, I wonder what number today is for God!

Bringing the creation into being over time signals that creation is a dynamic process and not a finished product. Our Creator God chooses not to take an "I'll do it by myself" kind of approach to creation. God catches up the creatures along the way to participate with God in ever new creations. "Let the earth bring forth; let the waters bring forth, let us create humankind." God invites the earth and waters and microorganisms and you and me into the creative process.

And, then, at the end of each day, God makes an evaluation of what God has observed: it's good. The word "good" includes a range of meanings, but one sense of the word is aesthetic —Yes, that's just right!

In creating human beings our writing, our speaking, our actions, or our way of being with others may be revealing of creative activity that God treasures and honors. Indeed, God so values you that God will confidently entrust you with creative tasks and responsibilities beyond your present knowing. That evaluation may run something like this: what you do and say is good, but the way in which you say it and do it may make the "what" even better. Style counts with God!

Our wondrously creative God takes the ongoing creational process into account in shaping new directions for the world, only one of which is the dimension of engaging creatures in creative activity. God's approach to creation was and continues to be communal and relational. So enjoy God's creation this summer as you walk, play, vacation, work and appreciate the "goodness" of all creation. See you at the Drive In!

*Interim Pastor
Kristine Stedje*



Giving Summary

“From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required, and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.” – Luke 12:48

SPRING AHEAD. We enter this new “spring” season in the life of Trinity with deep gratitude and a renewed sense of calling. With the payoff of our mortgage, \$172,000 annually is now freed in our budget – an important milestone that allows us to more faithfully align our resources with our values and God’s mission for Trinity.

A RENEWED SENSE OF STEWARDSHIP. As we look ahead, we are taking a prudent and forward-looking approach to the 2026–2027 budget. Our staff have served with dedication and sacrifice through lean years, and we recognize we have not always been able to provide fair and equitable compensation. As stewards of what God has entrusted to us, we are committed to addressing this through thoughtful and sustainable salary adjustments – honoring those who serve Trinity so faithfully. At the

same time, we are allocating portions of these funds to strengthen operating reserves, address deferred maintenance, and establish long-term building reserves so we can care well for the space entrusted to us.

AN INVITATION. This moment is not simply a financial milestone – it is a spiritual invitation. It calls each of us to a deeper commitment to faithful, consistent stewardship as we balance present needs with a strong and sustainable future for ministry. Jesus reminds us in Luke 12:48 that much is required of those who have been given much. We have been entrusted with much – and we are called to respond with renewed generosity, commitment, and purpose. With gratitude for where we’ve been and hope for where God is leading, we move forward together – faithfully stewarding all that has been given to us to live out our values and fulfill the greater mission before us.

APR 2026 FYTD INCOME VS EXPENSE.

- FYTD Contributions were **\$975,808** (110% of Budget). 2024/25 YTD Giving was **\$933,404**.
- Total Income – minus Missions and Anonymous Gift – was **\$1,189,161** (109% of Budget). 2024/25 Income was \$1,286,691 (\$98,636/ERC).
- Total Expenses – minus Missions – were **\$1,097,233** (100% of budget). 2024/25 Expenses were **\$1,073,451**.
- Operating Reserves: **\$236,288**.

FACILITIES. Some of the mortgage savings for 2025/2026 will fund the following unplanned facility needs:

- Gilbert Mechanical is repairing a leak in our existing HVAC unit that cools the sanctuary and the narthex. (We will need to “budget” to replace this unit in the near future.)
- Installation and hardwiring of combination smoke/CO2 detectors and dedicated CO2 detectors in the lower level of the building to meet code.
- Installation of a new dishwasher in the church kitchen – as well as a new on-demand water heater and softener.
- Purchase of 2 new AEDs. Currently, our AED’s are 10 years old – and in need of updating.

May we fully embrace this season with hope, purpose, and a joyful willingness to give, trusting that through our stewardship, God will continue to do more than we can imagine.

Sarah Kinsman, Parish Administrator

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW TREASURER!

Hello Congregation,

Please join me in welcoming our new Congregational Treasurer, Mike Karlsrud. Mike has been a valued member of the Trinity family for more than 20 years. He is an active member of the choir and currently serves as Treasurer for the Missions Team.

In his professional life Michael Karlsrud is an executive, coach, entrepreneur, speaker, and author. He holds several degrees, including a Master of Education in Human Resource Development, Organization Development, and Training. After holding leadership positions in multiple Fortune 50 companies over 20 years, Michael started The Karlsrud Company in 2009 – a coaching and leadership development consultancy. Michael was also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls Business School. Today, he is a Chair with Vistage International, where he facilitates three executive leadership

groups and provides executive coaching.

I am confident that he will be an outstanding addition to the Trinity Council Executive Team and a strong leader for the Finance Team.

Thank you for your support throughout my tenure as Treasurer. It has been a true pleasure to serve in this role over the past two years.

Kind regards,

Jill Longnecker

Outgoing Treasurer





BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS



YOUTH MUSICAL AND YOUTH LED WORSHIP



LAST MONTH AT TRINITY



CELEBRATING JEANNIE'S 30 YEARS AT TRINITY!



Trinity Drive-In

**at St. Croix Hilltop Drive-In 1433 Main Street,
Houlton, WI 54082**

Summer Sunday Worship Indoor: 8:30 a.m. at Trinity

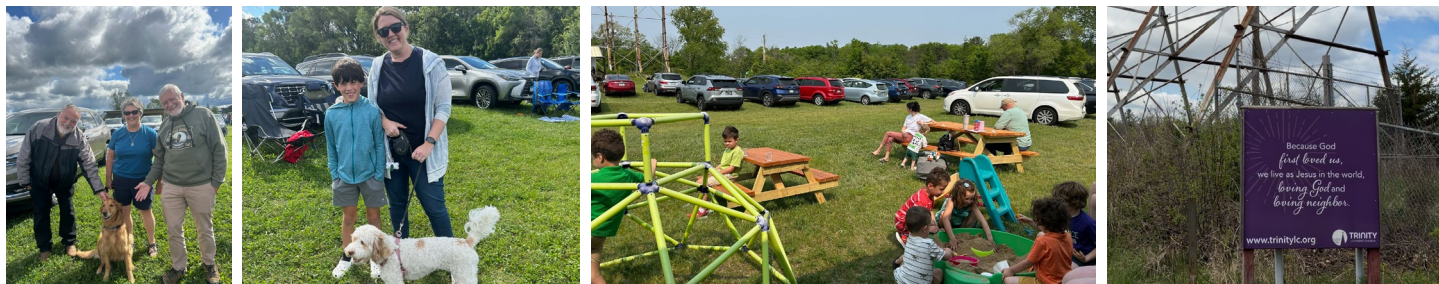
Outdoor: 10 a.m. at our Drive-in location in Houlton, WI

This summer, enjoy both indoor and outdoor worship options!

Join us indoors at Trinity, or head to our very own "Vali-Hi" style drive-in, the Hilltop Drive-In Theater in Houlton, WI, at 10 AM. Just 10 minutes east of Stillwater (1433 Main St.), you can enjoy the worship band from your car (tune to 91.9 FM) or a comfy lawn chair. Dress is casual, fellowship is warm, and all are welcome!

Our summer schedule runs from Memorial Day weekend (May 24) through Labor Day weekend (Sep 7).

Check out our feature Sunday calendar! For cancellations due to weather, please check our website, Facebook, members app (download at: <https://shelby.Ministryone.com/landing/7drB>), or email list (sign up at: <https://trinitylc.Org/e-news/email-subscriptions/>)



Special Sundays at the Drive-In!

(Regular worship continues on non-listed Sundays.)

• May 24 – Summer Kickoff!

June 7 – Special Treats for purchase by Roxie's Waffle Truck

June 14 – Run/Walk/Bike Sunday:

• June 21 – Pride Sunday: Celebrate and affirm all people of faith, embracing diverse sexual orientations, gender identities, and expressions.

• 8:30 AM Indoor Worship at Trinity: Join us for a special service featuring musical guests, One Voice Mixed Chorus! For over 35 years, this vibrant LGBTQIA+ and straight ally chorus has been "building community and creating social change by raising our voices in song."

• 10:00 AM Drive-In Worship: Enjoy worship with music provided by Clark Weyrauch and Robin Cain.

• June 28 – World Refugee Sunday: Join us in solidarity with refugees worldwide.

• July 5 – Camp Song Sunday: The epitome of summer! Come sing your favorite camp songs with us.

• August 16 – Jazz Band Sunday: Special musical guests, the Rented Mules Jazz Band, will join our worship. We will also bless backpacks and prepare our hearts for the new school year

• August 24 – Blessing of the Animals: All well-behaved, leashed pets are welcome to receive a special blessing during worship!

• Sep 6 – Last Sunday of the Summer Drive-In: Don't miss our final outdoor worship of the season!

• September 13 – TrinityFEST: We'll be back at Trinity for our annual community celebration!

Playground Happy Hour — Second Tuesdays of the Month this Summer

Play, sip, connect! Parents, this one's for you, too. Join us for Playground Happy Hour at Trinity this summer! On the second Tuesday of each month — June 9, July 14, and August 11 — families are invited to gather from 5:00–6:00 pm for casual connection and play on Trinity's wonderful outdoor playground. Children can run, climb, and make new friends while grown-ups relax, chat, and enjoy a refreshing beverage. It's an easy, joy-filled way to connect with other families before heading home (or off to dinner!) for the evening. Come as you are — no registration required. All ages welcome, and friends are too! If the weather is fussy, we'll move inside to the Gym.

Vacation Bible School 2026

June 15–19 | 9:30–11:30 am

Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs



Get ready for an unforgettable week at Vacation Bible School 2026 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater! This summer at Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs, we'll explore how God calls us to care for one another — and for the whole creation.

As we look around the world, it's clear that compassion matters more than ever. During this special week, kids ages 3 (fully potty-trained)

through Grade 5 will discover what all living things need to flourish — shelter, food, water, air, and community — and how we can respond with kindness, gratitude, and care for the earth and for each other.

Grounded in Psalm 104, we'll explore the beautiful interconnectedness of God's creation — humans alongside the more-than-human world. Through music, storytelling, games, hands-on crafts, and outdoor exploration, campers will grow in awareness, wonder, and joy as co-sustainers of God's good world.

Register: <https://trinitystillwatermn.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/1317b910-e0dc-4dcd-be25-8a8fce44e9e0>

Milestone Makeup

Did you miss celebrating a Faith Milestone this past January? You're not alone—and it's not too late!

If your family would still like to mark a special milestone like the Baptism Birthday Party, Bible Discovery, Worship Orientation, or Communion Preparation, we'd love to make space for that in a more personal way. One-off Milestone gatherings are available to schedule over the summer.

To set something up, reach out to Sarah Olson at solson@trinitylc.org. Let's find a time to celebrate your child's faith journey in a way that works for you!

June 2026 • Trinity Today



There's Still Time to Register for Camp Wapo Summer 2026

Seeds (grades 1–3): June 19–21

Weeklong Youth Camp & Roots (grades 4+): June 21–26

Please use our Trinity-specific link to register: <https://lwlbc.com/trinity-stillwater>

Attending Camp Wapo? See you at Mabel's!

Join Sarah Olson from Trinity and Jess Peterson from Our Savior's for a Camp Wapo Meet & Greet at Mabel's in Bayport (293 3rd St N) on Wednesday, June 17 at 6:30 pm.

Come connect with other campers and families from the Stillwater area, ask any last-minute camp questions, and start getting excited for our shared camp week

June 21–26. Ice cream is BYOM (Bring Your Own Money)—we'll bring the camp spirit!



BIG NEWS from Camp Wapo!

Looking for a fun, low-pressure way to try camp this summer?

Camp Wapo is introducing Explorers Camp—a special one-day (with optional overnight!) experience for kids and their parents who've completed grades K–6.

What to expect:

- A taste of the classic Camp Wapo experience
- Flexible option to stay overnight
- Perfect "first step" into camp life

Saturday, June 13, 2026

Curious? Ready to explore? Check here for all the details:

<https://lakewapo.org/programs/explorers/>

Registration Open for W.O.W. Camp 2026! (August 10–14)

Looking for a joyful, faith-filled place for your elementary-aged child during the last week of summer break? W.O.W. Camp is a fantastic way to wrap up the summer with friends, fun, and meaningful experiences before school begins.

After hosting the inaugural camp last year, we're excited to share that W.O.W. Camp 2026 will be held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (609 S. 5th Street, Stillwater).

Register at: <https://www.stpaulcl.org/wowcamp2026>

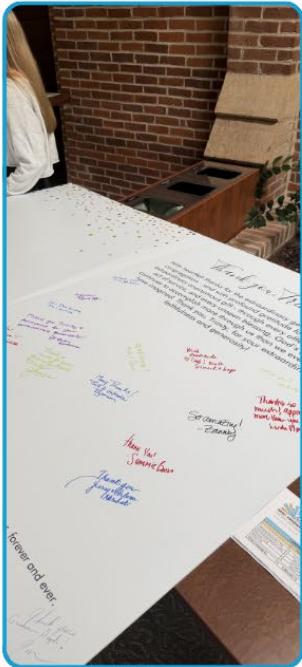
Questions? Contact CYF & Outreach Director Jenny Brelje at jenny@stpaulcl.org or (651) 439-5970.





Comprehensive Campaign Celebration

April 26, 2026



The Call Committee's Work is Underway!

Our Call Committee is organized and using the MSP (Ministry Site Profile) to guide its efforts in searching for, selecting, and recommending a new lead pastor for TLC. The Committee's first initiative is to invite candidate nominations from our congregation. If you know of someone you think would be a good potential candidate or who has expressed interest in the lead Pastor opportunity, you are invited to use the Call Candidate Nomination Form shown below.

Completed nomination forms are due by Sunday, June 21, 2026, and can be dropped in the "Nomination Form Drop Boxes" available in the back of church.

A link to the Call Candidate Nomination Form is also available on the TLC Website and via an email link being sent to congregation members.



An inclusive, free Pride celebration with music, activities, and fun for all ages
Allergen-friendly food truck options available for purchase for everyone

GREEN SPACE • 115 N. 4TH STREET • STILLWATER, MN

5:30-8 PM

June
16
2026



*Hosted and Sponsored by Stillwater Pride Alliance - A collaboration
of area businesses, non-profits, churches, and individuals*

FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL: stillwaterpridealliance@gmail.com



Pentecost's Call to Celebrate Diversity and Live in the Unity

Claudia Swendseid, Racial Justice Ministry Team

It's Pentecost! The season in which we celebrate the birth of the Christian Church. A time when the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to proclaim the Gospel to people from every nation.

People present at the first Pentecost heard the apostles preach, each in their own language. Everyone was incorporated into the community rather than assimilated. All shared together in the Pentecost, while their cultural, ethnic, linguistic and other identities remained intact. There was unity without uniformity.

In a time when the world has become so polarized, the Pentecost experience is a powerful reminder that the Church began in a gathering together of people who represented multicultural, multi-faith, and multilingual differences yet, they were holistically transformed by the Holy Spirit to feel and experience the essence of God's love. So, in our own day, we remember that Pentecost calls us to celebrate diverse people with diverse talents, to welcome and advocate for others who may be different from us, yet live in full unity with us in Christ Jesus.

Among the diverse communities that add to the richness of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), are Asian American and Pacific Islanders (AAPI), whose heritage we honored during the month of May. In 1992, Congress established May as AAPI Heritage Month to coincide with two key milestones: the arrival of the nation's first Japanese immigrants (May 7, 1843) and Chinese workers' pivotal role in building the transcontinental railroad (completed May 10, 1869). Several ELCA congregations in the St. Paul Area Synod (SPAS) have strong Asian or Pacific Islander connections, serving diverse communities such as Hmong, Vietnamese, Korean, Cambodian, and others.

In fact, the newest congregation in SPAS is **Eternal Flame Lutheran Church** in Vadnais Heights. It serves members from 18 different Hmong clans, offering worship, community support, and inter-clan connections. Pastors Jua Jay Her and William Siong, both Hmong, lead the congregation, which blends Lutheran ministry with Hmong cultural traditions (see article in [Living Lutheran](#)). Notably, persons of Hmong heritage make-up the largest Asian community in Minnesota, totaling about 100,000 persons, or about one-third of all Asian Minnesotans.

Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church in Roseville, is another Asian-connected ELCA congregation in SPAS. It serves a Chinese-speaking and Chinese-heritage community and offers worship in Mandarin and Cantonese, cultural events, and community outreach.

Through the Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders—an autonomous ELCA-recognized group led by Asians/Asian descent Lutherans—the ELCA mentors AAPI leaders, lifts-up their voices and supports their full participation in church life. Consistent with the experience of Pentecost, the [ELCA's](#)

[website](#) (Asian & Pacific Islander Ministries in the ELCA on AAPI ministries reads:

We embrace the rich diversity of people with Asian and Pacific Islander heritage.... Some have deep generational roots in the U.S.; others are first-generation immigrants. Together, we form a vibrant, growing part of the ELCA—over 100 Asian congregations and many who worship in multicultural settings. Our vision is to strengthen ministry using culture, language and heritage as gifts—sharing the good news of Jesus Christ and serving our neighbors in a multicultural world. We aim to reach distinct communities uniquely while uniting in common faith. We recognize the realities of “first generation” experience: new arrivals, language challenges and cultural transitions—and we respond with pastoral care, spiritual formation, worship and community support rooted in our [Lutheran] traditions.

At Pentecost, the power of God made it possible for us to have unity in the midst of diversity. The Spirit is an equalizer and holy resister to racism and racial hierarchical systems. The greatest manifestation of the power of the Spirit comes when we find ways to be together, in fellowship, in purpose, in community, in love—our hearts made incandescent by the Spirit's fire.



Congregation of Eternal Flame Lutheran Church

Opportunities recommended by the RJMT in June

On June 19, we observe Juneteenth, a national and a state holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. Consider participating in one of the many family-focused celebrations in our area. Key events in St. Paul include:

Juneteenth: The Reckoning (Anika Foundation)

o **Date & Time:** Friday, June 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

o **Location:** Minnesota State Capitol, 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, St. Paul

o **Details:** The 5th annual large-scale community block party featuring live music, food vendors, kids' activities, and community resources. Check The [The Anika Foundation](#) for lineup details and updates.

5th Annual Rondo Juneteenth Observance

o **Date & Time:** Friday, June 19, 2026 | 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM (Program runs 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM)

o **Location:** Rondo Commemorative Plaza, 820 Rondo Ave, St. Paul

o **Details:** This historical and cultural celebration features speeches, local award presentations, and historical exhibits about Rondo families. Learn more on the [RCODE Events Calendar](#).

For a wider list of neighboring festivities, explore the [Visit Saint Guide](#).

Pride Justice

YOU ARE INVITED!

Your personal invitation has arrived!
Trinity's Pride Justice Team invites YOU to join any or all the events Trinity is participating in during June, which is Pride Month.

We look forward to seeing EACH ONE OF YOU!
THREE celebrations to choose from!
GOD'S LOVE WINS at each celebration, when you show up and support your LGBTQIA2S+ neighbors, family, friends, colleagues, and community!



Trinity's PRIDE SUNDAY | June 21

8:30am In-House Worship-One Voice Mixed Choir

10:00am Drive-In Worship

Both worship services include special Pride treats, activities, and Pride swag for ALL AGES!



Missions and Devotions

The Four Pillars of Missions Team:

1. Refugee Resettlement & Inclusion- (includes anything to do with Refugees)
2. Housing Insecurity- PIT (Point in Time), Washington County Emergency Housing, and Tiny Homes (Settled).
3. Global Companions - Tanzania related (Hospice kits, our sister congregation in Mwatasi, our new sister congregation in Ilomgombe, travel and other companions, perhaps in the Gaza Strip.
4. Local Companions - Any local organizations that the Missions Team may be involved in such as food drives, Feed the World funds for Baby Enfamil at Valley Outreach, Community Thread, Solid Ground, Family Means, etc.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

STIGMA GROWS IN SILENCE. HEALING BEGINS IN COMMUNITY.

NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) supports, educates, and advocates for community members who live with a mental illness as well as their friends and family members. NAMI is an organization run by volunteers and led by community input.

NAMI support groups provide ongoing support for families and friends of persons living with a mental illness. The support groups are facilitated by persons who have a family member with a mental illness and who have specialized training. There are a number of support groups in Washington County that meet on a regular basis. Drop ins are welcome at any meeting.

Family Support Groups are offered at multiple locations in the county. All support groups are free to attend. All information shared at meetings is confidential.

Family Support (in person) - every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month - 6:30-8:00 pm

Stillwater Public Library, 224 3rd St. N, Stillwater, MN

Family Support (in person) - every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month - 6:00-7:30 pm

Canvas Health - 7066 Stillwater Blvd., Oakdale, MN

Family Support (online) - every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month - 6:30 - 8:00 pm

To attend visit the NAMI, Minnesota website and register with "HeyPeers"

Parent/Caregiver Family Support Group (in person) - every 4th Tuesday of the month - 6:15 - 7:45 pm

All Saints Lutheran Church - 8100 Belden Blvd., Cottage Grove, MN

Parent/Caregiver Family Support Group (in person) every 2nd Thursday of the month - 6:00-7:30 pm

Shepherd of the Valley Church - 14107 Hudson Rd. S., Afton, MN.

Submitted by Jeneal Olsen, NAMI Washington County board member, volunteer.

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS team : Lysa Ausmus, Carolyn Briol, Carol Straka, and Ann Wolff, Jeneal Olsen

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH EARTH KEEPERS.

LEAVE IT BETTER THAN YOU FOUND IT

Dear Trinity community,

Here are your Earth Keeper T.I.P.s (Thoughtfully. Intentionally. Purposefully.)

A New Way to Run Errands

We all know walking is a great form of exercise that keeps us fit and healthy, but it's also great for the environment. Gas prices are high and a great way to save money and the environment is to walk to those in town errands this summer. Strap on a backpack, grab some reusable bags and/or a rolling shopping bag and walk to your errands.

Join the Washington County Food Scraps Program-It's FREE to Join!

Food scraps account for [24% of solid waste in landfills](#). Put them to good use and compost them! Go to washingtoncountymn.gov/2969/Food-Scraps-Collection and sign up. The bags come to you for free (if you need a container, that's free too! Just go pick one up). All you need to do is put your food scraps in the bags and place the bag in your garbage each week. It's THAT easy!

Plants Are Your Friends

Now that you've planted a pollinator friendly garden, treat yourself to some new friends inside your house—plants! House plants clean your air, boost oxygen levels in your house for better sleeping, and have been shown to be beneficial to mental health. Check out [this link](#) for ideas on what plants to get for your house or go to the Good Housekeeping website and search "best indoor plants for health". Make some new friends this month!

Men's Bible Study

The Thursday morning men's Bible Study will take a summer break. The Bible study will not meet in June, July or August.

Bible Study plans for this fall will be communicated in August.

Ecumenical Worship

Sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church

First Wednesday of each month at 10 AM at Boutwells Landing Town Hall Chapel

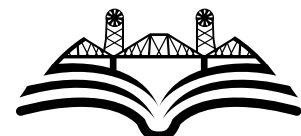


REFUGEE VOICES

An Evening with Author Kao Kalia Yang

A Morning with Reverend Gilo Agwa

The Trinity Missions Team is thrilled to present "Refugee Voices" on June 27-28 to honor the struggles and contributions of American newcomers.



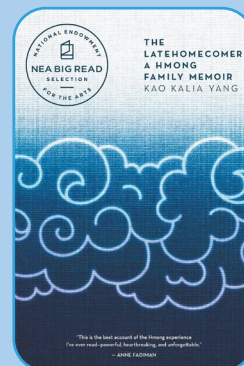
**STILLWATER
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOUNDATION**



Saturday, June 27

Kao Kalia Yang—best-selling author, teacher and poet—will speak at Trinity at 6:30. She will address her journey as a refugee, her latest book which explores a young Hmong-American's search for a true home, and the importance of welcoming refugees.

Yang is the author of the acclaimed *The Late Homecomer: A Hmong Family Memoir*, *The Song Poet*, as well as a wide array of adult, young adult, and children's books. Her works have won seven Minnesota Books Awards, among other honors. She is a McKnight Arts Fellow and a frequent lecturer.



The event is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 6:00 with seating on a first come, first served basis. Yang's talk will be followed by a Q&A session and a book signing with books available through Valley Booksellers.

The Trinity Missions team thanks the Stillwater Public Library and Stillwater Public Library Foundation for helping to sponsor this program.



Sunday, June 28th

Reverend Gilo Agwa—who came to the United States in 2012 as a refugee from Ethiopia—will speak at both the traditional 8:30 service and the 10:00 drive-in service.

Reverend Agwa currently serves as pastor of The Foundation of Life Christ Community that primarily supports refugees from the Anuak and Sudanese communities. His talk will highlight God's care for "those on the margins."

An informal discussion with Reverend Agwa will follow the 10:00 service. Representatives from Refugee Housing MN will also be there to answer questions and provide information on their work in the Twin Cities area.

Kristy Bjerk, Beth Payne, Spike Carlsen Missions Team



Accountability Belonging Inclusion Diversity Equity
Accountability Belonging Inclusion Diversity Equity

Diversity is God's creation.

Equity is God's justice.

Inclusion is God's family.

Dive into a book from the ABIDE selections for 2026-27. All are invited. The books will soon be on display in the ABIDE bookshelf located in the Narthex. Sign your name on the library card inside the book and leave it in box provided.

"All the Real Indians Died Off" and 20 Other Myths about Native Americans by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

The Heartbeat of Wounded Knee: Native America from 1890 to the Present by David Treuer

The Grace of Silence: A Memoir by Michele Norris

Apeiogon by Colum McCann. "An epic novel rooted in the unlikely real-life friendship between two fathers—one Palestinian, one Israeli, both connected by grief and working together for peace."

The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr, Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation by Ann Malaika Tubbs

Getting to Ellen: A Memoir about Love, Honesty, and Gender Change by Ellen Krug

Power of Bridging: how to build a world where we all belong by John A. Powell



Let's Go Events!

SAVE THE DATE

Rustic Roots Social
Sunday, July 19, 3-6
Riverside Unplugged acoustic trio

Franconia Sculpture Garden and
Potluck
Sunday, August 2, 3:00
Details forthcoming



Celebrating Seniors Summer Event!

All Trinity seniors are invited to the River Room for a short worship service with communion, then an afternoon of fun and fellowship with your Caring Friends and Trinity's pastors.

Wednesday, June 10; 2-4pm.

No cost or RSVP necessary--

Questions? Contact zjohnson@trinitylc.org



Christian Sympathy

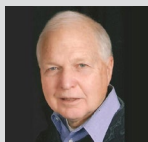
- Sympathy to the family & friends of Barbara Stene

Baptisms

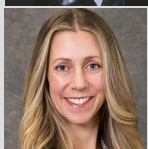
- **Jack Joseph Schueler**, child of Jason & Amanda Schueler

Congregational Council

Our congregational governance calls for an elected council and includes the Interim Pastor, Jen Hackbarth and Pastor of Lifelong Faith Formation, Kristine Stedje. Parish Administrator, Sarah Kinsman is also on council as a non-voting, ex officio member.



John Hodler
COUNCIL PRESIDENT



Kirsten Parker
COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT



Shane Brockhus
COUNCIL SECRETARY



Michael Karlsrud
COUNCIL TREASURER



Bill Bjorum
COUNCIL MEMBER



Bryan Barts
COUNCIL MEMBER

Worship On TV

Trinity's traditional Sunday worship service is rebroadcast on channel 14 through Valley Access Channels (VAC) on the following days and times:

- Sundays at 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- Mondays at 7 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Summer Hours

The church office is open the following hours or by appointment.

Monday–Thursday
9 a.m.–4 p.m.

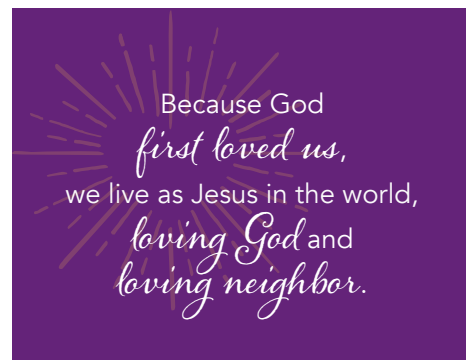
Attendance

March

1: 9 AM–192. 11 AM – 80. Online– 726.
8: 9 AM –153. 11 AM – 76.
Online – 546.
22: 9 AM –134. 11 AM – 82.
Online – 399.
29: 10AM – 345. Online – 710.

April

5: 7 AM – 70 9 AM – 612. 11 AM – 307.
Online – 512.
12: 9 AM – 133. 11 AM – 91.
Online – 670.
19: 9 AM – 171. 11 AM – 123.
Online – 843.
26: 10 AM – 261
Online – 466.



Core Values

Engaging Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Faith Formation
Compassionate Action

Inclusion Statement

Read our Inclusion Statement at:
<https://www.trinitylc.org/our-mission>

All submissions featured in Trinity
Today are subject to change based on
space available

TRINITY TODAY!

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Office: 651-439-7400; Fax: 651-430-2935

Email: info@trinitylc.org

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www.trinitylc.org (click Media » Newsletter)

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR

Summer Worship at Trinity

8:30 AM | Indoor Worship at Trinity
10 AM | Outdoor Worship at the Drive-In

CHURCH: 115 4th St. N, Stillwater, MN 55082

DRIVE-IN: 1433 Main St, Houlton, WI 54082