

Trinity Weekly Tidings For August 20, 2017

"God's Love – Our Hearts – God's Work – Our Hands"

Trinity Lutheran Church – 612 N. Water Street – Sparta, WI 54656

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Youth and Family - Michelle Hyatt / Cell & Text 608-343-0324 / Email: thehyattfive@gmail.com

Welcome Guests! We are so happy to see you today! If you are traveling through the area, we wish you Godspeed on your journey. If you live nearby, we hope you will return and worship with us again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to make Trinity Lutheran that home. Please sign the guest register located at the entrance into the Sanctuary and/or fill out the yellow card in the pew rack located in front of you, so that we can know who you are. Although you have come as a visitor, we hope that we leave worship as friends!

Help Wanted - We have a need for one or preferably two people to edge and sweep up around our sidewalks at Trinity as there is a lot of grass and weeds are growing all over them. Please call the Office if you can help.

Wednesday Worship – We will **not** be having our Wednesday Worship on **August 23**. We will meet again on Wednesday, August 30 for our final Wednesday Worship of the summer.

Loose Change next Sunday, August 27 - Nutrition for Children -Loose Change for August will go to these programs within the Sparta School District that provide food for children.

Sparta Area School District Meadowview Food Pantry- The Sparta Area School District Meadowview Food Pantry is for families who have children enrolled in the Sparta Area School District. The Food Pantry is located in Meadowview Schools and is open every Wednesday 4 – 6. Gospel Baptist Church & 2nd Harvest are the non-profit partners. The Food Pantry is operated with members from the church, School District staff and some student volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Trinity member Cindy Thesing.

"Southside Elementary Nutrition for Children and L.L. (Lawrence Lawson) Cares"- Each Friday, elementary students at Southside and Lawrence Lawson leave school with a backpack filled with food for the week-end. Teachers and staff identify children who appear to be in need of nourishment and then send home groceries with those students on Friday in a backpack. This program is funded by the Lawrence-Lawson and Southside schools staff and families. Food and funds donated through all-school food drives and various fundraising events and community sponsors support these programs. Your generous loose change offering August 27 will help families in our community.

Never Outdated –“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9. Christian care is never outdated. God’s command that we love one another is the same now as it was thousands of years ago. How are you showing God’s love to others? Stephen Ministry is one way you can do that. A training class for Stephan Ministers is starting in September. Contact Pastor Mark, Nancy Sikorsky or Jan Jenkins to learn more about this important ministry of our congregation and how you can get involved.



Second Harvest Mobil Food Pantry Delivery - Next event: **Monday August 21 at 1800 block of Milwaukee Ave.** For anyone still wishing to volunteer or if you are looking for more information, please call the St. Patrick’s rectory at 269-2655. Many thanks for your dedication to ending hunger in our community!

Baby Care Kits –Baby Care Kits will be assembled on Wednesday, August 23 at 8:30 am in you are interested in helping. For questions please contact Adell Morton.

Favorite Hymn -The Worship and Music Committee is interested in knowing what your favorite hymns are. In the narthex (back of the church) you will find a box and some paper. Please feel free to write down your favorite hymn, along with its hymn number, and place the paper into the box.

Family Band - Worship and Music Committee would also like to know who has an old instrument hiding in their closet that hasn't been touched on a while. Would you like an opportunity to play it again? The committee would like to try to put together a Family Band. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex for those who are willing to give it a go again! Also welcome are those who are currently playing an instrument! All levels of talent are welcome!

Bell Choir - Bell choir rehearsals will begin on **August 30 at 6:00 p.m.** In the Shalom Room. We are in need of a couple new players. If you have ever wanted to try please feel free to show up on August 30 or contact Ann Kvale at 608-633-7643.

Special Guests Next Sunday - With the Vietnam War ended, Trinity and other area churches sponsored two Laotian families, helping them resettle in Sparta, beginning in 1976. “Since 1976, 50 to 60 Laotians have received help from Sparta church people of various denominations. Next Sunday, August 27 we have the honor of having the Vu Thao family with us during the Fellowship Coffee time. The Thao family was sponsored by Trinity in 1976. They have since relocated to Minnesota but wanted to come back to Trinity to connect with the members that helped them during this time of transition. We hope that you will be able to join us in welcoming them!

Those for whom we are praying...For the family of Margene Peterson (her husband Harold was a pastor at Trinity from 1965-68) who went home to be with the Lord last weekend. . Also for Shirley Vandervort, Joanie Olson, Dalton Mattke, Joyce Swiggum, and Michelle Clark. Altar flowers were picked up by Dennis and Carol Glaman.

Youth & Family Announcements for the week of August 20, 2017

God is good all the time, and all the time, God is good!

You are BeYOUtiful because you are fearfully and wonderfully made.

You are enough! You are loved!

Please talk to Michelle face-to-face; by phone at 269-5081; call or text at 343-0324; or by e-mail at: for additional information.

Trinity Cares about "Back to School"!

There are still a few tags left on the clothesline. If you are able, grab a tag, fulfill that need, & drop it off by this Wednesday, August 23. Thank you to ALL of you that have given a "hand up" to help our brothers & sisters in Christ. God's love sure is shining!

SAVE THE DATE!! Sunday, August 27

Join us for our End-of-the-Year, Back-to-School Celebration on Sunday, August 27. We will have a cookout following our 9:00 a.m. worship filled with food, fellowship, games, & FUN!! Brats, hot dogs, burgers, & drinks will be provided by JAM. Please bring a dish to pass for the cookout. We hope to see ALL of you there!

Save the dates for Trinity Family Camp –

All are Welcome!

TODAY

5:00 – 7:30 p.m. (meal included)

The theme is "Passport to Peru." Many fun things are happening, so don't miss out on this faith building opportunity for all with God leading the way!

We will come together with a big celebration cookout on Sunday, August 27th, following our 9:00 worship! Brats, hot dogs, burgers, & drinks will be provided by JAM. Everyone is asked to please bring a dish to pass. Mark your calendars now to join us!

SAVE THE DATE!! Sunday, September 10

Join us for our Houston Gathering Kick-off Fundraiser!

Tailgate Party & Silent Auction with themed baskets (talk to Michelle if you would like to donate towards a basket) It will be held outside following 10:30 worship (weather permitting). We hope to see ALL of you there!!☺

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) Camp Update

It was an **AMAZING** week for our Trinity athletes! Their stories & favorite memories are featured in the August Tidings.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp has been a great place to be throughout the summer! Our campers will share highlights of their experiences in the September Tidings!

Check out this devotion for today!

Gosh, wouldn't it be great if being a follower of Christ meant that life would be easier? But easier is not the assurance. Instead, the "thing" that comes with believing in Jesus and following Jesus is that life is **ALIVE**. Life opens up when you open your heart and mind to God! You will still encounter angry crowds and fussing friends. With life in Christ, however, comes the ability to make your way through anger, to find your way through loss, to see a path through confusion. These things aren't easy, even with faith. But, they are possible. What are the cliffs ahead of you today? Don't look down the cliff in fear. Take a deep breath. Remember the love that surrounds you. Grab onto the support God offers you through a friend, a leader, or a quiet moment. Then look ahead and go on your way.

O God, when the crowd is pressing in on me, and I can't find a way through, be that way. I open up my heart, my mind, and my life to you. Give me strength and courage for when it's not easy. Amen.

God has been there from the beginning of all time and is with you in each new beginning. May the God who makes things new bless you and keep you.

May Jesus' love shine upon you and through you. May the Holy Spirit bring you peace.