

Trinity Weekly Tidings For November 6, 2016

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

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

Church Website: tlcsparta.org Phone: 608-269-5081 Office Email: office@tlcsparta.org

Pastor Mark Kvale / Email: pastorkvale@gmail.com

Youth and Family - Michelle Hyatt / Cell & Text 608-343-0324 / Email: theyhattfive@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!

Fall Festival and Lefse Making

The Fall Festival (formerly called The Bazaar) is coming to Trinity on **Saturday, November 12!** It's time, once again, to be cleaning out closets and cabinets and putting those no-longer-needed-by-me things aside to donate to Grandma's Cupboard. **Remember** - no clothing except vintage hats, gloves, purses, etc. Good sellers are knickknacks, kitchen items, glassware, vases, holiday items, baskets, jewelry, and vintage linens, and doilies. Items must be new or gently used. Children's toys, books, and games also sell very well. Please indicate "Grandma's Cupboard" on your donations and bring to the church office or set it outside the office. Bring items NOW to avoid the last minute rush!

At the TLCW meeting in September, the women voted to encourage ALL WOMEN IN THE CHURCH to bake something in support of the bake sale. Ethnic baked goods are especially popular: lefse, krumkake, rosettes, stollen, etc. There will be a lefse making day on **November 10 at 4:30 pm and November 11 at 8:00 am in the church basement.** Come join the fun! Homemade bread is also a good seller. Baked goods can be brought **Friday, November 11 between 9-3 pm or before 9 a.m. on November 11.**

Bring the family for lunch! Where else can you get a sloppy joe, pickle, chips, cranberry salad with whipped cream, pie and beverage all for only six dollars? It's yummy in the tummy!

All proceeds from this event go to support missions both here and abroad! Let's make this a stellar event!

Good Gifts--a donation of \$10 and up through the ELCA will send a gift toward a cow, chickens, pig or school supplies, water, health care or 50 other things to the desperately needy. Send in honor of friends or loved ones! CATALOGS ARE ON THE WELCOME TABLE IN THE HALL FOR YOU.

"Ultra-American: A Patriot Act" is the newest creative project from American Muslim comedian Azhar Usman. The Chicago-based comic's brutally honest, unflinching one-man show explores the tensions and paradoxes of American Muslims living in an ever-polarizing modern world. The show blends comedy with serious intellectual firepower, and will challenge the audience to re-think their assumptions about religion, race, and culture in America. Bishop Arends notes this event is co-sponsored by the Middle East Sub Committee. "You don't want to miss it." November 7th @ 5:30 pm at Valhalla Hall, Cartwright Center - UW-La Crosse

Co-sponsored by La Crosse Area Synod Middle East Sub Committee

Sharing our Volunteer Mission Stories

The Stewardship Committee is once again planning to highlight Trinity's Volunteer Missions in connection with our worship. On November 13 all leaders of any such efforts or groups are invited to share information. While not the only opportunity to get your message out and link willing volunteers with your leadership and/or committee, it is one Sunday especially devoted to both thanking and celebrating all the amazing talent at Trinity. We will also be spotlighting projects we love, to encourage others to join us. You may use posters as in the past, or any handouts or sign-up sheets you wish. We would ask if your group chooses to participate, that you have at least one representative to set up or distribute, and gather feedback at both services, and that someone remove your information no later than Monday morning, November 14. Stewardship will not be printing sign-up sheets or committee lists as these have not been widely used in the past. More information will be coming on this unique Sunday service as it develops.

The Trinity Stewardship Committee

Food Pantry Donations:

One of the ministries at Trinity is donating food and toiletry items to the Ecumenical Food Pantry in Sparta. As part of our November Fall décor at Trinity we are once again emphasizing, “**Trinity Cares**” by lining our halls and worship area with brown bags of food items. Gardens are now put to rest but our church members will help fill the bags for others. Monetary donations that are used for fresh produce and meats can be given by writing a check to Trinity and writing “**Food Pantry**” on your memo line. If you know of a family that can use a bag of groceries please inform the church office. You may get a brown bag from the food cart by the church office or bring one from home... Happy Shopping for Others, **Trinity Cares!**

SERVE ONE ANOTHER: The Sunday School children will be bringing home a special bag as a reminder for their favorite soup or canned product to share with someone else. They may be dropped off at either church entrance or given to their teacher. *“God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God’s many kinds of blessings.” 1 Peter 4:10*

Tutors

Sparta High School is looking for tutors during the school day for our college readiness program! Ideal candidates are college students or any adults who have experiences that would make them great tutors. For application instructions or any questions, please contact Wendy Bernett at Sparta High School. 608-366-3504 X8404 or wbernett@spartan.org



Please join us in welcoming little Addison Frances Jones! Addison was born October 30 and was 6 lbs.6 oz and was 19.5 inches long. Congrats to Mom and Dad, Kathy and Chris Jones.

Loose Change – November 20

St. Clare Mission continues to serve as the safety net for many Monroe County residents who depend on this volunteer health service in our community. On the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings on the first floor of the Sparta hospital, volunteers provide medical services and much needed medications for about 10 - 12 patients each clinic. Over 50 Monroe County volunteers including physicians, nurses, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, and lab/ x-ray technicians, remain committed to insuring access to health care for our uninsured, low-income neighbors. About 14 volunteers staff each clinic after their own regular work hours.

And since about 1/2 of the patients seeking care are Spanish speaking, interpreters are available. Volunteer clerical staff assist with intake and verification of eligibility based on income as well as advocacy to help patients enroll in medical assistance or insurance. The need continues. About 1/3 of patients seen during each clinic are new to St. Clare Mission.

Trinity's loose change offering on November 20th will help fund the St. Clare Mission prescription costs. Clinic patients receive six weeks of medications from the onsite licensed pharmacy at no charge the night of their visit. Volunteer pharmacists fill 35 - 50 prescriptions each evening clinic. Trinity's loose change offering will be the gift of health for many people in Monroe County.

From the Office

Just a few reminders...

Articles for *December Tidings* are due by November 15. Articles for *January Tidings* are due by December 20. Reports for the *Annual Report* are due by December 30. The church office will be closed on November 24-25. It will reopen on Monday, November 28.

Fellowship at the Fireplace

Fellowship at the Fireplace will be at Jake's Northwoods on **November 17 at 5:30 pm**. Please join up for a night of good food and fellowship. If you have somewhere else in the community you think we should try, please let someone on fellowship committee know.

Praise and Pie

Please join us for fellowship and pie after the Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 23. If you are able to bake a pie or two (use disposable tins), donate whip cream or help serve, please call Renee Gavilan at 608-487-2387. Thank you!



Those for whom we are praying...

For the Miller family, Ed Peterson, and Joanne Dexter.

Altar flowers were picked up by Barb and Jim Moorhead

Youth & Family Announcements for the week of November 6, 2016

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

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

THANK YOU to EVERYONE who helped in any way yesterday with the Fall Craft Fair youth fundraiser! YOU are appreciated, & we thank God for YOU!! It was an awesome day with our church family working side by side!

Help our youth build our **PYRAMID OF CARING** in the Youth Room. Non-perishable food items (canned goods, etc.) will be collected throughout the month of November as we reach out with loving hands and hearts to help feed our hungry brothers & sisters in Christ. Remember that we are blessed to be a blessing, & let's all be a blessing to others as God has called us!

Student Discipleship Conference (grades 6 – 12) Friday, December 2 – Sunday, December 4

Are you fearless? This year's conference theme centers around Joshua 1:9 helping us to become one of the fearless, following the God of a perfect love who casts out all fear. It is a discipleship conference where middle school and high school students will be challenged to fearlessly live out their faith. We will engage in God's Word through captivating speakers, powerful worship, intentional small group times, and a ton of FUN! We will hit the road to Grace Church in Eden Prairie, MN, for this amazing, annual Student Conference. Picture yourself laughing, learning, & worshiping with hundreds of other students your age. Join us as we worship through comedy and drama with **Slap Happy Comedy**☺. Laugh hard & return life-changed. Discover God's Word & know Him better with & **Heather Flies & Fred Lynch** as 2 of the featured speakers. Experience non-stop, God honoring worship with the band – **For All Seasons**. Build new friendships & rekindle old ones. We will be traveling by coach bus & stay in a hotel. If you want to secure a spot for yourself, get your **\$50.00 DEPOSIT** turned in right away to Michelle. Checks can be made payable to "Trinity Youth." **The deadline is TODAY**, so grab a friend & get signed up! Fundraising opportunities are available to offset the remaining costs of the trip as well as scholarships & additional donations. If you've attended this conference before, we are excited to have you go again! If this is something you have never experienced, we encourage you to join us on this incredible journey! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Michelle at church at (269-5081), her cell (call or text at 343-0324), or by e-mail at: thehyattfive@gmail.com. It's exciting to see how God is at work in & through our lives!

Trinity Cares

Thanksgiving & Christmas projects are being planned by our teams of youth & adults, & we'd love for you to get involved, too! We welcome all ages! Our hope is to assemble "gifts of love" food baskets for families at Thanksgiving. Once again, we will reach out to sponsor families at Christmas with our "Trinity Cares" tree that will be full of tags with needs. Please talk to Michelle if you would like to be become more involved in these most worthy causes of supporting & lifting up our brothers & sisters in Christ! Help us answer the call of serving one another through God's love!

SAVE THE DATE!! Sunday, November 27th

Join us for our annual **COOKIE DECORATING** day starting at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall! If you are able, please bring one dozen, unfrosted cookies. All are welcome as we join our hands for a fun time frosting cookies and making delicious treats to sell at our upcoming Bake Sale as well as deliver to our shut-ins & families we will be sponsoring at Christmas. Let's all reach out to share God's love!

The Secret to Glory

"When you pray, go into your private room, shut your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you." Matthew 6:6

The most powerful secret is a spiritual discipline – PRAYER. When was the last time we really pressed into prayer? I'm talking about intense prayer—a time of truly seeking God's face and asking for His will.

Many of us want to pray but simply don't know how. Here are eight simple tips for praying:

1. Reveal, don't tell. Don't report to God what He already knows. Let Him reveal what we don't know.
2. Shut the door. Find a place of solitude to meet God daily.
3. Open our mouths. Do not think our prayers, but say them out loud. A spoken prayer slows down thoughts.
4. Prepare our hearts. Listen to worship music to prepare for prayer.
5. Pray scripture. Pick a Psalm and pray it out loud.
6. Petition. Devotion. Intercession. Ask God for our wants. Seek Him. Pray for others' needs.
7. Journal it. Write our prayers in a journal.
8. Find a prayer partner. Find a partner (maybe a teammate) to pray with each week.

Out of the eight tips, what is one that you can start developing?

How can authentic prayer be a part of your daily life?