

Trinity Weekly Tidings For October 23, 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: theyattfive@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!

Special Coffee Hour – October 30

Thrivent Coffee Hour - John Budin, the local Thrivent financial representative will be speaking during coffee hour on Sunday, October 30th. His specific topic will be using Thrivent Choice Dollars and Thrivent Action Team Grants to help live out Trinity's vision - God's love, our hearts; God's work, our hands.

Loose Change

Thank you for giving so generously to the Loose Change offering. As a church we collected 168.66 for the **Sparta Area School District Meadowview Food Pantry**. Thank you for helping giving like you do!

Altar Team

Just a reminder that the Altar Team is meeting on Monday, October 24 at 6:00 pm to clean the altar. Thank you!

Trinity's Newest Additions...

Please join us in welcoming little Carver Matthew



Jacobson, born October 13 at 9:32am.

7lb 8.3 oz. 20 inches. Be sure to congratulate

Dawn and Matt Jacobson, Mom and Dad!

Little Mermaid

Sparta Excalibur Players will present the Disney musical, "The Little Mermaid," On

Thursday, November 3rd

Friday, November 4th

Saturday, November 5th at 7 PM

Sunday, November 6th at 2 PM at the Sparta High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students/seniors. Tickets are available at Arenz Shoes downtown Sparta, at the High School main office or at the door before each performance. Please come and enjoy the show!

Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service on Sunday, October 23 at 2:00 pm at Lanham-Schanhofer Funeral Home for Michael Stahl. Please lift this family up in prayer.

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

Those for whom we are praying...

For the family and friends of Michael Stahl.

Also for Harley Jenkins, Barb Bendel

Sandvigen, Mark Mattke, Dalton Mattke,

Gene Gowey, and Joanne Dexter.

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**

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

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Youth & Family Announcements for the week of October 23, 2016

You are BEAUTIFUL 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: thehyattfive@gmail.com for additional information.

Consecration Brunch, Sunday, October 23rd

Join us **TODAY** from 9:00 – 11:00 as our Faith Formation students; families; & YFMT host a delicious brunch for you! Stop down for egg bakes; sausages; pancakes; glazer donuts; fruit; coffee; juice; & milk. It is going to be an awesome morning as we gather together as God's family! This is the day the Lord has made, so let us rejoice & be glad in it!

JAM & Faith Formation DO NOT meet this coming Wednesday, 10/26. Enjoy face-to-face family time!☺ See all of you on Wednesday, 11/2!

YOUTH & ADULT VOLUNTEERS are needed to help with the Fall Craft Fair on Saturday, November 5. Please sign up **ASAP** outside of the Youth Room! Remember that **MANY** hands make less work & none of us is as good as **ALL** of us working together to give God the glory!

Fall Craft Fair 2016 - Saturday, November 5th

The annual Fall Craft Fair is fast approaching, and plans are underway for our youth's biggest fundraiser. It will be held on Saturday, November 5th, at Sparta High School. **EVERYONE** is invited to help, and there are numerous ways for **YOU** to get involved: donate baked goods; donate BBO; sign up outside of the Youth Room to volunteer for a 2-hour shift; make posters on 11/4; help with clean-up; come up and have lunch to support our youth; & keep our youth in your prayers. If you do plan to donate baked goods, please drop them off here at Trinity by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 4th, or bring them up to the high school food court the morning of Saturday, November 5th. If you'd like to be a part of this **AWESOME** day, see the sign-up sheets posted outside of the Youth Room. Please help us continue to be God's hands & feet as we serve others. Money raised helps support our many youth programs and our scholarship fund. If you have any questions, please talk to Michelle.

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, & worshipping 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 Sunday, October 30th**, so grab a friend & get signed up! Fundraising opportunities (Fall Craft Fair-11/5 & Cookie Decorating Day-11/27) 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!

SAVE THE DATES:

Friday, November 4:

Saturday, November 5:

Friday, 12/2 – Sunday, 12/4:

FCF Poster Making Party at 3:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Fall Craft Fair (please sign up to help)

Student Discipleship Conference (formerly known as Mark Matlock☺ (grades 6 – 12)

Sign up by Sunday, 10/30, to secure your spot!

Give Your Best to Make Others Better – It's Not About You

"They do everything to be observed by others...The greatest among you will be your servant. Whoever exalts himself or herself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself or herself will be exalted." *Matthew 23:5, 11-12*

In life, we want to be the best in everything. Being good is good, but being best is better. We want to go from good to great in every aspect of life.

"I must be the best me" is a principle I believe and live daily. In **Luke 12:48** we are told that to whom much is entrusted, much is required. No matter what gifts you've been given, we must have a desire to be faithful and maximize them. If it's all about me, then I'll end up empty. Striving to get better in all aspects of life isn't a bad thing. But, if it's a selfish pursuit; it will never satisfy. When I live at my best, everyone else should benefit, because we are made for others.

We get-so we can give to others. We are loved-so we can love others. We are blessed-so we can bless others. We are meant to be a river, not a pond! Our purpose is to serve and bless others. Jesus takes aim at all of us who want to be great for our own selfish benefit and the applause of people.

People of impact (ALL OF US) have a three word job description: Make others better!

Let's lead by example, challenging and encouraging everybody else to fulfill our God-given potential. Take it to a different level-intentionally mentoring the next generation by investing our lives in others. Model personally what we desire for others. Give back, serve others, and make others better. Model the words of Jesus.

When Jesus is the center, we take our eyes off of us and are willing to invest in others. Serve.

Sacrifice. Give. Love. If we pursue Christ in an effort to become more like Him, we can make others better. And this only happens because of Jesus in us. This is what we are called to do: make others better, today.

In what areas of your life are you striving to be better? Are you making progress?

Are you making others around you better? How so?

What ways can you intentionally serve, build up, and encourage?

Read John 13 & Philippians 2:1-11

Lord God in Heaven, I desire to make others better. Teach me Your ways so that I can help, bless, and encourage others. Show me how to put others before myself. I want to be your vessel today. In the name of Jesus, I pray. Amen.