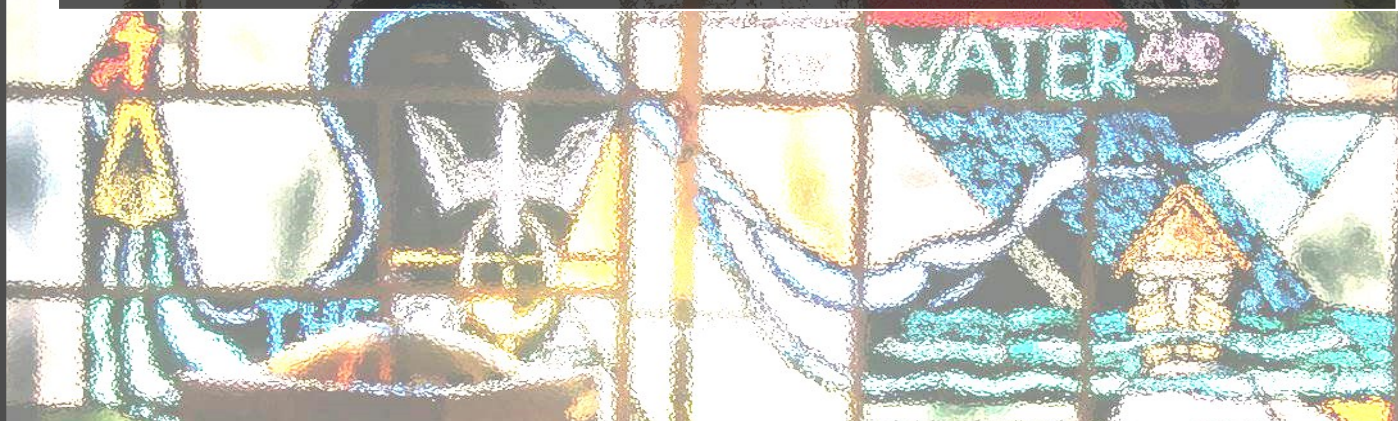


July 2017



Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1010 Sill St, La Crosse, Wisconsin



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Pastor Erik's Update

Erik Feig
Lead Pastor



Galatians 5:1 NRSV "For freedom Christ has set us free".

Happy July! Summer is in full swing, and July begins with a celebration of freedom. July 4th is Independence Day, with fireworks and parades to celebrate our freedom as Americans. It's a great time of year, and a great time to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy.

Martin Luther spoke and wrote a lot about freedom too! In 1520 he wrote the treatise 'On the Freedom of a Christian'. In that work he summarizes the life of a Christian with these two propositions:

A Christian is an utterly free person, lord of all, subject to none.

A Christian is an utterly dutiful person, servant of all, subject to all.

In Christ, we have been set free! Free from sin, death and the power of the devil. Free from the worry of our eternity. Free from all that would say that we simply don't measure up in God's eyes. And it all comes to us as a gift! We are free by the action of Christ for us in his death and resurrection, received by faith alone. There is nothing and no one to whom we have to answer to. Christ has done it for us. We are free! Queue the fireworks!

Yet while we can and should celebrate our freedom from all those things that wear us down, that freedom comes with the opportunity to respond to what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. Because of God's love for us, because of God's grace poured out on us, because God has given us a gift beyond compare therefore we respond in kind. We are free to serve – serve our neighbor and not simply ourselves. In fact, God's love is so amazing, we're compelled to do it! Our freedom is a freedom that makes us subject to all. We have an obligation to serve our neighbor and share with them the love of Jesus that has been poured into our hearts through faith. You are free! Free to serve! Queue the fireworks!

Such is the Christian life. Freedom! How are you using your freedom to serve your neighbor? As you watch the fireworks fill the skies this time of year, drawing your attention to the freedoms we enjoy as American citizens, take that time to also reflect and give thanks to God for the freedom you have in Christ. Then make a plan to use that freedom in service to others. It's the Christian way of life, to the glory of God!

*In Christ,
Pastor Erik*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY JULY 16!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**We are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, July 16 at 9:30,
after the 8:30 service.**

**This meeting is to propose changing the letter of call for
our pastor from full time to part time to meet
our current stewardship level of giving.**

Please plan to attend.

**Thank you,
Your Church Council Members**

 *of special note* 

CONGRATULATIONS AMY HEINZ!

**Amy Heinz has received a call from a 2-point parish in Wisconsin! This
means she will be ordained at Trinity Lutheran Church on Wednesday,
July 12th @ 6:30 pm.**

**We wish Amy and her family all God's love and guidance as she takes on
this new path. Although we are keeping Jonathan here! We are proud of
her and her accomplishments. Please feel free to come and be a part of
her ordination. We do not get this opportunity often to see one of our
members ordained. It's a wonderful ceremony and you are invited!**

Please plan to attend.

**Thank you,
Your Church Council Members**

Love Thy Neighbor Jar? What's that? It's a unique giving basket provided at each weekend worship service, with money gathered going to different ministries outside of the church each month!

Social Ministry

Love Thy Neighbor jar for July—Kids Clothes Closet: Back to School Shoes

From the Heart Food Pantry—featured item for July: Tuna

There is also a need for your empty egg cartons...but as always, anything given to the food pantry is much appreciated!

MONDAY MEALS

Social Ministry will be serving Monday Meals on July 24th. If you would like to help prepare or serve the meal or help with clean-up afterwards, contact Julie Thoftne 783-0443.

TLC SUMMER BLOOD DRIVES

The blood drive on **JUNE 6TH** at TLC had 25 donors through the door with 22 successful donations, saving a potential 66 lives. Next blood drive at TLC is on **TUESDAY, AUGUST 15TH** from 1-6 pm.

Please consider saving lives!!! Hope to see you there.



AUGUST PERSONAL HYGIENE DRIVE

Be watching for the poster in the Narthex in August listing our collection items for the drive. This year we're hoping to provide these items to our Food Pantry guests. We will be collecting basic need items: shaving cream, disposable razors for men and women, deodorant, tampons, bar soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, shampoo and conditioner. There will be a tote in the Narthex at each service in August. Be creative, if you go to the dentist ask for a donation, if you see a sale pick up extras! We thank you in advance!!

FEED THE KIDS SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM



A big Thank You to the following volunteers who helped make lunches at the Salvation Army in June: Mary Lathrop, Joanne Thoftne, Jackie Kessler, Roxanne Keisling, Joan Hendrick, Larry and Sherry Churchill, Sharon Olson, Kay Mach, Shirley Schoenberg. If you're interested in volunteering in August to make lunches from 9:45-11:00am on August 23rd please call Julie Weber 783-6004. Thank you!!

Social Ministry cont'd...

TLC FALL LEFSA AND MEATBALL DINNER

"It Takes a Whole Congregation to Serve a Meatball"

It's that time of year again to start planning for the Meatball and Lefsa dinner. This has been a wonderful tradition of Trinity Lutheran Church for many, many years and we continue to hear how much people of the congregation and members of the community love this event. The



big question is...Do you love it enough to support it with your time and energy? We are looking for 4-6 people to volunteer to be a steering committee and organize the event. There are great notes from Sandy Thompson, Kristine Valk and Bonnie Jeranek from previous years. We have one volunteer who would be happy to be on the committee, but will need some others to join. Please consider joining the steering committee so we can keep this event going at TLC. Please call Kathi Volden 783-1184 or Julie Thoftne 783-0443 for more information or to join the steering committee. With the help of God and you good people, we can keep things "rolling" at Trinity!!



Social Ministry Committee meeting is July 11th at 5:30pm in the Library

Community Service

Love God,
Love our
neighbors,
Serve the
World...

MONDAY MEALS

"There's a lot of cooking going on in our kitchen."

Monday's Meals is seeing some new faces in the kitchen. Bethel Lutheran and Shepard of the Hill Churches are exploring joining with the existing 6 churches who provide meals. Please welcome any new volunteers, if you are around in the kitchen and dining room on Mondays. The Monday's Meals leadership group has applied for a grant to help support the program as it continues to grow in numbers. Meals are served 59 times a year to 100-150 people. From 2003-2013 the number of Meals served ranged between 3600-3900. In 2014-2015 the meals served increased to over 5000 per year. What a wonderful service these churches are providing to our community members! Please keep this program and the people it serves in your prayers.

Submitted by TLC Representative Julie Thoftne

FREE FINANCIAL COACHING

La Crosse County UW-Extension is sponsoring free financial coaching sessions at Trinity every Tuesday from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Please contact Susan Taylor, AFC at 608.785.6417 or send an email to her at smtaylor@afsc.com for an appointment.

MOBILE MEALS

Mobile Meals is scheduled to make meal deliveries the week of July 9th through 15th. If you'd like to help out, please contact Joanne Thoftne for more information.

"NORTHSIDE FAMILIES GET-TOGETHER" WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30

On **WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30TH**, Trinity and the LAFC (La Crosse Area Family Collaborative) will be hosting a Northside Families Get-Together from 4-7pm. This event's purpose is to pull together neighborhood families to build neighborhood cohesiveness and provide education about outreach services for those in need. The Clothes Closet will be distributing back-to-school shoes for families in need and the LAFC will be educating the neighborhood about resources that empower families and strengthen neighborhoods. There will be food, children's activities and a focus on positive neighborhood interactions and resources. Trinity is excited to team

Community Service cont'd...

Love God,
Love our
neighbors,
Serve the
World...

with the LAFC as we share the goals of empowering and strengthening families and neighborhoods. If you would like to help us with this event you can do so by volunteering your time or resources. Please call Deb Keller at (608) 769-2965 if you would like to be a part of this planning group or if you would like to volunteer your services that night. Financial contributions are also welcome, just designate that your contribution is for the Northside Neighborhood Get-Together. Thanks to the Trinity family for supporting the partnership with the LAFC and this neighborhood event!!! Together we can make a difference!!



INTRODUCTIONS...

1. Name	2. Address	3. Phone	4. Email	5. Other
6. Name	7. Address	8. Phone	9. Email	10. Other
11. Name	12. Address	13. Phone	14. Email	15. Other
16. Name	17. Address	18. Phone	19. Email	20. Other
21. Name	22. Address	23. Phone	24. Email	25. Other
26. Name	27. Address	28. Phone	29. Email	30. Other
31. Name	32. Address	33. Phone	34. Email	35. Other
36. Name	37. Address	38. Phone	39. Email	40. Other
41. Name	42. Address	43. Phone	44. Email	45. Other
46. Name	47. Address	48. Phone	49. Email	50. Other

Hi, My Name is Deborah Dobrunz and I am the new Neighborhood Social Worker for the La Crosse Area Family Collaborative here on the Northside. Some of you I have met while in the building and I hope to meet more of the congregation as I continue here in my role. The La Crosse Area Family Collaborative (LAFC) is a relationship based, voluntary, preventative partnership working to improve outcomes for children and families in targeted neighborhoods in the City of La Crosse. We partner with families to help parents and children actively achieve success through face-to-face support, guidance and advocating, mentoring, and other supportive practices focused on basic needs and overall wellbeing. Our mission is to see empowered families and thriving neighborhoods.

Collaboration with other community partners and agencies is not just a goal, but a necessary means to help support and stabilize families. Maintaining an approachable and trusted neighborhood location has proven to be an extremely effective piece for positive family engagement. A special thanks to the congregation for donating the office space necessary to make this community partnership possible!

Deb Dobrunz

La Crosse Area Family Collaborative
La Crosse County Human Services Department
Northside Neighborhood Social Worker
1010 Sill St. and Northside Elementary
ddobrunz@lacrossecounty.org
(608) 792-1738



Sue Weidemann
Council President
608-790-1862

A Message From Your Council President...

The Trinity Family ~

First I want to start by saying that we are having a congregational meeting on Sunday, July 16 at 9:30, after the 8:30 service. This meeting is to propose changing the letter of call for our pastor from full time to part time to meet our current stewardship level of giving. Please plan to attend.

We are officially heading now into the second half of the year. Where has the time and year gone?! I know when I started this last year as being council president I thought...we have a lot of work to do and thank goodness we have a whole year to make some of it happen. Now we still have a lot of work to do and the year is half gone! Blink and time goes by. I know many others who feel that way and that means we'd better get in gear.

You are going to see Dave Bruemmer putting out a list of items we would like done or even "adopted" by congregation members around the church. As you know, our level of giving has cost us some full time employees and that means we as a congregation now need to step in and fill those gaps. Many years ago church was about working together; and then things changed and I think we got used to staff carrying the ball for us. But now we have to roll up our sleeves and get a few things done. Let's show our pride in Trinity with our actions, our words and our billfolds.

That leads me to the joys of summer and the joys of running a church in the summer. You know what I am talking about. Attendance is lower and giving is as well. Please consider keeping up with your giving or even adding to it as we hit these tough months for bills. I would love to have a month where I don't have to ask each of you to step up your stewardship level of giving. ***But...***

Trinity offers electronic giving and it's easy to sign up. Go to our website at www.trinitylutheranlax.org and on most pages there is a link to sign up. It's easy, convenient and the right thing to do.

Love your neighbor! Love God! Hug your family!

Thank you for being a member of the Trinity Family!

Sue Weidemann

A stylized illustration of the American flag waving, with colorful fireworks exploding in the background. The flag features a blue canton with white stars and red and white stripes. The fireworks are in shades of blue, red, yellow, and green, set against a light green background.

MOBILE MEALS DELIVERIES

Trinity Tidings is a monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church, 1010 Sill Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603. All visitors are welcome to worship with us each Saturday evening at 5:30pm and Sunday morning at 8:30am. Communion is celebrated at every service, with Pastor Erik Feig leading. The church office telephone number is (608) 782-6200.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1010 Sill Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603

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Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8:30am

Radio Service Broadcast at 8:30am on WKTY AM 580

Website: www.trinitylutheranlax.org

Church Office: office@trinitylutheranlax.org; 608-782-6200

Pastor Erik: pastorerik@trinitylutheranlax.org

Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church—ELCA