

August 2026



DO YOU FEEL CALLED?

Do you feel called? Don't rush to answer that. Let me tell you why I'm asking.

Vocation, the idea that God calls each of us to help make the world better, has shaped me since seminary. The word itself comes from the Latin vocare, "to call." I learned to take it seriously from David Lose, one of my professors at Luther Seminary, who taught that this call comes

to us at every stage and in every place of our lives: in our jobs, our relationships, our volunteering, our roles as citizens and neighbors. Wherever we are, God can work through us to make the world more trustworthy, more kind. And not only can God work through us but God wants to, intends to, hopes to. That's what it means to be called.

That conviction can lend a sense of meaning, even holiness, to all our ordinary tasks and responsibilities. I've always found that pretty remarkable.

So in 2008, when Lose led a Lilly Endowment-funded study of vocation across five seminaries from five different Christian traditions, I watched the research unfold with real excitement as I was a seminary student at the time. The early findings were promising: graduates of all five schools said vocation was a central theme in their preaching and teaching. But then the picture grew more complicated. When researchers polled the people in the pews, very few actually felt called even though their pastors believed they'd been emphasizing it all along. Deeper interviews told a harder story still: most people didn't just lack a sense of calling, they struggled to find meaning in their daily work and lives, and struggled even more to sense God present and active anywhere outside of Sunday morning.

That finding reminded Lose of a study done near the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Researchers set up in a restaurant nearby. The kind of place, like many we've all eaten at, with local artwork hanging on the walls. For two weeks, they tracked how long diners, many fresh from a morning at the Met, actually looked at the paintings around them. Then the researchers borrowed priceless paintings from the museum itself, hung them in the same spots, and watched for two more weeks. The result: no difference. Even surrounded by world-class art, the diners barely looked up. The conclusion was simple, and a little unsettling... we've trained ourselves to expect beauty only inside museum walls.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Meramec Bluffs Gathering

Wednesday, August 5

Church Council Meeting

Sunday, August 9

Godspeed College Students

Sunday, August 9

Youth LEADing Youth event

Sunday, August 9

Gateway Brown Bag

Monday, August 10

Mission Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 20

Gateway180 Sort Donations

Friday, August 21

Gateway180

Prepare/Serve Dinner

Saturday, August 22

Blessings of the Backpack

Sunday, August 23

Trinity Book Group

Monday, August 24

Trinitell Monthly Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles for the September Trinitell is August 15. Email articles or information to Nicole Maloy at

communications@tlc-stl.org or mail to Trinity.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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I think something similar can happen at church. Have we trained people to expect to encounter God only when surrounded by others in the pews and organ music and nowhere else?

So I'll ask again: do you feel called? Do you believe God is at work through you as a parent, sibling, child, friend, employer or employee, volunteer, neighbor making the world a little more trustworthy? Can you sense God active in your everyday life, working through you for the good of the people around you?

If you can, I hope that sense keeps growing. If you can't yet, don't feel bad, that's on us, your pastors, to nurture that connection more faithfully. And if this is a new thought for you, I hope this fall season here at Trinity helps you discover it.

This is exactly why church matters. Not as the only place God shows up, but as the place where we practice noticing. Worship trains our eyes the way an afternoon at the museum trains them to see beauty: the more we practice together here, the more we start recognizing God's fingerprints everywhere else: at the kitchen table, in the carpool line, at your desk on a Tuesday afternoon. That's what I want Trinity to be for you this year: not just a building you visit on Sundays, but a training ground for a way of seeing that goes home with you and stays with you all week long.

So come. Come and let this community help you ask the question again and again, until the answer becomes second nature: yes, I am called, and yes, God is with me right here, right now, in this ordinary, beautiful life. I can't wait to ask you in person.

See you in church!
Pastor Chris



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A YEAR OF CALLINGS

A new weekly vocation emphasis • beginning Sunday, September 6

Somebody asks you: what do you do? We answer it a hundred times a year without thinking. Starting this September, we're going to spend a whole year answering a better one: who are you called to be?

Each week for the next year, from September 2026 through August 2027, we will lift up one vocation in the prayers of the people. Not vocations in the narrow sense of pastors and missionaries, but callings in the widest sense: teachers in the exhausted first weeks of school, nurses working Christmas night, snowplow drivers answering 3 a.m. callouts, mothers and fathers in the around the clock work of raising children.

Each vocation is named in the season when that work is hardest: accountants in April, retail workers in December, church musicians through Advent. The prayer each week follows a simple frame: "This week we lift up the calling of ____, whose work is especially demanding right now because ____."

The goal is simple: to practice noticing God at work in ordinary lives, so that the answer to "Do you feel called?" becomes second nature. By the time we close the year on August 29 with a week for All the Baptized, we will have named 52 callings, and we hope you'll have heard your own among them.

How to take part:

Watch this newsletter each month for the coming weeks' callings. If a week's vocation is yours, come to worship that Sunday; we will be praying for you by name. If you know someone who carries that calling, tell them your church prayed for them, or better yet invite them to come to church that Sunday. And if we've missed a vocation that belongs on the list, let the church office know; there is always room to name more.

Here's how we begin with September's callings:

Week of	Vocation	Why this week:
Sept. 6	All Who Labor & All Seeking Work	Labor Day weekend: honoring work itself, and the quiet strain of those between jobs.
Sept. 13	Teachers & School Staff	The first full weeks of school: new names, new routines, exhausted evenings.
Sept. 20	School Bus Drivers & Crossing Guards	New routes, restless riders, and darker mornings on the way.
Sept. 27	College Students & Their Parents	The first month away from home: empty bedrooms, care packages, and late night calls.

WORSHIP WITH US



ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00 AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND ONLINE

Our 10:00 AM worship service is available in person and online via our Trinity YouTube Channel. If you are unable to watch at 10:00 AM, you may view the services online at your convenience. To watch our worship services, please click [HERE](#).

COME CELEBRATE WITH US SANCTUARY RE-DEDICATION SUNDAY, AUGUST 9!

After a full year of work, the moment has arrived: the beautiful new front of our sanctuary is finished! Join us on **Sunday, August 9** for a special service of re-dedication as we give thanks for this remarkable transformation.

Why does worship space matter? As Lutherans, worship is where God gathers us, meets us in Word and sacrament, and sends us out to love and serve. The sanctuary isn't just a room it's where ordinary people encounter an extraordinary God, week after week, generation after generation. For 125 years, the faithful have gathered on this corner of 141/Clayton Road: baptized at the font, fed at the table, married, mourned, and sent into the world in grace.

With special gratitude to **Paul Pohlers**, whose thoughtful design shaped every detail of the new chancel and whose hours upon hours of hands-on work brought that vision to life. This is not just craftsmanship; it's a labor of love for our church family.

Come see it, celebrate it, and help us dedicate this renewed space to God's glory.

See you in Church,
Pastor Chris



WORSHIP WITH US

CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS GODSPEED AND FAREWELL BLESSING Sunday, August 9 at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary

All college students are invited to receive a Godspeed and Farewell blessing during the worship service on Sunday, August 9 at 10:00 am.



CALLING ALL STUDENTS - BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary

All students are invited to bring their backpack and receive a special blessing during the worship service on Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 am.



PASTOR EMERITUS REPORT

Roy Christell
pastorroy@tlc-stl.org



PARTICIPATION TROPHIES

Participation Trophies. You've heard of these, right? It's a trophy for "just showing up," participating, being there, regardless of whether your team wins or not. Do you think participation trophies are a good idea?

There has been a lot of talk and emotion expended over the years debating whether we should give people "participation trophies." (Particularly children) And lest we start blaming the baby boomers for starting this trend, I actually have a couple trophies from when I was playing baseball when I was a kid in the early 1960's! As I recall, we hadn't won any championship, the trophies just say I

showed up, I stuck it out, I was part of the team. I have no illusions that I was ever the best at any of the sports in which I participated. But I expended as much energy and focus and ability as I was able. Someone decided to recognize the effort, so I got the trophy. (None of them are very big, by the way.)

Is there a theological point or a spiritual message in this message?

I hope so.

I believe that God wants us to "show up" every day as we live and love and interact and serve and give and receive. There are only a very few of us who will ever be able to claim that we are "the best" at anything we do. However, God gives us blessing upon blessing as we "show up" in the lives of others. God showers us with experiences of Grace and goodness when we follow Jesus' call to "follow Me." Call them memories, call them remembrances, call them trophies. God intends for us to participate in life with all the ups and downs and challenges. God intends for us to grow each day as we succeed and fail and learn. Participation in life brings its own reward. But I have to tell you, when someone says, "thanks" that is a trophy of sorts. When someone tells me what it means or has meant that I offered myself to them, that is received as a trophy and not only does it build me up, it also keeps me going.

I don't live for the trophies, but they are nice to receive. I am planning to "show up" regardless! But knowing what I know, I also try to be as thankful and appreciative toward those who have "shown up" in my life. Living with gratitude to the ones who have shown up in my life builds us all up. And I believe God blesses both the gratitude and the interaction.

Just some thoughts along the way. If you want to talk about it, let me know! Thanks in advance.

Pastor Roy

FACILITY REPORT

Mike Sharitz
facility@tlc-stl.org

This summer has been a busy one around Trinity!

We've continued removing trees and clearing brush from the cemetery in preparation for the new landscaping project that will begin this fall. Around the church building, we've installed **10 new doorstops** on exterior doors, so we can finally retire the cinderblocks and rocks that have faithfully held doors open for years.

For the first time in many years, we've also begun the major project of **stripping old wax from our floors and applying fresh coats of finish**. This type of maintenance is typically done every five years, but it has been much longer than that since we've been able to complete it at Trinity. The process is very labor-intensive, so we have allocated additional custodial hours this summer to assist Fred with the work. We begin with the preschool classrooms and hallways and will eventually complete the entire church. Be sure to walk through the preschool hallway or peek into a classroom to see the dramatic difference!

Additional improvements are also underway in the preschool area. New cabinets are being installed in Preschool Classrooms 1 and 2, with completion expected by **August 1**. The famous Trinity painting crew, led by Ron Jones, will also be giving the preschool main hallway a fresh coat of paint.

A heartfelt thank you to **Ken Hardebeck, Kevin Johnson, Ron Jones, Gene Kerr, Fred Meyland-Smith, Paul Ogier, and Jon Trettle** for their many hours of hard work and dedication to caring for our church home.

We are also working to resolve an issue with our irrigation system. A leak has been causing unusually high water bills, and while we've been trying to pinpoint its location, it has proven difficult to find. It may be necessary to install a new main water line along the west side of the parking lot. We will continue to keep the congregation updated as we learn more and determine the best solution.

Mike Sharitz
Facilities Manager

STATUS OF ENVELOPE GIVING THROUGH JUNE 30, 2026

Budget through 6/30/26	\$337,597
Actual Giving through 6/30/26	\$339,484
Surplus (Shortfall)	\$1,887

*Detailed monthly financial reports are available upon request.
Contact Mike Hower at how-hep@msn.com*

JUNE COUNCIL MINUTES

Date: June 14, 2026

Present: Pastor Chris Naig, Jeff Haferkamp, Dave Luethy, Elaine Larson, Mike Hower, John Engle, Dan Fry, Eric Halter, Maureen Hoppin, Sasi Jeyarajan, Gene Kerr, Mikki Lee, and Jim Mueller.

Call to Order: 8:33 am

Opening Prayer: Dan Fry (next month Jim Mueller)

Approval of May Minutes: Approved

President's Report—Jeff Haferkamp

- Annual Key Program Reviews on track:
 - March: Facilities (Mike Sharitz) — capital planning ongoing.
 - May: Youth Program (Rebecca) — update presented.
 - August: Preschool (Christy Cole) — scheduled for next meeting.
 - September: Missions (Christy Tietjen)
- Two special agenda items introduced: electricity savings proposal and strategic plan feedback.

Pastor's Report—Pastor Chris

- Synod Assembly (attended online): 8 hours; all 7 routine resolutions passed; 17 minor constitutional changes related to ordained ministry titles.
- VBS: approximately 68 registrants; capped at 75
- Confirmation curriculum fully rewritten around Luther's Small Catechism
- Egypt trip Zoom info session: Tuesday at 6 PM (open to all interested)
- Three summer baptisms upcoming
- Grief Share initiative: Rick and Mikki Lee exploring a modified version (not the full 13-week format).
 - Dan McCauley (former member) is a trained facilitator and informing the approach.
 - Goal: open to the wider community; details still being worked out.

Treasurer's Report—Mike Hower

- Year-to-date deficit improved from -\$25K to -\$17K.
- May highlights: \$10K memorial donation (non-member); \$20K Council Discretionary fund moved to Endowment as a 125th Anniversary fundraiser match.
- Endowment balance: \$550K (wire transfer to account pending — minor banking delay).

Electricity Savings Proposal—Mike Sharitz

- Madison Energy Group (MEG) approached the church offering energy-saving solutions for HVAC systems.
- Current annual electricity spend: ~\$28K. MEG projects savings of ~\$13K/year.
- Gross cost: \$67K. After estimated \$15K utility rebate (via Clear Result) and \$14K Section 179D tax deduction allocated to MEG, net church investment: ~\$37.5K.
- Savings guarantee: MEG commits to working toward 80% of projected savings; no financial penalty if unmet.
- Payment options: (1) Direct pay ~\$52K net; (2) Full financing at 9.9% over 120 months; (3) Hybrid — ~\$26.6K down, balance financed.

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JUNE COUNCIL MINUTES

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- Key deadline: June 30 for the \$14K 179D deduction. Missing it costs \$14K if proceeding later.
- Open questions: impact of refrigerant additive on existing compressor warranties; reference check with existing MEG client (North Carolina contact — pending).
- Solar energy project also in progress (meeting with solar consultant Friday). The two solutions could complement each other.
- Council decision: Executive team (Jeff, Mike S., and volunteers) authorized to continue due diligence and consult with MEG. If merited, a special call meeting will be convened before June 30; otherwise, the project will be deferred.

Strategic Plan Discussion—Pastor Chris

- Draft of Strategic Plan distributed; also reviewed at Adult Forum. Book distributed: A Field Guide for the Missional Congregation (Van Gelder & Rouse).
- Four focus areas in draft: (1) Preschool crossover events, (2) Second-half-of-life ministry, (3) Youth engagement, (4) AI/career transition ministry for working-age adults.
- Discussion highlights:
 - Preschool: Christy Cole is enthusiastic about crossover events. Uncertainty about whether families are primarily Catholic (possibly ~80%); council encouraged testing this assumption. Member vs. non-member tuition differential raised as a possible outreach lever.
 - Youth: Fellowship of Christian Athletes cited as a strong model; Trinity should invest financially and relationally in youth programming.
 - Demographics: Trinity is not in a high-youth-density area; focus on older adults and career-transition adults is strategically sound. Congregation is currently financially strong, but developing a deep replacement pipeline of new families is critical for long term financial health.
 - Outreach ideas: neighborhood invitation cards (simple, low-cost); promoting Tuesday morning discussion group; YouTube/online analytics to better understand who is watching services.
- Rollout plan: Staff and council feedback through summer → refined draft → congregation cottage meetings in October/November → finalized plan by year-end.
- Discussion will continue at August meeting; Pastor is central point of contact for input.

New Business—

- Upcoming Schedules
 - July—Lantern Hill Trip
 - Fall—restart dinner groups, member role review
 - September 27—Adult Forum AI/Strategic Plan review
 - November—Strategic Plan Cottage meetings for Congregation
 - December—Endowment Status in Adult Forum
 -

Next Meeting

- Sunday, August 9, 2026 at 9:00 am in the Conference Room.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 am.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Stacey Drake
kidsministry@tlc-stl.org

RALLY DAY!!!

Sunday School resumes on September 13! We will have a fun kickstart to our Sunday School year for all children ages 3- 5th grade from 9:00-10:00. After our 10:00 worship service our congregation is invited for our Rally Day celebration in the gym. A food truck, balloon twisting, slime bar and crafts will be provided! ALL are welcome!

CALLING ALL STUDENTS IN GRADES 6-8

Our Parent and Student Confirmation Orientation is Wednesday, September 16. Our first Confirmation class is Wednesday, September 23. Class meets each Wednesday night from 7:00-8:00 in room 123.

BLESSINGS OF THE BACKPACKS

Blessings of the Backpacks will be on August 23 during our worship service. Please have your children bring their backpacks as we bless them with a special message and prayer before beginning their new school year.

SAVE THE DATES:

August 9: Godspeed to our College Students
August 23: Blessings of the Backpacks
September 13: Rally Day
September 16: Confirmation Class resumes

Stacey Drake,
Children's Ministry Coordinator



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Thank you to all the volunteers and crew leaders who made our VBS such a success! We had over 100 campers and crew leaders in our week full of fun and faith.



YOUTH LEADER

Rebecca Henderson
yly@tlc-stl.org

Summertime has been very sweet for the youth of Trinity! We've taken advantage of the more relaxed summer schedules and spent a lot of time enjoying one another's company while growing together in faith.

In May, we focused on teamwork with an outing to Activate. In June, our competitive sides came out during a fun game of miniature golf. Then, in July, we had the opportunity to give back to our community by partnering with Home Sweet Home to build six dressers for families in need.

Each of these activities has strengthened our friendships, encouraged us to serve others, and helped us grow in our relationships with God. We are so thankful for these opportunities to learn, serve, and have fun together. It doesn't get much better than that!

Feel free to reach out with any questions at YLY@tlc-stl.org. Thank you!

Rebecca Henderson, Youth LEADing youth Coordinator



Team Building at Amp Up Action Park
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Meet at 1:15 pm on Sunday, August 9
Amp Up Action Park
13901 Manchester Rd, Manchester

We will be doing the ropes course, laser tag and the arcade. Please wear comfortable clothes and arrive by 1:15 pm so we can sign waivers and get organized.

RSVP to Rebecca Henderson
yly@tlc-stl.org



**Best of Egypt: Walk in
the Footsteps of Moses &
the Holy Family with
Trinity Lutheran and Rev.
Chris Naig.**

January 12 - 22, 2027

\$3,490 + Airfare

Included: 10 nights in 5-star hotels (Double Occupancy); Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner daily; Entrance fees to all sites; All ground transportation in a private tour bus; Domestic flights in Egypt

NOT included: Gratuities for Guide, Driver, Hotels, Restaurants; Airfare; Personal expenses; travel insurance.

Itinerary-

12 JAN – Departure from USA
13 JAN – Arrival in Cairo
14 JAN – Pyramids of Giza & Grand Egyptian Museum
15 JAN – Coptic Cairo
16 JAN – Flight to Luxor & Start of Nile Cruise
17 JAN – West Bank of Luxor & Sail to Esna
18 JAN – Edfu & Kom Ombo Temples
19 JAN – Philae Temple & Nubian Village (Aswan)
20 JAN – Travel to St. Catherine (Sinai)
21 JAN – Mount Sinai & St. Catherine's Monastery
22 JAN – Departure or Jordan Extension

4-Day Jordan Program: Petra, Mount Nebo & Amman

Day 1: Arrival in Petra – Explore the Rose-Red City

Day 2: Petra – Mount Nebo – Madaba – Amman

Day 3: Amman City Tour

Day 4: Departure

Hope you can join me in Egypt and Jordan for this great experience. More details in the link below. Peace, Chris

<https://www.eliastours.com/tours/best-of-egypt-walk-in-the-footsteps-of-moses-the-holy-family-with-rev-chris-naig>



LANTERN HILL TRIP

I woke up this morning early; it was about 4:15 am. I got a drink of water out of the faucet. Then, went downstairs, opened the backyard door, it was quiet. No dust coming in, no roosters crowing, no dogs barking, no water trucks honking, no buses picking up workers. I went back to bed, and just looked up, and thought to myself “wow”!

This past week, 14 of us from Trinity traveled down to Lantern Hill School in Cañón Buena Vista, Mexico, about three hours south of San Diego.

For those who may not know, Lantern Hill is one of Trinity’s five core mission partners. Our congregation has walked alongside this ministry for many years, and it was a true gift to see firsthand what God is doing there.

Lantern Hill serves children and families in a rural, underserved community. Pastor and I did a little AI checking, and found the average annual income in the area is around \$10-12K per household; most homes are 1-2 rooms, no running drinking water, in some cases cardboard roofs, dirt roads, junk/debris everywhere, etc. You get the idea. LH provides tutoring, after-school and summer programs, meals, and other support. Their core mission is to build deep relationships with these young people and their families, and to help break the cycle of poverty, leading to drugs, gangs, and alcohol, all with the kids essentially trapped, getting very little education. Today, the school serves more than 80 children during the regular school year.

The staff at Lantern Hill is truly remarkable. Their work goes far beyond a typical workday. They teach, build, cook, clean, counsel, mentor, and in many ways become like family to the children they serve. By the way, the food they serve is excellent!

During our week there, we worshiped at a local church, helped build concrete exterior walls for a planned new school & gym addition, organized the tool shed and outdoor play area, painted benches & tables, and—most importantly—spent time with the children in their summer program. Every day, these kids greeted us with gratitude and big, joyful smiles.

Trinity can be especially proud of the seven young adults who represented our congregation: Abby (O’Connell), Addie (Flattem), Claire (Jones), Evan (Meyland-Smith), Mari (Flattem), Ollie (Schnarr), and Rylan (Baumgart). They planned and led crafts for about 50 children in summer school. Most of the regular high school students weren’t there because they were working in the fields harvesting fruits and vegetables. Our youth also played games with the kids, and as time permitted, helped with the construction and painting projects, and always showed up with willing hearts. Even though none of our youth speak Spanish, they communicated easily through kindness, smiles, and service. They were a true inspiration—not only to the Lantern Hill staff, but also to all of us adults from Trinity.

I also want to thank some of the adults who have invested deeply in this ministry.

- Pastor Chris, on his fourth trip to Lantern Hill, has been a steady supporter of this mission.
- As usual, Amy Jones organized this year’s trip, has served there at least six times, and stays in regular contact with the staff throughout each year.
- Rob Harper, a Lantern Hill board member and current treasurer, has devoted countless hours behind the scenes to support this work during his 15 years of diligent focus on this mission.
- John (Baumgart) has now served on three trips, and Eric (Flattem) on two, each taking time away from work to be there.
- And for the rest, Jill (O’Connell), Kathie (Haferkamp), and myself, this was our first experience at Lantern Hill—a blessing we will never forget.

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LANTERN HILL TRIP

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Trinity's mission statement says, "In Christ, we aspire to journey with grace, faith, love, and service." This week, we had the privilege of being the hands and feet of Christ as we served this community. The families of Lantern Hill continue to need our prayers and support so that this important ministry can thrive and continue to grow. These people live in constant circumstances of poverty that many of us have never experienced and can barely understand.

One of our Trinity youth summed it up well:

"This trip has made me appreciate so much more what I have and how truly blessed I am." I couldn't agree more. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Haferkamp



BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

GATEWAY BROWN BAG ASSEMBLY

Monday, August 10
8:30 AM
Trinity Kitchen

Gateway180 is one of Trinity's 5 core missions. As part of our mission to support Gateway180, once a month we assemble Brown Bag lunches and prepare Sloppy Joes to support the homeless served by Gateway180.

Our next Gateway Brown Bag & Sloppy Joe session is scheduled for Monday, August 10 at 8:30 am in the Trinity kitchen. If you would like to help out, you can click [HERE](#) to sign up to volunteer or you can contact Ken Hardebeck at Lhardebeck@aol.com or 314-605-4970. Thank you!

HELP SORT DONATIONS AT GATEWAY180

Friday, August 21
9:00 AM
Meet in Trinity Atrium

Thanks to valuable partners, Gateway180 receives donations of food, clothing, personal care items, etc. for their clients. Once the donations are received, they are sorted and organized. A dedicated group has developed a well-organized system for managing donations but needs some help.

We are looking for volunteers to join us at Gateway180 on Friday, August 21 to sort donations. We will meet at Trinity at 9:00 am to carpool to Gateway180. If there is enough interest, we may stop for lunch on our way back. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Kathy Gaal at kgaal@sbcglobal.net or 314-540-2690.

PREPARE AND SERVE DINNER FOR GATEWAY180

Saturday, August 22
2:30 PM
Trinity Kitchen

Volunteers are needed to help with a dinner for Gateway180, a shelter supporting women, children, and families experiencing homelessness. They provide safe, nurturing emergency shelter and offer supportive housing programs that empower adults and families to become independent and permanently housed.

- The event takes place Saturday, August 22, and involves meal preparation at Trinity at 2:30 pm, followed by serving the meal at Gateway180.
- Meal prep: Starts at 2:30 pm, finished by 4:00 p.m.
- Serving at Gateway180: Depart Trinity at 4:00 pm, return around 7:00 pm. You can choose to only prepare or only serve—whatever fits your schedule.
- No experience needed; support will be provided

To volunteer or learn more, contact Kathy Gaal at kgaal@sbcglobal.net or 314-540-2690. Further details will be shared after sign-up.



BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

AUGUST TRINITY BOOK GROUP

Monday, August 24
“The Heart is a Lonely Hunter”
by Carson McCullers

The beloved Southern Gothic classic that turned Carson McCullers into an overnight literary sensation and one of the Modern Library’s top 20 novels of the 20th century. In a Depression-era Georgia Mill town, an enigmatic deaf mute man, John Singer, draws out the haunted confessions of an itinerant worker, a doctor, a widowed café owner, and a young girl. Each yearns for escape from small town life, but the young girl, Mick Kelly, the book’s heroine (loosely based on McCullers), finds solace in her music.

Wonderfully attuned to the spiritual isolation that underlies the human condition, and with a deft sense for the racial tensions in the South, McCullers spins a haunting, unforgettable story of American loneliness that gives voice to the rejected, the forgotten, and the mistreated—and, through Mick, gives voice to the quiet, intensely personal search for beauty.

All are welcome to bring a lunch and join our discussion

Reading ahead:

Monday, September 28
“London Falling: A Mysterious Death in a Gilded City and a Family’s Search for Truth”
by Patrick Radden Keefe

Questions? Contact Karen Johnson at mrsdrjx5@gmail.com.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PICKUP DONUTS

We are looking for volunteers to pick up pre-paid donuts from Schnucks on Sunday mornings. Contact Amy Jones at office@tlc-stl.org.

BIBLICAL CONVERSATION

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM
in Room 123

Trinity offers a Biblical Conversation on Tuesday mornings. Led by Pastor Chris, this is a chance to share thoughts and dig deeper into the readings for the upcoming Sunday Worship Service. These Biblical Conversations are open to everyone! Please plan to join us for this weekly conversation.



BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST



THRIVENT CARDS NEEDED

We are looking for Thrivent cards for these upcoming projects:

- God's Work. Our Hands.
- Lantern Hill School Supplies
- Meals Do Matter Cooking Sessions
- Preschool classroom supplies
- Gateway180 Lunch Bag Assembly
- Gateway180 Monthly Dinners

Remember, if you are a Thrivent member, you have access to funds to use for your favorite service project or fundraiser! Contact Corlyn Salisbury, salisbury04@gmail.com if you'd like to help.



MEALS AVAILABLE

We Have Meals in the MDM Freezer!

We have two serving and four serving meals available. **Bring a meal to someone in need.** Please reach out to someone you know who could use a meal. And, as always, remember to remind them that:

**THEY MATTER TO YOU AND
THEY MATTER TO GOD!**



benefitting Lantern Hill
one of Trinity's 5 core



Every new school year requires new school supplies, and gift cards make it easy to give students at Lantern Hill exactly what they need. Your contribution, big or small, helps set these students up for a successful year.

Lantern Hill provides backpacks and school supplies for the 85+ students who attend the educational program in Cañón Buena Vista, outside of Ensenada, Mexico..

We need gift cards (in any amount) from:

- Target
- Walmart
- Sam's Club
- Costco

Learn more about Lantern Hill at www.friendsoflanternhill.org

BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

DINNER GROUPS ARE BACK!

Trinity is excited to announce the return of the **Small Group Ministry - Dinner Groups**. This is a wonderful (and delicious) way to meet fellow Trinity members and Trinity preschool families, and build our church and preschool community in a relaxed way.

Dinner groups are open to **singles, couples, and families (with or without children)**. Participants will be assigned to a small group, based on their selections of dine-in, dine-out, dine with children, dine with adults only. Each group will enjoy **three meals together** over the course of four months.

Meals may be held in a home or at a local restaurant or a combination of both—whatever works best for the group. Each member of the group will take a turn either hosting a meal or choosing a restaurant. The focus isn't on fancy dining or elaborate hosting, but on sharing a meal together and getting to know each other outside of the walls of Trinity.

Whether you have been a member of Trinity for years, or are a new preschool parent, dinner groups are a super way to make new connections and enjoy fellowship.

Ready to join us? Simply click or scan the QR code below or contact the church office (Amy) at 636-227-5432 to sign up. When registering, please provide your contact information and let us know which dining experiences you're interested in:

- Dining in participants' homes
- Dining at local restaurants
- Dining with children
- Dining with adults only



Registrations are due by **August 31**.

If you have any questions, please contact **Barb Trettel** at 636-675-2673 or the church office (Amy) at **636-227-5432**.

We hope you'll join us as we renew this wonderful Trinity tradition!



THANK YOU



We are overjoyed to share that, thanks to your generosity, our campers and their families helped collect **489 pounds of snacks** for Circle of Concern! Every can, box, and bag donated will go directly toward supporting neighbors in our community who are facing food insecurity. This outpouring of generosity is a beautiful reflection of what we hope our children learn during VBS — that faith in action means caring for others, and that even the smallest hands can make a mighty difference. Thank you for teaching our campers, by your example, what it means to love our neighbors. To everyone who donated snacks, volunteered their time, prayed for our VBS week, or simply cheered

on our campers — thank you. Your support made this year's VBS a success not just for our kids, but for our community as a whole.

AMERICAN KANTOREI CONCERT

Presented by the Trinity Concert Series, American Kantorei performed on Sunday, June 7, 2026 in support of Gateway180. Thanks to your generous donations, the concert raised \$1,200. We sincerely appreciate your support!

A special note from Steve Paquette, Treasurer of the American Kantorei:

Being a member of Trinity, I was excited to work with Brian and our team to make the arrangements for a concert on June 7 as part of the Music at Trinity Series.

On behalf of the American Kantorei, we give thanks to Trinity for your support and the warm welcome we received to perform.

It was also a pleasure for us to know that funds for this effort are going to a Core Mission of Trinity—Gateway 180.

The sanctuary renovations to the choir location and altar worked out great as the acoustics were ideal for our singers and instrumentalists.

Special thanks to:

- *Brian for making all the arrangements and helping us to setup*
- *Leslie for printing the programs*
- *Susan Seckel for providing the refreshments at the reception*
- *Pastor Chris & Council for their support*



God's Blessings, Steven Paquette

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

NEW MEMBERS

Please join us in welcoming **Ira and Patricia Snyder** to the Trinity family! Ira and Patricia were recently married and are excited to begin this new chapter together. They enjoy staying active by exercising and participating in a variety of community activities at Friendship Village. We are glad they are here and look forward to getting to know them better. Welcome, Ira and Patricia!

Address: 15201 Olive Blvd, Apt 113, Chesterfield, MO 63017
Phone: (504)250-9391



NEW ADDRESS

Bob and Cheryl Hick
1055 Bellevue Ave
Richmond Heights, MO 63117

Pat Irmscher
Bethesda Hawthorne Place #204
1111 S. Berry
St. Louis, MO 63122



MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Ann Eissfeldt 8/2
Dave Luethy 8/5
Kathie Haferkamp 8/8
Babs Holtzman 8/8
Mason Merenda 8/8
Eric Flattem 8/10
Betsy Meyland-Smith 8/10
Evan Kuo 8/11
Evan Meyland-Smith 8/13

Teri Francis 8/14
Rylan Baumgart 8/16
Gail Garthe 8/18
Tom Knowles 8/19
Vicki Dohrmann 8/20
Imogen Allen 8/21
Alex MacPeck 8/22
Nicole Maloy 8/22
Jill Hall 8/23

Adelia Johnson 8/23
Jason Brenton 8/25
Keith Frank 8/26
Katie Steinmeyer 8/26
Christine Gatermann 8/27
Brian Thomas 8/27
Kristen Petersen 8/28
Paul Pohlers 8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Kevin & Karen Johnson 8/1/1981
Pierre & Margie Belleville 8/3/1974
Larry & Christie Tietjen 8/4/1979
Mike & Susan Herrmann 8/4/2001
Alex Kafoury & Remi Miyazak 8/5/2015
Jim & Kim Stewart 8/8/1981
Bob & Gail Garthe 8/11/1962
Ron & Carol Kohlmeier 8/12/2006
Bob & Teri Francis 8/15/1970
Blake Larson & Melissa Gibbs 8/15/2016

Darrell & Judy Fee 8/16/1969
Pastor Roy & Terry Christell 8/18/1973
Brian & Lisa Thomas 8/18/2001
Rick & Teri Glazebrook 8/20/1983
Kent & Audrey Melton 8/21/1955
Jon & Barb Trettel 8/22/1970
Dick & Sandy Johnson 8/24/1968
Eric & Michelle Halter 8/25/2001
Scott & Betsy Meyland-Smith 8/28/2010
Earl & Sandy Lindenberg 8/30/1967

Not seeing your birthday or anniversary? Please let the church office know so that we may update our records, office@tlc-stl.org or 636-227-5432.

If your email address or cell phone number has changed, or if we don't have your information, please use the Church Directory button on our website to update your information. If you would like a copy of the Church Directory, please call the church office at **636-227-5432**.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

PRAYERS FROM JUNE & JULY 2026

Thanksgiving and praise for....

- Baptism of Connor Miles Hanser, grandson of Rick & Corlyn Salisbury
- Baptism of Eliana Marie Hower Wiederer, granddaughter of Mary Hepperly and Mike Hower

Please pray for...

John Sievert (Polly Sievert King's brother), Sharon Hild, Rosanne Coleman (friend of Phyllis Baker), Michele R (friend of Nancy and Dan Blakeley), Bob Schilling (friend of Rick Lee), Christa and Kevin, Mike Sharitz, Anne Logan, Val Nohren (sister of Randy Ochs), Ron Wiese, Rich Wolf, Eric Halter, Mary Alice Long, Mike Long, Shelly Allen (Graeme Allen's mom), George Holtzman, Alyssa Haufschild (friend of Eric Flattem and Laura Neary), Issac Haufschild (friend of Eric Flattem and Laura Neary), Dan Thompson (friend of Mike Sharitz), The Grelle Family (family friends of Megan Green (preschool teacher), Lois (Judy Sieve's sister), Sandi Thorp, Angie Hild Anderson (Sharon Hild's daughter), Andrew Jaycobsmeyer (friend of Rick & Mikki Lee) Pete Stirling, Kent Melton, Steve Hagemann (Judy Sieve's cousin), Kat Rourke, Gary Mertz (brother of Sharon Mertz), Jim Stewart, Daniel Paquette (brother of Steve Paquette), Tammy Surfus Cayer (Sharon Hild's godchild), Jill Leary (friend of Christy Cole and Amy Jones), Garry Melton (son of Kent and Audrey Melton), Tomi Nevin (sister of Patsy Sobey), Kina Jordan (niece of Patsy Sobey), Loretta Lofgren, Mike Calcagno, Richard, Sharon Mertz, Christie Tietjen, Greg Hild, Richard Leimgruber

For the family and friends of...

- Mary (Dorothy Norland's sister) who completed her baptismal journey on June 15, 2026
- Morris Larson, beloved husband of Elaine Larson, who completed his baptismal journey on June 17, 2026
- Norma Anderson, who completed her baptismal journey
- Sally Coleman, friend and care receiver of Carey Parquette, who passed July 4th
- Susan Adamelk, dear friend of Paul Pohlers, who passed away
- Jonathan Fruendt, uncle of Rebecca Henderson, who passed away

Those serving our country...Seth Allison (grandson of Audrey and Kent Melton)

To make a prayer request...

- Call the church office-636-227-5432.
- Email office@tlc-stl.org.
- Prayers remain on the list for two weeks and may be renewed by request.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Council President: Jeff Haferkamp
Vice-President: Dave Luethy
Secretary: Elaine Larson
Treasurer: Mike Hower

At-Large Members: John Engle
Dan Fry
Eric Halter
Maureen Hoppin
Sasi Jeyarajan
Gene Kerr
Mikki Lee
Jim Mueller

OFFICE STAFF

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Pastor
pastor@tlc-stl.org, ext. 1001

The Rev. Roy Christell
Pastor Emeritus
pastorroy@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1002

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YouMatterToGod.org

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