



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

EXPERIENCING AND SHARING JESUS

July 2021



A Ground Breaking Moment

“What good fellowship we once enjoyed as we walked together to the house of God.”

Psalm 55:14 (NLT)

701 East Florida Avenue, Urbana Illinois 61801– Phone: 217-367-8923

Pastor Shawn Boylan – pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org

Traditional Worship - Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

Traditional Worship - Sunday - 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary Worship - Sunday - 10:45 a.m.

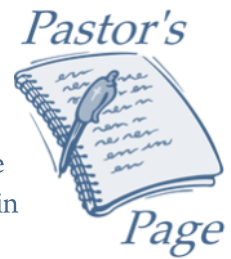
Join us online - Sunday - 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. trinity-urbana.org

More Than a Fellowship Hall

The Ground Breaking Ceremony on June 27, 2021 was a memorable event at Trinity. I am looking forward to having a fellowship hall again. I believe that the Lord will bless the building project and that He will open many opportunities for ministry here at Trinity.

As the building project moves into the construction phase, and we see the old building come down, and the new one go up, consider that God has got His own building project going on in our lives; namely, that “Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him.”

In order for God to do that, He’s going to have to tear down some of what you have built. God’s got grand plans; He chose us to become like Christ. (Romans 8:29). For your part, you can welcome His building project and desire it above all things. It doesn’t happen overnight, and there are some things to keep in mind as God continues His construction project in you.



Commitment

Jesus said, “Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? (Luke 14:29, NIV). Building anything requires manpower, materials and the mindset to get it done. Christ and God’s Word are the best you can get. Make a commitment to get know Christ, His Word and His promises. Christ promises that if you build your life on what He says, you can weather any storm in this life. And what you’ve built in Him lasts forever (Matthew 7:24-25). As you commit to building your life according to God’s example of Jesus (Ephesians 5:1 ff.), there’s always a ...

Cross

Jesus said, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me” (Luke 9:23, NIV). That’s a thoughtful road and there are no shortcuts. It takes faith and patience (Hebrews 6:12). There are always thorns and the fiery darts of the evil one that will try to distract us from what God has given us to confidently do (Ephesians 6:10 ff.). In fact, any goal we strive for will be tested (Psalm 139:23-24). The way of the cross changes your plans (Proverbs 16:3), and will refine you like gold (Zechariah 13:9, Malachi 3:3, 1 Peter 1:6-7) 2 Timothy 2:22. But, in bearing our cross, there’s a ...

Crown

Near the end of his life the apostle Paul wrote: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing” (2 Timothy 4:7-8, NIV) Any building project can have challenges, but the apostle Paul is saying that it’s worth it!

There’s so much in life that causes us to think that these words aren’t true, but, “the one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it” (1 Thessalonians 5:24, NIV). Jesus is praying you (Hebrews 7:25); God’s Spirit will give you strength through the Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17), and we can encourage and pray for one another (Hebrews 3:13, James 5:16)

Desire and believe that God’s work in you will go well (Romans 8:28, 3 John 2), and that you will be of good service to others (Micah 6:8, Titus 3:8). Trust God to build more than a new fellowship hall.

In Christ’s Love,

Be a Portal for Others



Well, we did it! We Broke Ground for the new Fellowship Hall at Trinity! Calling all friends, neighbors and others in the community. It has happened, and we've committed to making a difference. The Press release was made, the project scope was laid out in the News Gazette, and a glimpse at a new and exciting project is very near.

I believe that our Groundbreaking ceremony, brought many of us together in a new way. All Are Welcome! This gathering wasn't even possible a few short months ago. While preparing and even setting up for the event, it seemed as if the rain might dash our outdoor plans for June 27th. But with a few clouds overhead, some moist grass underfoot and a small muddy spot to dig in, it turned out to be just right. God certainly was watching over us, and was with us during this momentous occasion.

Scripture readings for the ceremony remain especially appropriate and encouraging. (See Luke 6:46-48; Hebrews 11:8-10; 1 Chronicles 29:16-18) Trinity is built on a firm foundation. That foundation is evident when looking into the faces of Gods people. We are all His people, and we have been commissioned to do good works which bring glory to Him. We each have different talents, interests, skills and abilities which make us uniquely qualified for whatever lays ahead.

Trinity Lutheran Church



Groundbreaking

June 27, 2021

The July 1st Portals of Prayer lesson seems apropos for Trinity right now. The author's attention is fixed on the meaning of the word "Portal". This caught my attention as well, since we are entering a portal of our own right now. The word Portal in the lesson is not simply a spot, location or even a destination. It can however take on different meanings, such as that of a door, gate, entrance or passageway. Consider their purpose. They are meant to be used to convey, transport or allow people passage. Every door is a passageway. Jesus told us he is the door (see John 10:9 KJV) I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

We are beginning to build portals, through which many can come to know Jesus Christ, and experience His love at Trinity. Each of us can use our individual blessings, to bless others and to be Jesus' hands and feet in our community. The hymn "My Hope is Built on Nothing Less" (LSB #576) was our final hymn of the Groundbreaking ceremony. The refrain of this hymn, says it all. "On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand." The body of Christ is not contained in walls, rather it dwells in His People. Help to share Gods love with others, and be a Portal for others to open up and meet Jesus.

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for dwelling in each of us. Help us to be a portal which brings others to you. Allow us to share our time, talents, skills and abilities to build Your Church's firm foundation, on solid ground.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

Kevin Donoho – Elder Chr.

President's Report to the Congregation

Dear Trinity Members,

The groundbreaking ceremony for our new building addition, which was held at Trinity on Sunday, June 27 between services, was truly inspiring. Pastor and the Groundbreaking Planning Committee did an outstanding job of bringing us together as we experienced and shared Jesus.

The congregation also met in a Voters' Assembly yesterday afternoon and we adopted a resolution to renew Trinity's corporate status as an Illinois not-for-profit. The vote by our members was 35 Yes, 0 No, and 1 Abstain. We are now filing the paperwork with the Illinois Secretary of State's Office.

Our lender for the building project, Central Illinois District, needs this information for the mortgage loan.

Regarding the building project, please read the latest report by Dave Kuehn, who is the Chair of the Building Committee, in Trinity's July newsletter (below). Based on the progress reported, we are ready to begin construction once we get a building permit from the City of Urbana.

In closing, my prayer is that we do God's will as we come back and enjoy worship together in the Sanctuary and in the way we did before March 2020 and, as we rebuild and improve our church property for the future, that we do all these things out of love for Him and for one another.

Grace and peace,

Rick Winkel,

President



Building Committee Report

The city is still in the process of reviewing documents for a building permit from the architects, Chuck Reifsteck and Elsa Reifsteck, which they submitted a few weeks ago. The city building official indicated that he had distributed the documents to the various city departments. Several inspection divisions have reviewed, but not all, as of the end of June. Reviews are expected to be finished soon and the building permit should be approved during the week of July 5.

Jim Hinze, from Zion Construction Management, indicated that bidding for subcontracts also is expected to be completed soon and he will start working on contracts for the church to sign. Bids for the trades are coming in on target regarding costs. It will take Jim Hinze several days to get equipment on site and he will not be able to start construction until we have a building permit from the city. Zion is also working with Ameren so that power lines, which currently enter the existing fellowship hall, can be connected to the remaining portion of the church. The electrical disconnection and reconnection will need to occur before construction begins. When this occurs, the church will be without power for a few hours.

The Kitchen Subcommittee and Elsa Reifsteck are exploring options for review of the kitchen plans with the Public Health Department.

Dave Kuehn

Building Committee Chair

WIM (LWML) NEWS:



LWML School Kits: During the months of July and August we will be collecting school supplies to be donated to Orphan Grain Train (a service organization of LCMS). These kits are distributed to many needy orphans, families, and disabled individuals worldwide. There are collection boxes in the narthex for the supplies.

Each kit contains 1 backpack, 2 spiral notebooks, 2 pencils, 2 pens, 10 sheets of construction paper, 1 package crayons (24 count), 1 ruler, 2 glue sticks, 1 scissors, 1 eraser, 1 package of colored pencils (12 count), 1 pencil sharpener.

We already have a good supply of backpacks, pencils, pens, and erasers, but need more of everything else. Your donations will be much appreciated. These kits truly make a difference in the lives of many needy people.

LWML Champaign Zone Fall Rally: Women in Mission invites all Ladies to consider attending our Fall Rally which will take place on the morning of Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Urbana. Mark the date on your calendar if you can make it. We'd love to see you there!

Adopt-A-Student Collection: Trinity's LWML group, Women in Mission, has been supporting a seminary student, James Bozarth and deaconess student, Erin Dewberry, as an Adopt-A-Student sponsor at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, since Fall of 2019. Although we have been able to support our students through this year, we will not be able to do so this fall (2021) since the pandemic has not allowed us to have our semiannual rummage sale fundraiser this past year. We have thus taken a special collection for these students to help support them during their third year at Concordia. We appreciate any contributions from the congregation for this cause and will forward funds to Concordia to be distributed to these students. Both students regularly correspond with us and are very grateful for our prayers and financial support. Please see the display in the narthex for more details.

Thank you for your consideration,
Faith Wetzel, WIM President



Wee Disciples Preschool News

What a beautiful summer it has been. Praise God for the sun and warmth of this season. July is here already, and it is time to start thinking about the 2021-22 school year at the preschool. Enrollment for the coming year is ongoing throughout the summer and I have been meeting perspective families and giving tours of our preschool. If you know anyone interested in preschool for their child, please suggest that they check out our website at www.trinity-urbana.org, and feel free to share my contact information with families and friends. My email is weedisciplespreschool@yahoo.com.

Coming up in July new students will be contacted to schedule a home visit prior to the start of school. I am finishing up the summer preparations of the classroom/playground this month. Also, the classroom carpet is cleaned, and we have a new laminator. A big thank you to a generous donation to the preschool and the church for the purchase of the new laminator.

On August 7, starting at 8:30 am the preschool will have a playground workday. Fresh mulch needs spread on the playground to prepare for the new school year. If you can help on August 7th, we would be grateful for your service.

God's Blessings,

Karen Rohrer,
Director and Teacher

Important News from Haiti - Our friend Stivenson Jean-Baptiste recently sent us an update about the current conditions in Haiti. Please see the messages from Chris Roegge and Stivenson below and keep the people of Haiti in your prayers.

Many of you will probably be surprised and a little disheartened, as I was, by the following update letter from Stivenson. Difficult as it is, it is important to understand the chaotic conditions in Haiti that underlie his state of mind.

Haiti drifts in and out of our collective consciousness as events fade into time. The tragic earthquake that inspired Trinity's Haiti mission is eleven years in the past, and our last mission trip there was in 2015. Haiti has recovered physically from the earthquake, but the pervasive, abject poverty, the corruption, the resulting political unrest, and the feeling of hopelessness among the citizenry are ongoing.

Lately, all of this has been exacerbated by a marked increase in gang activity and lawlessness. Armed gangs run rampant, making travel and the functions of everyday life even more precarious. And, after largely escaping the worst of COVID during 2020, there is now a surge of infections that is overwhelming an already inadequate health care system. The Miami Herald <https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/haiti/> is a good source for the latest news.

Stivenson returned to Haiti last year with dreams of making a real difference in his community, and it is discouraging to see these dreams being crushed under the weight of overwhelming circumstances. Please continue to pray for him and for the people of Haiti.

Chris Roegge

Hello everyone and blessings to you all in the Name of Christ, our Lord.

I am writing from my home country Haiti, giving you an update on what is happening with me and the country. I pray and hope that you and your loved ones are doing well. I have heard that things are starting to go back to normal for vaccinated people. I think it is a good thing. So, I assume that you are happy to finally be able to go out without having to worry more about the virus.

For me, things are going okay. My family is doing fine. My mom went to the Dominican Republic to visit my sister Melissa and spent a good five months there with her and her kids. But she is back in Haiti now. My job is going well, I enjoy working with the school kids. They are happy and thankful for the food. They always sent thanks and love.

Here in Haiti, things have not been going well, sadly – the number of COVID cases are growing each and every day, meaning that more people are dying; the country is facing big crises right now – groups of gangs are rising, the number of kidnapping for ransom cases was down for just a little while, but now is growing, in addition to shootings. Today is the 30th of June. Yesterday alone, nearly 30 people were killed by gunmen in separate shooting incidents. It is very sad.

I know that bad things happen everywhere, and people die everywhere, but here in Haiti, there clearly is a national war – Haitians hate Haitians, Haitians are fighting against Haitians, Haitians are killing Haitians... It is not livable.

For those of you who got to spend some time with me, you probably know that I am not a negative person – I am optimistic and always try to see the positive and good side of everything. However, for today, I do not see hope for the country. I know it is not what you would want to hear from me right now, but I am not staying. I do not know where I am going yet, but I cannot do this anymore. Things are not working. Not a single person is safe here.

There is one thing I am requesting from you for this country: your prayer. That's all.

That is all I have today, thank you for reading. Stay safe and blessed.

Thank you for your support.

Stivenson Jean-Baptiste



June 2021
Correspondence from Institution Olivier
& Yahve-Nissi



Dear Members of Trinity,

As another school year comes to an end, we are once again reminded how difficult life can be in Haiti. The children you feed are incredibly blessed by the assurance that each day they come to school, they know they will receive a nutritious meal. For many of these children, it is the only meal they can rely on every day. They may have the opportunity to eat a banana or mango for breakfast, and maybe some will receive a couple pieces of bread for dinner, but a nutritious meal that can truly sustain them for another day is often out of reach for many of their families.



Life in Haiti is not getting any easier. The social unrest and instability continue, with an ever-increasing number of kidnappings occurring. This has become a primary funding source for "Bandits", as the gangs demand ransom for their captors. In addition, now the country is facing an alarming increase in the number of COVID cases they are seeing. One of our Feeding Program Directors, who is also a pastor of a local church, wrote to us in a recent email, "*We are worried about the situation in Haiti this time with covid 19, yesterday a servant in my Church is struck by this disease and she died immediately, yesterday the Guilgeaud school called me saying that a student fell quickly suffering from the pandemic, he was taken to hospital.*" As a very poor, third-world country, the Haitian government has not purchased (or received) and vaccines. It is a very scary time for the people.

So, what are we to do? First, we must continue to pray for the people of Haiti every day. Pray that God will protect them. Pray that God will lead them out of this crisis and that the people of Haiti will turn to Him for refuge. ("*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*" *Psalms 46: 1*). Secondly, as the body of Christ, we must also stand firm with our brothers and sisters, and not abandon them. The assurance the children in your school have by knowing we are never going to leave them, and that they can rely on our help by providing a daily meal, is very comforting. Although working in Haiti remains difficult, we hold on to God's words in 1 Corinthians 15:58, "*Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.*"

Through all of this, we continue to give God thanks for the many blessings He has provided the ministry of Trinity HOPE. In every sense, He has protected us and positioned us well to withstand this difficult period. He has blessed us with incredibly loyal and dedicated Feeding Program Directors in Haiti, allowing us to continue to operate in an efficient and accountable manner, even though we personally cannot safely travel to the schools at this time. And arguably most important, He has blessed us with YOU...a team of generous school sponsors that have partnered with us to serve God by serving the children of Haiti. THANK YOU for your ongoing support and the trust you have placed in Trinity HOPE. Our commitment remains that we will always be the best stewards we can be with every dollar received, and that we will give God ALL the glory for each meal He provides. God is good!!

Serving Christ Jesus Together

Keith Logan
Executive Director



JULY



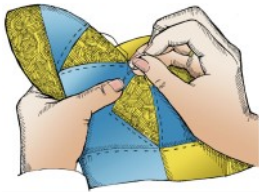
Birthdays

7/1 Dan Roney
 7/3 Jim Cook
 7/4 August Rossow
 Stan Turpin
 7/6 Dennis Daly
 Jenna Strater
 7/7 Samuel Tomory
 7/9 Susan Sheppelman
 7/14 Blake Burr
 7/16 Andrea Nation
 Julianne Nation
 7/18 Barbara Albers

7/22 Loren Althoff
 7/23 Jonathan Wanagat
 7/24 Carolyn Wanagat
 7/26 Holden Albers

Anniversaries

7/3 Ken & Mary Jo Rott (61 years)
 7/4 Devin & Megan Althoff (13 years)
 7/6 Dave & Linda Lindsay (36 years)
 7/13 Steve Calhoun & Kathy Mueller (24 years)
 Tom & Donna Huxtable (47 years)
 7/27 Bill Peifer & Karen Rohrer (24 years)



Pieces of Love - quilting - we have started meeting again on Wednesday evenings from 6pm to 8pm in the library room. If you would like to join us, please contact Jennifer at

jholhubner@hotmail.com or 217-840-9439.

We are also looking for any donations of queen- or king-sized flat sheets to back these beautiful works of art. Prefer solid color, but will take any.

Donations of fabric or sheets can be left outside the classroom we use.

Thank you and God's blessings to you all.

For the Month of June

June 6, 2021	\$8,531
June 13, 2021	\$4,320
June 20, 2021	\$3,956
June 27, 2021	\$5,647
June total offerings	\$22,454
YTD receipts	\$131,840
Copies of Trinity's monthly income, expenses and full budget breakdown are available in the narthex.	

Trinity Small Groups

Please reach out to the individual group leaders for additional meeting details.



- Women's Book Group - 7 p.m.-1st and 3rd Mondays via Zoom (Risë Lange, riselange@icloud.com)
- Pieces of Love at church - 6 p.m. Wednesdays (Jennifer Holhubner, jholhubner@hotmail.com)
- Cottage Bible Study at home (Phyllis Mennenga)
- Women in Mission at church - "LWML (WIM) will not meet in July or August (Faith Wetzel, fdorzelurb@gmail.com)
- Tuesday Bible Study (Pastor Ehlers) - bible class will remain in recess through the summer. Pastor Ehlers is recovering from a knee injury but is looking forward to resuming the class in September. Please keep Pastor Ehlers in your prayers.
- Young Adults Fellowship - 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays via Zoom (Jill Boylan)
- Breakfast Bible Study at Urbana Gardens (Phil or Joyce Bell)
- Couples Bibles Study (Risë Lange)
- Home Bible Study at the Rouse's (Hilary Rouse)