

"Here I Am"

Trinity Lutheran Church—Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the ELCA
1314 E Lexington Blvd • Eau Claire WI 54701-6434 • Phone 715.832.6601
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Good Morning and Welcome to Trinity

As Samuel said "Here I Am" to the Lord, we say the same every time we attend worship or an educational event, serve in some way, or represent Jesus to others. Our Gospel lesson reminds us that showing up is a good start, but Jesus calls us to "Follow Me." Hopefully today, and every day, Jesus will inspire you to "show up" and "follow." The world needs your witness.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Join the Annual Meeting of Trinity on Sunday, February 4, in the Worship Center at 10:45 A.M. This constitutionally directed event brings together all confirmed members to hear reports from the staff, review 2017, elect a new council, and adopt the 2018 budget.

The online Annual Report will be available at trinity-ec.org starting January 28. Please print a copy and bring it to the meeting. Print copies will also be available in the Lobby and at the meeting.

Thursday Morning Text Study

Join a group of early risers on Thursday mornings from 7:30–8:30 A.M. in Room 208. This group comes together for a pastor led study on the upcoming Sunday morning texts. Coffee is provided beginning at 7:00 A.M., and the group brings breakfast treats weekly.

Electronic Giving

Have you made a donation through any of our electronic giving options? Electronic giving is an easy, modern way for our members to make weekly offerings and respond to special appeals. Online and text options empower self-service giving and allow you to contribute tithes and offerings even when you don't have cash or your checkbook.

e-Giving is simple, quick, secure, and can provide a record of all your contributions that can be accessed online anytime. We hope you'll give it a try.

Stop by the church office or visit our website to learn more. Thank you for all you do to support our mission.

Flower Chart

There are weekends available in 2018 to sponsor altar flowers for worship to memorialize or honor some person or event in your life. Sign-up on the chart at Clipboard Central. Cost: \$40. Pick up the blue card with further instructions.



Adult Forum Today

Join Aaron Czappa, the Director of the Chippewa Valley Habitat for Humanity, in the Fireside Room after the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship services today. Aaron will talk about the new ReStore in Eau Claire, the plans for a build in Osseo, and other aspects of Habitat.

Noah's Ark Open House

All interested families are invited to attend our Preschool Open Houses on Sunday, January 28, at 10:45 A.M., following the Noah's Ark Sunday worship (9:45 A.M.) and on Monday, January 29, at 6:00 P.M.

Visit the Noah's Ark classroom, learn about the Noah's Ark program, ask questions, and gather 2018–2019 school year registration information. You will meet Marlee Knickerbocker, the Noah's Ark Preschool Director, along with teachers Jill Kasmarek and Ginny Lien who will also be available to answer parent questions.

January Spice Drive

Myrrh is mentioned in the New Testament as one of the three gifts the wise men brought to Jesus when he was born (Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh). Myrrh is a spice that has many uses including use as a fragrance and as a flavoring in food products. One of the things rarely donated to food pantries is spices and food seasonings. To mark the arrival of the three wise men and highlight this need in the food pantry, Children's Ministries will be holding a spice drive during the month of January. Look for the display in the lobby for more information. Please bring UNOPENED spices and food seasonings to donate to the Trinity Food Pantry.



When You Desire Baptism

We celebrate Baptisms of children, youth, and adults throughout the year at Trinity. For adults or teens, please contact Pastor Sarah directly for information and scheduling. Before you schedule a baptism for a child, we ask that you attend a Baptism class. Baptism classes are offered regularly throughout the year. This one-session meeting at church is an opportunity to learn about baptism and ongoing opportunities for nurturing faith and also meet other individuals and families at the same point in their faith journey. An upcoming Baptism class will be held on Monday, January 15, at 6:00 P.M. Register at www.trinity-ec.org/baptism.phtml If you have questions about preparing for your child's baptism or you are an adult who desires to be baptized, please contact Pastor Sarah at sarah@trinity-ec.org



Good God Books

The Bible is the source and norm of our life together. At the same time, for centuries Christians have listened for wisdom in the lives and thoughts of people of faith. Beginning this January, the Pastors of Trinity will facilitate a monthly conversation on one of their favorite or thought-provoking theological books. All are invited and welcome to these discussions. It is recommended that you acquire and read the book beforehand, but regardless you are welcome to come and be a part of the exchange of ideas.

- January 22, 6:00 P.M. • *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis • Pastor Peter



Food Pantry Stats

- There were 15 pantries held in December.
- Total visits were 584 families comprised of 1,844 individuals of which 680 were children.
- Trinity purchased 25,616 lbs. of food from Feed My People; Total Cost = \$5,000.85
- Kwik Trip donated 2,087.3 lbs. of food.
- Other donations: 819.5 lbs. of food.

Meet Rachel

Rachel knows all too well about getting by on little money. The 36-year-old single mother of three said she is diagnosed with clinical anxiety and works intermittently. She lives without cable TV and other services many people enjoy because she can't afford them. Her 14-month-old baby boy suffers from poor health and requires medical attention. She is grateful for Trinity's Food Pantry. *"If pantries weren't here, my kids and I would be in a tough spot," Rachel said. "I would be forced to make some serious decisions. I guess I would lose my car and then make other cuts. Without food pantries, I couldn't provide food for my children. It's that simple."*

Thank you for your faithful support of Trinity's Food Pantry all year long. If you would like to give, please indicate food pantry on your donation.

Children's Ministries

Open Gym Tuesdays

On Tuesdays, through March 13, from 10:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M. the Trinity Room will be open for parents and their young children (toddlers–preschool) to come in and use our equipment in a large safe space. We offer a story time and snack during the last half hour. Members, friends of members, and non-members are welcome to attend. No registration is required for Open Gym. The cost is \$3 per child, per session.

For more information on any of our Children's Ministry programming, please check out the Trinity Website www.trinity-ec.org or contact Sara Reed at 715.832.6601 ext 218 or sarar@trinity-ec.org



Friends of Flynn Weekend Meals Thank You

On Wednesday, January 10, Trinity youth and adults assembled weekend meals for Flynn Elementary School students as well as many additional elementary schools in the Eau Claire district. Weekend meals are delivered weekly to all of the Eau Claire public schools. Thank you to everyone who helped with this amazing ministry. Our youth will volunteer at Feed My People Food Bank again on Wednesday, February 7, from 4:00 P.M.– 5:00 P.M.

New Driver Recognition

On Wednesday, January 24, students who are eligible to earn a driver's license in year 2018 will be recognized during the Wednesday Evening Worship Service at 6:30 P.M. Students and parents will receive an AAA Parent-Teen Driving Agreement. AAA has developed this agreement to help families work together to navigate the learning process. Students will also receive a key chain as a gift from the Parish Nurse and the Youth Ministry Team.



For more information on any of our Youth Ministry programming, please check out the Trinity Website www.trinity-ec.org or contact Cassie Brenden or Ashley Olson at 715.832.6601 ext 209.



Day of Renewal

The Day of Renewal for women will be on Saturday, March 3, from 9:00 P.M. –1:00 P.M. at Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church, 207 University St, Elk Mound, WI. The theme is *"God Is Good...All The Time!"* The presenter is Moira Kneer. She will make you smile, laugh, and cry as she talks about *"Life Lessons Learned from the Peanuts Gang."* It's going to be a great time filled with friends, food, and fun. Lunch will be provided, and the cost is \$12. New this year: childcare will be provided! Registration forms are located on the Women's Ministry Bulletin Board in the nursery hallway. Please contact Jacki Johnson at jackij7@gmail.com or 715.864.1489 or Phyllis Grohn at 715.836.7055 if you have any questions.