



# THE TRINITY HERALD

notes and news from

Trinity Lutheran Church and School  
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*Our mission at Trinity Lutheran Church is to teach the Word of God,  
to train believers for lives of Christian service, and to tell the good news of Jesus Christ  
to the Northwoods community and to the world.*

## The God Who Watches Over You

A burglar broke into a house one night. He shined his flashlight around, looking for valuables. As he quietly picked up a laptop computer to place in his sack, a strange, disembodied voice echoed from the dark saying: "Jesus is watching you."

He nearly jumped out of his skin, shut the flashlight off, and froze. Had he really heard someone speaking? Was it his own conscience perhaps? When he heard nothing more after a bit, he shook his head and began searching for more valuables. Just as he grabbed an iPad off a shelf, clear as a bell he hears: "Jesus is watching you."

Now, freaked out, he shines the light around frantically, looking for the source of the voice. Finally, in the corner of the room, the flashlight beam came to rest on a parrot. "Did you say that?" He hissed at the parrot. "Yep," the parrot squawked: "I'm just trying to warn you." The burglar relaxed "Warn me? Who in the world are you?" "Moses," replied the bird. "Moses?" the burglar laughed. "What kind of people would name a bird Moses?" The bird replies: "The kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus."

Jesus as Rottweiler? There's an uncomfortable image. How about Jesus as interrogator or investigator? Do I want such a God to watch over me?

There is a key word in Psalm 121 that is repeated six times: "Watch." God is a watcher – not a disinterested observer or a stalker, but he watches over his people. The word in the original language has the idea of guarding and protecting. The Lord is a watchful guardian/protector of you and for you.

The first three times it occurs there's a current, present tense, "right now" aspect to this: **"He who watches over you will not slumber. Yes, he who watches over Israel will not slumber. He will not sleep. The Lord watches over you."** (vv.3b-5a) The final three times there's a future tense aspect to this – the encouragement is: Look to the Lord! **"The Lord will watch to keep you from all harm. He will watch over your life. The Lord will watch over your going and your coming from now to eternity."** (vv.7-8)

This is a fitting conclusion to a brief, powerful Psalm that begins with these words: **"I lift up my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."** (vv. 1-2a)

Do I want such a God to watch over me? At all times? Am I comforted by the thought: "Jesus is watching you"? Yes, Yes, and Yes!

Grateful for grace,



Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

## PRAYERS

Please remember the following members and friends of Trinity in your prayers and your words of encouragement to them:

Helen Anderson  
Carolyn Johnson  
Nancy Kremsreiter  
Jan Krueger  
Laura Lee  
Sheila Lemke  
Harvey Sadler  
Peggy Schuenemann  
Collette Skon  
Brandon Trapp

If you would like to be included on this prayer list in future newsletters please contact the church office.



## OTHER AREA SERVICES

Zion, Rhinelander  
Services on WCYE 93.7 FM  
at 9:00 am  
Christ, Eagle River  
Services on WERL 950 AM  
at 10:00 am  
Time of Grace—Sundays  
WSAW Wausau 6:30 am  
FYI Network 6:30 am  
Cowboy Channel 8:00 am  
American Forces Network  
10:00 am

## WORSHIP AT TRINITY

Sundays at 9:00 am  
Mondays at 6:30 pm  
Online on our YouTube  
channel, [@trinityminocqua](https://www.youtube.com/@trinityminocqua).



## STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you are the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Left to ourselves, we are spiritually poor and barren. Through the poverty and suffering of your only Son and the sanctifying operation of your Holy Spirit, you make us rich in spirit and fruitful in life. As you continually give us power to get wealth, so give us the wisdom and generosity to give a good portion of your gifts back to you. Make us and all members of our congregation good stewards of our earthly treasure that we and many others may enjoy your heavenly treasures. Give us a healthy national economy that we may labor and have the wherewithal to give to you willingly, cheerfully and regularly. Lift our eyes to the fields white already to the harvest and fill our hearts with love to send reapers to the uttermost parts of the earth. Let your blessing rest on us and all our efforts for you, for without you we can do nothing. Amen.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Texts and themes for upcoming worship:** Our current sermon series: *"The Church God Wants."* There's a huge difference, isn't there, between the church we want and the church God wants? We'll explore:

- **A Church that Takes Up Its Crosses** - September 3/4 = Matthew 16:21-26 "Beyond the Moment Toward Eternity"
- **A Church Willing to Say Hard Things** - September 10/11 = Matthew 18:15-20 "You Want Me to Do What?"
- **A Church that's Quick to Forgive** - September 17/18 = Ephesians 4:29-5:2 "Sacred Speech"
- **A Church that Shows God's Perplexing Generosity** - September 24/25 = Matthew 20:1-16 "Why Sweat for the Lord?"



**October worship will be Reformation-focused**, under the theme: *"What Does This Mean?"* Weekly, we'll examine key Biblical truths that received new and proper focus during Luther's Reformation: Obedience, Salvation, Faith, Grace, and God's Word.

**Worship Online:** Sunday worship is recorded and posted online at our church website. You can also find the worship folder and a printed copy of the sermon there. Printed copies of each week's sermon can also be found in the Fellowship Hall. Find us on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/@trinityminocqua) by searching the handle [@trinityminocqua](https://www.youtube.com/@trinityminocqua). Please subscribe and share! **We're streaming our Sunday services live!**

## BIBLE STUDY NOTES

- **Wednesday "Lunch Break" Bible study** (12:15 p.m.) continues our in-depth exploration of the book of Hebrews.
- **Sunday Bible Study (and Sunday School)** will resume on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Adult class (for 5<sup>th</sup> grade on up) will study the book of Exodus under the theme, "Deliver Us!"
- **Sunday School (beginning Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>)** is for age 3 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Thanks to our teachers, Lila Biller and Joan Farr, for serving our precious lambs!
- **Public School Confirmation (grades 7-8) and Bible History Class (grades 5-6)** begin this month. Held every Wednesday, these classes offer teaching and fellowship to encourage faith in young Christians. Pastor Luchterhand teaches Confirmation; Dean Farr and Sheldon Habben teach Bible History.
- **Pastor's "Wednesday Encouragement" blog**, continues to be found on Trinity's Facebook page and on our church website. Pastors Luchterhand and Schwanke take turns writing this weekly devotion. You can also have this devotion sent to your email each Wednesday.

- **High School Teen Group** will meet first Wednesday of September, (September 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:15-8:00 p.m.). We'll focus on the three D's: Dinner, Devotion, Diversion (activities). Please RSVP to the text that will be sent.
- **School News:** Trinity's 48<sup>th</sup> year of providing Christian education through our school began with an opening worship service on August 28<sup>th</sup>. We're grateful for a full staff and for committed parents and a church family that so strongly supports our school!
- **Be sure to follow Trinity on Facebook.** We're putting content on the page several days each week. The Wednesday blog post can be accessed in three ways (church website, Facebook, email from church office). You can follow our "Where's Marty?" campaign on Facebook and on Instagram at... trinitylutheranminocqua.

## CHURCH SINGING GROUPS

Many members of our congregation have expressed their appreciation for the various groups that sang during the summer months. Those who participated in the singing have also expressed hopes for being able to continue. The results of this, both in participation and appreciation of those who heard the singing, have encouraged the Helwigs to continue to plan and provide opportunities for singing in one or more groups. Each of these opportunities are defined below.

**Men's Hymn Sing:** This group will continue to meet once a month on the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm. One exception is November when they'll meet on the 2nd Thursday. In addition to the Christian fellowship enjoyed while singing hymns together when they meet, they are scheduled to sing on Reformation Sunday, Sunday, November 19th, Thanksgiving Eve, and Christmas Eve.

**The Festival Choir:** This is a choir of mixed voices and is named because the group will sing for the festive services of Reformation, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Eve. They will meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday at 6:30 pm. It is assumed that many who sing with this group are also those who meet to sing with the Men's Hymn Sing group. This mixed group of singers offers the women of our congregation an opportunity to participate while having to make only a once a month rehearsal commitment.

**Select Groups:** These are smaller groups (men, ladies, or both) of singers who have indicated a desire to sing in smaller groups from time to time. They are also singers who are likely able to read music or enjoy singing in harmony. Their musical gifts enable them to prepare to sing in church with less time needed for rehearsal. Their only meeting for practice would be before worship on the day they are scheduled to sing.

**Soloists or Cantors:** These are singers who have indicated an interest in assisting in the singing of the Psalms or in helping to introduce the singing of an unfamiliar hymn to the congregation. These singers provide our congregation with variation in the ways we can approach the singing of Psalms in our worship. They will work with the organists in their preparation for any given service.

Special note: If you are interested in participating in one or more of the four groups listed above and have not yet indicated your intention, please do so by emailing Don Helwig at [dehelwig@gmail.com](mailto:dehelwig@gmail.com).

Here we go! Trinity Lutheran School has begun year 48! Can you believe it? On August 28, our students began their school year. We thank God for giving us a wonderful staff and the opportunity to teach his precious lambs.

If you are, or know of someone interested in what Trinity Lutheran School has to offer, please contact the school office at 715-356-2255. We'd be happy to have you talk a teacher or give you a tour of the school.

Please continue to keep Trinity School in your prayers. This is **YOUR SCHOOL**. Please feel free to participate in any of the activities at Trinity.

### Upcoming Dates

#### **Monday, September 4**

No School—Labor Day

#### **Thursday, September 7**

Away Volleyball at St. Peter, Schofield 5:30 pm

#### **Friday, September 8**

Trinity Seedlings 8:30-9:30 am

#### **Tuesday, September 19**

Home Volleyball Game vs. Homeschool Group 4:30 pm

#### **Friday, September 22**

Area WELS Kickball Tournament at Christ, Eagle River

#### **Saturday, September 23**

Cross Country Meet at Sunnyvale Park, Wausau

#### **Thursday, September 28**

Away Volleyball at Zion, Rhinelander 4:30 pm

#### **Midweek Chapel**

September 6, 13, 20, 27

**Midweek Chapel:** Our midweek chapel services are held on Wednesdays at 8:15 am during the school year, with the first one to be held on September 6. You are welcome to join the students for chapel each week.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Based on recent inquiries, Church Council is providing an overview to help educate our congregation on Trinity's financial funds. If you have questions or would like further information, contact the Stewardship Coordinator, John Bennett, at [jmbennett618@gmail.com](mailto:jmbennett618@gmail.com) or (715) 891-2029.



- **General Fund:** Main pool of funds used for operations at Trinity. This is where offerings are deposited unless specified otherwise.
- **School Restricted Fund:** These funds are used to cover all school budget expenses in addition to school expenses beyond the budget (for example, the school building updates done a few years ago).
- **Building By God's Grace:** This fund was originally created to help fund our building project and has been kept open to continue receiving donations that help cover property management expenses beyond the normal operating budget.
- **Operational Investment Account:** Pool of funds that are intended for large expenses beyond the resources available in the various funds mentioned above. Funds are invested in WELS Investment Funds and congregational approval is needed before funds can be used.
- **Endowment Fund:** The Endowment Committee oversees this fund which receives and administers bequests, estates and other assets with the objective to further extend God's Kingdom. Each year, up to 10% of funds are used to support various ministries, both within and outside our congregation.
- **Student Tuition Fund:** The Endowment Committee also oversees this fund. Purpose of fund is to support and encourage young people of our congregation in higher Christian Education. Provides financial assistance for attending one of our synodical schools or WELS-affiliated high schools.

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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# Trinity Seedlings

*Planting Jesus in the Hearts of Toddlers*

Trinity Seedlings is  
resuming this month!

First meeting of the year:  
Friday, September 8

For children ages 1-3

- \* Held one Friday a month during the school year.
- \* 8:30-9:30 am in the school library

There is no cost to attend.  
Children must be accompanied  
by a parent or caregiver.

Questions?  
Call the church office at  
715-356-2255 or  
contact Sue Ziebart.

