



October, 2025

Trinity Merrill Lutheran Church

107 N. State Street, Merrill, WI 54452

www.trinitymerrill.com (715) 536-5482

Our Mission: Courageously Carrying Christ to our Congregation and Community



Amazing Things Are Happening At Trinity

Dear Trinity Church Family,

Autumn brings with it the beauty of God's creation and many exciting opportunities for learning. Students are learning about Reformation and the legacy of Martin Luther and the central truth of salvation by grace through faith. Our staff is grateful for your encouragement and presence at school events. With Parent-Teacher Conferences ahead (early November), we value your prayers for open communication and strong partnerships. Thank you for being a congregation that values Christ-centered education so deeply. We also are excited about our partnership with Operation Christmas Child, please look for more information on how you can help with this project. Principal Scott Johnson

Trinity Men's Breakfast and Bible Study **"Living and Leading as a Man of God"**

The first day of this study is Saturday, October 18. We will meet the 3rd Saturday of each month at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast with Bible Study from 8-9 am in the Church basement- Led by Pastor G or Pastor Jon. It doesn't matter if you're 25 or 75, it's not always easy being a Christian man in our society. Whether it's your role at work, or in your family, you face unique obligations, responsibilities, challenges, and opportunities. The good news is that, regardless of where you are in your walk with Jesus, you are not alone. Please join our new Trinity Men's Breakfast and Bible Study, where you'll spend time with other men of the congregation, enjoy breakfast and a coffee, and leave inspired by fellowship and a casual, pastor-led bible study on real-life topics relevant to men. You'll be done by 9 am and ready to kick off your weekend with a renewed purpose of what it means to be a man of God. In order to plan for the meal, Please reserve your spot by calling or texting Mike Milligan at 920.265.7488 or email at mike@millipad.net, or Jesse Severt at 715.218.9351 or jessesevert@outlook.com.

JOIN US as we welcome and install Stephanie Chaparour new (DCE) Director of Christian Education on October 19th at the 10:30 service. Trinity is so blessed!

LWML Fall Rally

The Trinity Ladies Aid and Dorcas Society would like to invite the women of Trinity to the Zone 6 LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League) Fall Rally that we are hosting on Saturday, October 11, 2025. Registration will begin at 8:15 a.m. with the rally beginning at 9:00 a.m. The registration fee of \$5.00 will provide you with rally materials and includes a luncheon which concludes the rally. The rally will feature devotions, a Bible Study on "Prayer", and a guest speaker. We hope many ladies will join us for a day of learning and Christian fellowship! Questions or to pre-register: Please call Diane Schult at 715-722-3401.

Have you purchased Scrip this week?

**Scrip are available at all
Worship Services and
in the Church Office.
Please buy!!**

Dorcas Card Nook

Check out the Card Nook in our church basement for all your greeting cards! Birthday, Get Well, Sympathy, etc. are now in the rack. Coming soon we will offer Thanksgiving and Christmas Cards. Individual cards are \$.75 and boxes are \$6.00.

Open Hearts Food Pantry needs help! **Volunteers are needed for our food pantry!**

This is what we need....

- *Someone to pickup food at Walmart once every eight weeks.
- *Someone to pickup food at Neighbors Place in Wausau once every eight months.
- *Someone to pickup food at County Market once every eight weeks.

**Please contact the church office
or call 715-675-4928**

"What We Believe" **New Member Class**

Are you a visitor at Trinity that is interested in joining our Trinity family? Maybe you're a member of Trinity that would enjoy a refresher course in our beliefs with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and Trinity. We will be holding a 7 week class beginning on **October 19th** between Sunday morning services (9:00 AM). If this sounds like something of interest to you... please call the church office to register so we know how many will be in attendance. Thank You!

Reminder: Please be aware that no one from Trinity Church, School, or Early Learning Center will ever contact you by phone or email to request gift cards or electronic donations. Unfortunately, there have been reports of individuals impersonating Church leadership and asking for money or gift cards. If you ever receive such a message, do not respond—always confirm with the church office before making any donation through electronic communication.

Thank You for Supporting Trinity Lutheran School!

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the friends of Trinity Lutheran School who have generously directed their Thrivent Choice Dollars to our school. Your support means more than words can express.

These contributions have a meaningful and lasting impact on our students, enriching their educational experience in many ways. From enhancing classroom resources to supporting special programs and activities, your generosity helps us provide a Christ-centered education that nurtures both the hearts and minds of our children.

Thank you for partnering with us in this important mission. We are truly grateful for your continued support!

In Christ, Principal Scott Johnson
Trinity Lutheran School – Merrill

We Love Trinity... Come See Why!!

God's Richest Blessings...

To these (80+) Seniors with Birthdays in October

Josephine Knorr.....	October 7
Mary Downing.....	October 9
Harold Carstensen.....	October 12
Mary Ann Schaper.....	October 12
Theresa Renken.....	October 13
Marge Giese.....	October 14
Judith Buntrock.....	October 16
Faye Meier.....	October 16
Gerald Voigt.....	October 22
Darlene Schult.....	October 23
Herman Krueger.....	October 23
Fern Whiting.....	October 25
Clara Kaiser.....	October 26
Joyce Batchelder.....	October 28
Phyllis Merkel.....	October 28
Darlene Pepke.....	October 28
Dorothy Erdmann.....	October 28
Marie Skic.....	October 30

And to these Couples with Anniversaries (50+ years) in October

Cheryl & Paul Proulx.....	54 Years on Oct. 7
Jim & Jean Wiseman.....	58 Years on Oct. 8
Walter & Mary Forster.....	56 Years on Oct. 10
Layne & Judith Jensen.....	67 Years on Oct. 11
Gerald & Eileen Voigt.....	57 Years on Oct. 12
Glenn & Elaine Nass.....	53 Years on Oct. 14
Norman & Joyce Weisenfeld.....	68 Years on Oct. 19
Carl & Judith Blennert.....	57 Years on Oct. 19
Ralph & Judy Zimmerman.....	54 Years on Oct. 23
Norbert & Sharon Holz.....	56 Years on Oct. 25
Orville & Darlene Schult.....	65 years on Oct. 29

Trinity Lutheran Church Blood Drive

Every 2 seconds someone in the United States needs blood and in just about an hour, you can save up to 3 lives and help provide lifesaving opportunities for patients in need. The Community Blood Center will be hosting a blood drive at Trinity Merrill Lutheran Church on Sunday, November 16th, from 9:00am until 12:30pm in the church basement. Please contact Jean Ravn at 715-536-4715 to schedule your life-saving donation. There is no substitute for blood so we really appreciate your donation.

Radio Broadcasts are so important to our ministry here at Trinity.

Thank you to the following for sponsoring a broadcast so we can reach our homebound listeners.

September 7- In celebration of the 48th Wedding Anniversary of Dick & Ann Stoeckmann

September 14 In loving memory of Mike Moellendorf and in honor of his birthday by his wife Debbie Moellendorf

September 21- In loving memory of Jim Downing by his friends.

September 28 sponsored by Sandra Mahn in loving memory of Frieda & Alfred Karau and Lylas Radloff.

Thank you to those who helped to beautify our church with altar flowers in September.

September 7- in loving memory of the heavenly birthday of Lenore English and for the blessing of family by Crystal & Brent Duwe.

September 14 - by Adonicca Laabs for blessings received.

September 21- in celebration of the 30th Wedding Anniversary of Darrel & Melissa Dengel

September 28 sponsored by Phyllis Buch and Bonnie Radtke in loving memory of their husbands; Allen Buch and David Radtke.

Pastoral Acts...

Baptism:

September 21 Wrenley Ruth Beyer, daughter of Nathan & Rachel (Travis) Beyer. Wrenley's sponsors are Kaitlin Sczygelski & Matthew Beyer

Deaths / Funerals:

Richard Kuehn d/o/d September 6, 2025
Funeral: September 20, 2025

Darwin Wayne Kufahl d/o/d September 19
Funeral: September 23, 2025

The Holiday Choir is Back!

Join us on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. We would love to have you join us. Choir is open to anyone high school age or older. Call Vicki at 715-536-2626 with questions.

Diane Kreager's Bible study will start on Wednesday, October 15, at 1:00 pm in the church basement. Our new study is called, "The God of All Comfort" - lessons about hope in Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 1. 3-7).



**THANK YOU,
SOUND SYSTEM,
LIVE STREAM, AND
PROJECTION
VOLUNTEERS!!**

We are so thankful for all of Trinity's volunteers! This month, we especially want to thank those who faithfully serve with our sound system, live stream, and projection. Your behind-the-scenes work is essential in helping our worship services run smoothly and allowing God's Word to reach both our congregation and those watching from home. We are grateful for the time, talent, and dedication you share with Trinity!

Community and Trinity Happenings!

Trinity Lutheran School Launches Operation Christmas Child Project

Bringing Joy—and Jesus—to Children Around the World

At Trinity Lutheran School in Merrill, we believe that even the smallest hands can make a big impact. We are excited to be holding a school-wide mission project that will reach far beyond our classrooms and community. Through Operation Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse, our students and families have the opportunity to shine the light of Jesus into the lives of children across the globe—one shoebox at a time.

Our goal is simple but powerful: pack 100 shoeboxes filled with love, joy, and the hope of Christ. Each box is a chance to tell a child they are seen, valued, and deeply loved—not just by us, but by their Savior.

Thank you to those of you who have made donations already. However, we are not done. We are collecting different types of items each week in October to fill the shoeboxes. Congregation members can drop off donations in the box at church. Here's what we need for October:

Week 1 – Toys: small stuffed animals, dolls, balls, building blocks, yo-yo, fidgets

Week 2 – WOW! Items: a special gift that will truly delight a child, stuffy, toy car, jewelry

Week 3 & 4 – Help us fill the gaps! We'll share updates on what we still need.

Each shoebox also requires a \$10 donation to cover overseas shipping and delivery. Your gift not only helps a child receive a box, but ensures they also hear the Good News of Jesus in their own language through outreach and discipleship programs offered by Samaritan's Purse.

As our students sort, pack, and pray over these boxes, they'll also be learning powerful lessons—about generosity, compassion, and the mission Christ calls us to: "Go and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19)

We invite you to be part of this meaningful mission. Let's come together as a school and church family to bless 100 children—and perhaps even more—with the love of Jesus. Let's pack these shoeboxes full of hope... and send them off with hearts full of love. Contact the school office or Principal Scott Johnson with any questions. **Together, we can show the world that God's love fits perfectly in a shoebox.**



Get ready for a morning of fall fun! Families are invited to stroll through our parking lot, visit creatively decorated trunks, and collect sweet treats along the way. It's a safe, family-friendly event filled with candy, laughter, and seasonal fun!

Volunteers Needed! We're looking for volunteers to help make this event a success—whether by decorating a trunk, handing out candy, or helping with setup and cleanup. Volunteer sign up will be available soon.

So grab your costumes, bring your friends, and come celebrate the season with us—we can't wait to see you there!

Circuit Reformation Service

Every year Trinity and local churches participate in a Circuit Reformation Service. This year the service will be held here at Trinity on Wednesday, October 29th at 6:30 PM. Pr. Ryan Peterson with Concordia, St. Paul (Senior Development and Church Relations Officer) will be our guest preacher. We welcome our members and members from other congregations to join us. Bring your friends and family.



October is a special month set aside to let our pastors know how very much they are loved and appreciated.

It is also a time to thank our Lord for blessing us with our devoted leaders and ask Him to continue to bless them and their ministries here at Trinity. The Lord truly has been good to us by sending Pastor Gustafson and Pastor Chapa to us.

Take some time this month to express your appreciation to our pastoral staff and their families. Together we can make this a month that will renew and refresh both of our good shepherds.

Do something fun and kind for our pastors. The possibilities are endless, so be creative. Thank you in advance for your joyful participation. May the Lord bless your efforts. October is Pastor Appreciation Month Let's do our best to show our Pastors how much they mean to us.

Thank you Pastors for all you do. You are very appreciated and loved!

Trinity Financial News & Happenings

August 2025 PROFIT LOSS

	Aug-25	Aug-25	Aug-25	Aug-2025	Aug-2025	Aug-2025	Aug-2025	Aug-2025	Jan- August 2024
Ministry	Income	Expenses	Profit/Loss	YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD P & L	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE	Prior P&L YTD
Church	\$ 79,899.87	\$ 55,470.57	\$ 24,429.30	\$ 857,926.86	\$ 467,337.05	\$ 390,589.81	\$ 303,780.06	\$ 86,809.75	\$ 365,736.45
School	\$ 20,789.57	\$ 83,874.07	\$ (63,084.50)	\$ 433,426.75	\$ 752,945.95	\$ (319,519.20)	\$ (469,157.88)	\$ 149,638.68	\$ (323,342.83)
Teacherage	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 1,673.33	\$ 4,326.67	\$ 5,006.80	\$ (680.13)	\$ (19,093.30)
Child Care	\$ 53,963.30	\$ 81,927.60	\$ (27,964.30)	\$ 485,499.83	\$ 499,960.62	\$ (14,460.79)	\$ (21,350.36)	\$ 6,889.57	\$ (157,952.00)
After School Care	\$ 14,053.75	\$ 11,698.71	\$ 2,355.04	\$ 47,645.15	\$ 35,748.79	\$ 11,896.36	\$ 10,690.06	\$ 1,206.30	\$ 11,038.24
TOTALS	\$ 169,456.49	\$ 232,970.95	\$ (63,514.46)	\$1,830,498.59	\$1,757,665.74	\$ 72,832.85	\$ (171,031.32)	\$ 243,864.17	\$ (123,613.44)



FOR OCTOBER

Middle School Youth meet every Wednesday in October (except Oct. 1st) in the Youth Room at Church from 3:30-5:30.

HighSchool Youth will be going to Helene's on October 5th from 1-3:00 . They will also participate in a Lock-out on October 10th from 6:00-11:00 at St. John.

Trinity loves it's staff!

We recognize the years of service for the following:

Eileen Hass (Custodian / Organist / Aide)

Trinity is deeply grateful for your many years of service. Whether as a teacher's aide, custodian, or organist, you have faithfully shared your gifts with our church and school and we give thanks for you.



Crystal Duwe (Teacher's Aide)

Thank you for 5 wonderful years of service at Trinity! As a teacher's aide, your care and dedication make such a difference in the lives of our students. We are truly grateful for you.



FLOOD RELIEF - Special Collection

On August 9th, Journeys Lutheran School, a sister school in Hales Corners, suffered an unexpected and devastating flood that has left a lasting impact on the students, staff, and community. In just a matter of hours, water rushed through the school, damaging classrooms, the gym, and countless supplies and materials that the teachers and students rely on every day. They are facing significant costs to repair and restore the building. If you feel led to contribute financially, every gift makes a difference.

The mission of Journeys Lutheran School, is "Centered in Christ", Journeys Lutheran School prepares students with unique learning challenges to maximize their God-given spiritual, academic, physical, emotional and social potential." Our former second grade teacher, Melissa Leon, now teaches here.

On Sunday, October 5, we will collect a door offering to send to them. If you would like to donate to this cause, please remember to bring your donation to church. Checks can be made out to Journeys Lutheran School. Every gift, whether big or small, helps.

Scrip Seller Schedule

October 5

8:00 am - Marty & Barb Sizer
10:30 am - Jean Ravn & Molly Schult
6:00 pm - Robin Tomajcik

October 12

8:00 am - Joe & Marlene Thomaschefskey
10:30 am - Dennis & Jocelyn Weber
6:00 pm - Dawn Ives

October 19

8:00 am - Carol Holz & Donna Rohde
10:30 am - Jennifer Rajek
6:00 pm - Mark & Laurie Folz

October 26

8:00 am - Janet & Emily Grunenwald
10:30 am - Randy & Kathy Pfaní
6:00 pm - Jeff & Cindy Artus

November 2

8:00 am - Ed & Julie Cordova
10:30 am - Jen Rajek
6:00 pm - Al & Joy Hulke

November 9

8:00 am - Fern Whititng & Jane Dehnel
10:30 am - Dennis & Jocelyn Weber
6:00 pm - Robin Tomajcik

November 16

8:00 am - Randy & Sharon Welch
10:30 am - Jim & Jean Wseman
6:00 pm - Dawn Ives

November 23

8:00 am - Marty & Barb Sizer
10:30 am - Jean Ravn & Molly Schult
6:00 pm - Mark & Laurie Folz

November 30

8:00 am - Joe & Marlene Thomaschefskey
10:30 am - Robin Grenfell & Raena Grisa
6:00 pm - Jeff & Cindy Artus







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OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting Toys, small stuffed animals, dolls, balls, building blocks, yo-yo, fidgets this week 8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC) 9:15am –10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC) 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC)	29 1:00pm –3:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	30 8:10am TLS Chapel Service - Church Staff, Sending off of Teachers for the Conference 6:00pm –7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm –8:00pm Altar Guild Meeting 7:00pm –9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	1 NO Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group NO SCHOOL FOR TRINITY STUDENTS (Teacher's Conference) 9:00am Prayer Warrior Ministry meets in Conference Room 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry 6:00pm Holiday Choir Practice Church Choir Room 6:30pm –8:00pm Public School Confirmation	2 NO SCHOOL FOR TRINITY STUDENTS (Teacher's Conference)	3 NO SCHOOL FOR TRINITY STUDENTS (Teacher's Conference) 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry	4
5 Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting Toys, small stuffed animals, dolls, balls, building blocks, yo-yo, fidgets this week Special plate collection for Flood Relief for Journey's Lutheran School in Hales Corners 8:00am Traditional Worship Service 9:15am –10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service 1:00pm –3:00pm High School Youth to Helene's 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service	6 1:00pm –3:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	7 9:30am Park Place Service 10:00am Stone Bridge Service 12:30pm Jenny Tower Bible Study 1:00pm –4:00pm Men's Club Card Party 1:15pm Jenny Tower Service 2:30pm –3:00pm Woodland Court Service 6:00pm –7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm –9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	8 8:10am TLS Chapel Service by Grade 8 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry 3:30pm –5:30pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Holiday Choir Practice Church Choir Room 6:30pm –8:00pm Public School Confirmation	9 9:30am ELC Chapel Service at ELC	10 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry 6:00pm –11:00pm High School Youth (Lock-out) at St. John with Circuit	11  9:00am Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Fall Rally at Trinity
12 Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting WOW! Items - a special gift that will truly delight a child like: Stuffed animal, toy, jewelry, matchbox, etc. 8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC) 9:15am –10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC) 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC)	13 TLS Parent Drive Day - NO BUSSING 1:00pm –3:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	14 6:00pm –7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm –9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	15 8:10am TLS Chapel Service by Grade 7 9:00am Prayer Warrior Ministry meets in Conference Room 1:00pm Diane Krueger Bible Study 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry 3:30pm –5:30pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Holiday Choir Practice Church Choir Room 6:30pm –8:00pm Public School Confirmation	16 2:00pm Pine Crest Service 6:30pm –7:30pm Dorcas Meeting	17 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry	18 7:30am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study "Living and Leading as a Man of God"
19 Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting items that we still need to fill our boxes. Check out the bulletin each week for more information or Call the School. 8:00am Traditional Worship Service 9:00am –10:00am "What We Believe" New Member Class 9:15am –10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service 7:00pm –9:00pm High School Youth	20 1:00pm –3:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	21 2:00pm –8:00pm Men's Club Meeting and Dinner 6:00pm Baptism Class 6:00pm –7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm –9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	22 8:10am TLS Chapel Service by Grade 1 1:00pm Diane Krueger Bible Study 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry 3:30pm –5:30pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Holiday Choir Practice Church Choir Room 6:30pm –8:00pm Public School Confirmation	23 9:30am ELC Chapel Service at ELC 2:00pm Bell Tower Church Service 6:30pm Church Council meeting with Bible study	24 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry	25  10:00am –12:00pm Trunk or Trunk
26 Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting items that we still need to fill our boxes. Check out the bulletin each week for more information or Call the School. 8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC) 9:00am –10:00am "What We Believe" New Member Class 9:15am –10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC) 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC)	27 1:00pm –3:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	28 6:00pm –7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm –9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	29  8:10am TLS Chapel service by Grade 6 9:00am Prayer Warrior Ministry meets in Conference Room 1:00pm Diane Krueger Bible Study 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry 3:30pm –5:30pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Holiday Choir Practice Church Choir Room 6:30pm –7:30pm Circuit Reformation Service with Pr. Ryan Peterson from Concordia St. Paul 6:30pm –8:00pm Public School Confirmation	30	31  Halloween NO SCHOOL - End of Quarter 1 2:00pm –4:00pm Food Pantry	1



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CHURCH WEBSITE:
www.trinitymerrill.com

*The mission statement of Trinity Lutheran Church is:
"Courageously "Carrying Christ" to our congregation and community*

CUT AND SHARE THIS MESSAGE WITH SOMEONE !



TRINITY MERRILL
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**107 N. State Street,
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Join us for our weekly services:

**Services are in person at Church and also
on FACEBOOK at [Facebook.com/TrinityLutheranMerrill](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLutheranMerrill)**

8:00am Sunday Morning Traditional Service

10:30am Sunday Morning Contemporary Service

6:00pm Sunday Evening Traditional Service (in person only - not live streamed)

8:00 am Service can also be heard by radio on 730 AM & 96.3 FM at 10:30 am

(Communion is served in person at church the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month)