



September, 2025

# Trinity Merrill Lutheran Church

## 107 N. State Street, Merrill, WI 54452

[www.trinitymerrill.com](http://www.trinitymerrill.com) (715) 536-5482

Our Mission: *Courageously Carrying Christ to our Congregation and Community*



LOOK TO THE LORD  
AND HIS STRENGTH;  
seek his face always.

1 Chronicles 16:11, NIV

# Amazing Things Are Happening At Trinity

## **ATTENTION:**

### **The Early Learning Center Rummage Sale**

Trinity Church on **September 4, 5 & 6th. 8:00-6:00 PM**

Items may be dropped off and set-up is

September 2 & 3rd. 8:00-6:00

We're accepting clean, usable items  
(clothing, kitchenware, toys, books, tools, etc.).

Dear Trinity Congregation,

The halls are once again filled with laughter, learning, and the love of Christ. Our students are settling into routines and building relationships that reflect the grace and truth we strive to model. Chapel services have been a joyful highlight, and we love seeing students lead in prayer and song. Thank you for partnering with us in this mission—it is a privilege to teach God's Word daily. Your support makes Christian education possible. Please keep our school in your prayers as we enter the heart of the first quarter. We invite you to join us on Wednesdays at 8:10 for chapel in the church sanctuary. ~  
Principal Scott Johnson

 **TRINITY MERRILL**  
LUTHERAN EARLY LEARNING CENTER

## **GARAGE SALE FUNDRAISER**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**



Scan the QR Code to Sign Up



### **Youth Lake Day - September 14th- 2-6pm -Alexander Lake - 6-12th Grades**

Come join us for a fun day out on the lake with pontoon rides, swimming, beach games, food, and lots of fun! Sign-up to participate is necessary so we can plan ahead for drop off, pickup, and boat rides. Contact DCE Steph Chapa with any questions at [dce@trinitymerrill.com](mailto:dce@trinitymerrill.com) or 320-510-4862. Don't miss out on the fun. Register now!!



## **Trinity extends a warm welcome to...**

### **Stephanie Chapa, Director of Christian Education (DCE)**

Stephanie (Steph) Chapa is overjoyed to be joining and serving with the Trinity family in the Church, School and Early Learning Center! She is very familiar with the Midwest, having lived as a Pastor's kid in Missouri, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and most recently, Glencoe, MN. Steph graduated in 2021 from the Director of Christian Education program at Concordia University Nebraska with majors in Christian Educational Leadership and Psychology. She and Pastor Jon met at Camp Omega in Waterville, MN where they were Lutheran summer camp counselors in 2017 and 2018. In May of 2021, they got married after Steph finished her DCE internship at Peace in Christ Lutheran Church in Hermantown, MN and Pastor Jon finished his student teaching. As Pastor Jon went to the Seminary, Steph served as an Early Childhood Assistant Teacher and part-time DCE at Glendale Lutheran Church. During Pastor Jon's year-long vicarage, she was the Youth Relations Director at a neighboring congregation in West Fargo, ND. Needless to say, she loves to share and show Christ with His children of all ages! Her favorite Bible verse is 2 Peter 3:18, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory forever and ever! In her spare time you can find Steph drinking coffee, growing plants, reading, being active outdoors in God's creation, and enjoying time with her family; especially, her nieces and nephews.



### **Rebecca Renken, Director of Communications**

A Merrill native, Rebecca married her high school sweetheart, Anthony, in 2006. They live in Merrill with their two children, Hunter and Harley. As a family, they own and operate Northwoods Maple Farm, and they spend much of their summer at their permanent campsite up north. Rebecca and Anthony also enjoy road trips and discovering great local food along the way. Rebecca's favorite way to spend her time is cheering on her son at the hockey rink or watching her daughter compete in All Star Cheer.

# We Love Trinity... Come See Why!!

## God's Richest Blessings...

### To these (80+) Seniors with Birthdays in September

Joy Hulke.....	September 2
Ferne Isaacson.....	September 2
Doris Arseneau.....	September 4
Ida Schult.....	September 5
Robert Natzke.....	September 6
Marion Hackbart.....	September 8
Remi Schwartz.....	September 13
Leila Marnholtz.....	September 16
Eileen Voigt.....	September 17
Marjorie Williams.....	September 20
Randall Welch.....	September 23
Lucille Pehlke.....	September 25
Alice Mootz.....	September 25
Carol Leavitt.....	September 27

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

Ronald & Rose Peterson.....	64 Years on Sept. 2
John & Sherry Geiss.....	53 Years on Sept. 16
Miton & Trudy Kleinschmidt.....	59 Years on Sept. 17
Bruce & Anita Schulz.....	54 Years on Sept. 24
Dale & Patricia Zuelsdorff.....	57 Years on Sept. 28

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

**August 3 -** for blessings received by Carol Holz

**August 10 -** In celebration of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Willie & Karen Schult

**August 24-** In loving memory of the birthday of Don Radloff, by his wife Karen & his family.

**August 31-** In loving memory of Doyle A. Klade by his wife Dorothy and his family

## **TRINITY OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY**

Open on Wednesday's and Friday's 2:00-4:00  
Donations are always appreciated!

## **The Holiday Choir is Back!**

Rehearsals will begin on September 10th @ 6 p.m. in the Choir Room and thereafter will be held weekly each Wednesday at 6 p.m. It is open to anyone high school age or older. Plan now to come and join us as we praise the Lord through our music. Call Vicki at 715-536-2626 for questions.

**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.**

**August 3 -** In loving memory of Shirley Olkives by her family and friends.

**August 10 -** In loving memory of Jim Downing by his friends.

**August 17-** In celebration of the 26th wedding anniversary of Roger & Rebecca Hinner.

**August 24-** In loving memory of the birthday of Don Radloff, by his wife Karen & his family.

**August 31-** In loving memory of Doyle A. Klade by his wife Dorothy and his family

## **Pastoral Acts...**

### **Baptism:**

**August 3** Elowyn Joy Arntson, daughter of Devan & Julia Arntson. Elowyn's sponsors are Isaiah Arntson & Micah Schibbelhut

### **Deaths / Funerals:**

**Russell "Russ" Iwen** d/o/d June 12, 2025  
Funeral: August 21, 2025

**Patricia Zuelsdorf** - d/o/d 8/10/2025

New monthly ...

### **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 (next study will be November 15) - 3rd Saturday of the month 7:30 a.m. breakfast, Bible Study from 8-9 am, 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](mailto:mike@millipad.net), or Jesse Severt at 715.218.9351 or [jessesevert@outlook.com](mailto:jessesevert@outlook.com).

# 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. This fall, we are excited to begin 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.

To make this vision a reality, we need your help. Over the course of September and October, we'll be collecting different types of items each week to fill the shoeboxes. Congregation members can drop off donations in the box at church. Here's how you can get involved:

### September

Week 1 – School Supplies: pencils, crayons, notebooks, calculator, drawstring bag

Week 2 – Personal Care Items: toothbrushes, comb, washcloth, nail clipper, water bottle

Week 3 – Clothing & Accessories: socks, flip-flops, mittens, hats, hair ties, undergarment

Week 4 – Games & Activities: jump ropes, cards, small puzzles, stickers, coloring books

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. Stay tuned for weekly reminders, supply lists, and updates. 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.**

### Merrill Labor Day Parade

**Monday, Sept. 1 10:00-12:00**

Starting on West Main Street by South Genesee St. Heading to the East on W. Main St, taking a left onto Polk Street (yes going the wrong way), right onto East Second Street all the way down to East First Street. Taking a Right onto South Mill Street, than taking a left onto East Main Street. Parade ends at the Courthouse. Once the Parade is complete, head down to the Merrill Fairgrounds for more family fun.

### Labor Day Fun at the Fairgrounds

Merrill Lions Club brings Classic vehicles to be on display at the Merrill Fairgrounds. Trophies are presented at 3pm. Food Stands, Flea Market and other activities will be going on at the grounds.

### Everything goes Sales Event

**Sat., Sept. 27 - 9:00-3:00- MARC**  
Everything from Flea, Craft, and Vendors Sales are held in one area for people to come to. Food trucks will be on sight.

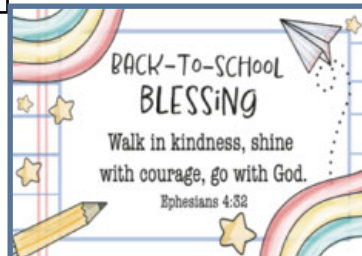
### Community Wide Runnage Sales

**Saturday, September 6, 2025**

What a great time to sell all of your outgrown clothes, no longer need house goods, blankets, you name it, it could go. Here is the chance to go out and pick up the items that people are sadly letting go. Start your Christmas shopping, replace the things your children took to school with them, replace the items that your family broke over the summer, replace the already outgrown school clothes, so many options for buying! Everyone is a winner!

### 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!!**

**THANK YOU-** Dear Trinity members, I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who were able to attend the lovely retirement celebration given for me and also to those unable to attend who sent me your well wishes! A big thank you also, to those who served on the celebration committee who planned special music, decorations and recognition. Your time commitment and personal touches made for a very special day that I will always remember. The forty years of my teaching ministry serving the families of Trinity has been truly rewarding in many ways. Thank you Trinity, for sharing your children with me each day and supporting me with your prayers and friendship! "I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3  
With Gratefulness, Laura Marnholtz

# Trinity Financial News & Happenings

July 2025 PROFIT LOSS									
	Jul-25	Jul-25	Jul-25	Jul-2025	Jul-2025	Jul-2025	Jul-2025	Jul-2025	Jan- July 2024
Ministry	Income	Expenses	Profit/Loss	YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD P & L	YTD BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE	Prior P&L YTD
Church	\$ 328,231.44	\$ 52,072.08	\$ 276,159.36	\$ 915,845.10	\$ 412,307.51	\$ 503,537.59	\$ 264,486.39	\$ 239,051.20	\$ 333,153.28
School	\$ 5,795.68	\$ 82,423.54	\$ (76,627.86)	\$ 412,637.18	\$ 669,071.88	\$ (256,434.70)	\$ (374,918.96)	\$ 118,484.26	\$ (261,236.64)
Teacherage	\$ 750.00	\$ 599.45	\$ 150.55	\$ 5,250.00	\$ 1,673.33	\$ 3,576.67	\$ 4,256.80	\$ (680.13)	\$ (19,177.51)
Child Care	\$ 57,973.36	\$ 60,675.77	\$ (2,702.41)	\$ 431,536.53	\$ 417,591.99	\$ 13,944.54	\$ (18,521.69)	\$ 32,466.23	\$ (114,354.97)
After School Care	\$ 12,609.00	\$ 9,232.91	\$ 3,376.09	\$ 33,591.40	\$ 24,050.08	\$ 9,541.32	\$ 4,913.20	\$ 4,628.12	\$ 8,666.09
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 405,359.48</b>	<b>\$ 205,003.75</b>	<b>\$ 200,355.73</b>	<b>\$1,798,860.21</b>	<b>\$1,524,694.79</b>	<b>\$ 274,165.42</b>	<b>\$ (119,784.26)</b>	<b>\$ 393,949.68</b>	<b>\$ (52,949.75)</b>

**New Fall Bible Study:** You're invited to join the Sunday 9:15am Bible Class starting September 21st as we explore the book of Ecclesiastes! Is everything really "vanity"? Are we living "under the sun," or "under the Son"? Bring your Bible to the Fellowship Hall at church and let's discover what King Solomon says to us today! Please call the church office to sign up so that we have enough materials for everyone.

## Do you or someone you know need a visit from the Pastor?

Please reach out to Robin in the church office so she can schedule you for a visit from one of our pastors. Maybe your homebound, sick or just need to speak to the pastor. Our pastors, and our church family loves you and wants you to know we are here for you. Call the church office at 715-536-54822 if you need a visit.



The Card Nook shelves are full again! We apologize for our empty shelves this summer. (We had some shipping delays.) But we have received our orders and have some beautiful new cards. Prices are the same: \$0.75 each or \$6.00 per box. Our Card Nook is self-serve. Just put the money in the slot.

## **TRINITY ALTAR GUILD**

Trinity Altar Guild will meet for the first time this fall on Tuesday, Sept. 30th at 6:30 in the church basement. Hostesses for the Evening are: Tina Rainville, Holly Rauen, and Sharon Karow. We welcome any members who would like to work on our Lord's Altar to join us.

**LADIES AID:** We will meet on September 25th at 1:00. We would love to have YOU join us and bring a friend too.

## **NOTICE! NOTICE! ALL DORCAS MEMBERS.**

Our Dorcas monthly meeting has been changed to September 9th at 6:30. This will give us time to plan for the LWML Fall meeting that Trinity will be hosting on Saturday October 11th. Please attend if possible.

**ADOPT A BILL** Summer months are tough on the finances of a church. We are asking you to consider adopting a bill over and above your weekly offering. Simply, grab an envelope off the board in the narthex and after you've made your donation, throw the envelope in the plate or return it to the church office. **Thank you!**

## Scrip Seller Schedule

### **September 7**

8:00 am - Janet & Emily Grunenwald  
10:30 am - Randy & Kathy Pfantz  
6:00 pm - Dawn Ives

### **September 14**

8:00 am - Ed & Julie Cordova  
10:30 am - Dennis & Jocelyn Weber  
6:00 pm - Mark & Laurie Folz

### **September 21**

8:00 am - Fern Whiting & Jane Dehnel  
10:30 am - Jennifer Rajek  
6:00 pm - Jeff & Cindy Artus

### **September 28**

8:00 am - Randy & Sharon Welch  
10:30 am - Jim & Jean Wiseman  
6:00 pm - Al & Joy Hulke

### **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 - Robin Grenfell & Raena Grisa  
6:00 pm - Mark & Laurie Folz

### **October 26**

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



# SEPTEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> <b>8:00am Traditional Worship Service</b> <b>10:30am Contemporary Worship Service</b> <b>6:00pm Traditional Worship Service</b>	<b>1</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b> Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting pencils, crayons, notebooks, calculators, drawstring bags this week 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	<b>2</b> <b>8:00am – 6:00pm ELC Rummage Sale Setup and intake drop off</b> 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	<b>3</b> <b>8:00am – 6:00pm ELC Rummage Sale Setup and intake drop off</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Food Pantry 3:30pm – 5:30pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group	<b>4</b> <b>8:00am – 6:00pm Trinity Early Learning Center Rummage Sale at Church</b>	<b>5</b> <b>8:00am – 6:00pm Trinity Early Learning Center Rummage Sale at Church</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Food Pantry	<b>6</b> <b>8:00am – 6:00pm Trinity Early Learning Center Rummage Sale at Church</b>
<b>7</b> Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting Personal Care Items: toothbrush, comb, washcloth, nail clipper, water bottles this week <b>8:00am Traditional Worship Service</b> <b>10:30am Contemporary Worship Service</b> <b>6:00pm Traditional Worship Service</b> 7:00pm – 9:00pm Sr. High Youth Group	<b>8</b> 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	<b>9</b> 6:00pm – 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Dorcas Meeting 7:00pm – 9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>10</b> 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	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Food Pantry	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting Clothing & Accessories; socks, flip flops, mittens, hats hair ties, undergarments this week <b>8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC)</b> <b>10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC)</b> <b>2:00pm – 6:00pm ALL YOUTH Gr. 6 - Gr. 12 "Lake Day"</b> <b>6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC)</b>	<b>15</b> 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	<b>16</b> 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	<b>17</b> 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	<b>18</b> 2:00pm Pine Crest Service	<b>19</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Food Pantry	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting games & activities: jump roles, cards, small puzzles, stickers, coloring books this week <b>8:00am Traditional Worship Service</b> 9:15am – 10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" <b>10:30am Contemporary Worship Service</b> <b>6:00pm Traditional Worship Service</b>	<b>22</b> 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	<b>23</b> 6:00pm – 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm – 9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>24</b> 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	<b>25</b> 1:00pm Ladies Aid Meeting and Bible Study 2:00pm Bell Tower Church Service	<b>26</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Food Pantry	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Operation Christmas Child Project is collecting Toys, small stuffed animals, dolls, balls, building blocks, yo-yo, fidgets this week <b>8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC)</b> 9:15am – 10:15am Ken Van De Zande Bible Study "The book of Ecclesiastes" <b>10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC)</b> <b>6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC)</b>	<b>29</b> 6:30pm Kleinschmidt Bible Study	<b>30</b> 6:00pm – 7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm – 8:00pm Altar Guild Meeting 7:00pm – 9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	<b>1</b> 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	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 2:00pm – 4:00pm Food Pantry	<b>4</b>



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Phone: 715-536-5482  
EMAIL: Admin@trinitymerrill.com

**EDITOR / ADMIN. ASSISTANT:**  
Robin Grenfell

**ADMINISTRATIVE PASTOR:**  
Rev. Scott A. Gustafson

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR:**  
Rev. Jonathan Chapa

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**  
Jennifer Rajek

**SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR:**  
Scott Johnson

**DIRECTOR OF  
COMMUNICATIONS**  
Rebecca Renken

**CHURCH WEBSITE:**  
[www.trinitymerrill.com](http://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**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
**107 N. State Street,  
Merrill, WI 54452  
(715) 536-5482  
[www.trinitymerrill.com](http://www.trinitymerrill.com)**



**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)**