



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: 507.331.6579

Address: 530 4th Street NW Faribault, MN 55021

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 8

August 2025

AUGUST PASTOR'S CORNER...

How do we respond to the poor around us? In a recent radio broadcast, Dr. James Dobson approached this subject. Our scripture reading recently in worship dealt with the parable of the Samaritan.

A man was found alongside a road beaten, stripped and robbed of his earthly treasure. Two religious leaders from the Temple in Jerusalem couldn't be bothered to attend to this man's needs. A Samaritan man saw the injured man and came to his rescue. What made this man different than the last two? He had compassion.

The Samaritan man looked past the ragged and torn clothes. He was even willing to touch the man to tend to his wounds. The other two men couldn't be bothered in their pride to do anything. They strutted by looking to see if anyone noticed their hypocrisy as church leaders.

The world is full of once famous people who end up on the streets. Dr. Dobson told the story about Stephen C. Foster, a famous composer in the 19th century. He wrote over two hundred songs that today you still may recognize—"Swanee River," "O Susanna" and "My Old Kentucky Home" to name a few. This once famous man fell on hard times and into financial ruin.

Are there people in our community who fall into that same category? Many of the homeless were once great people in town. Many suffer physical and mental health issues. Who has compassion on them now? Social services might help for a time, but they are stuck and can't get out.

Jesus had compassion on you before you were ever born. He knew about your sin and was willing to take on your punishment. He doesn't pick and choose as society does, but

looks into the eyes of a sinner and says I can help you.

You and I listen to a radio broadcast from time to time. Once in a while we hear about a special day designated Donut Day, Mac and Cheese Day, Chocolate Day, Ice Cream Day and a host of others. During the month of May the United States celebrated Mental Health month. During July it is Minority Mental Health Month.

People
Reaching
People



My question to you today. When you pass by a homeless person do you see another person created in the image of God or do you only focus on their outward appearance? Many of us would rather walk by the homeless and not get involved as the Pharisee and Levite did. In our day that would be a Pastor, Elder, or Important church leader and Christian member.

What does a homeless person need? They need love, understanding, and compassion that stems from a heart blessed by Jesus. But, what about those who have homes? 30% of Americans have felt loneliness once a week in the last year. 30% of 18 – 34-year-olds report being lonely every day. Single adults report being lonely 39% of the time compared to 22% reported for a married couple. Technology might aid social interactions, but research from adults found meaningful face to face

encounters versus online interactions that may seem more superficial were split, 54 vs. 46.

What's the bottom line; God created us as social creatures. We are intended to live and work in a community and family structure. Anyone outside of that model can become lonely.

Be that person who invests in others. Just because someone looks on the outside to be successful, they may be lonely from a death in the family, job transfer, or change in their home life. Look at people with the eyes of Jesus. It will make a difference in their life and yours.

Pastor Gueldner

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FROM YOUR LLB CHAIR...SERVING TRINITY & FLS

- Rev. Peter Gueldner,
Intentional Interim
Pastor
- Rev. Hal Rex Longshore,
Visitation Pastor
- Rev. Gatluk, Reat,
Sudanese Evang. Lutheran
Mission Church
- Noel Handberg,
Financial Coordinator
- Nancy Simonson,
Family Ministry
- Dustin Grund,
Property Manager
- Jennifer Kingland,
Office Manager
- Bill & Mary Jewison,
Custodians
- Chrysteena Saehler,
FLS Administrator/Principal
- Alexia Cates,
FLS Administrative
Secretary

Summer has flown by and August has arrived in the blink of an eye. As fall approaches, we're gearing up for Rally Day—a special event that promises celebration and connection. While details are still being finalized, watch for more information in the coming weeks. It's shaping up to be a meaningful day!

In pastoral news, we're grateful to share that Pastor Gueldner will continue serving for another three months as we move forward with the work of the Call Committee. Led by Dan Saehler, the committee has reached out to members who expressed interest in serving and will share updates in the weekly news.

Nomination forms are now available at the information desk. Deadline for submitting nominations is August 4. These forms are required by the District Office for every pastoral nomination before review can begin.



From the Chairperson

All necessary paperwork has been submitted and Rev. Woodford is prayerfully compiling a list of candidates for the committee to consider.

If you have a topic for me to address or a comment, please contact the church office.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and commitment to our Church.

Mitch

LLB Chair

Bible in a Year—August

August 1 – Isaiah 65, 66; Psalm 62; John 3

August 2 – II Kings 21; II Chronicles 33; John 4

August 3 – Nahum 1, 2, 3; John 5

August 4 – II Kings 22; II Chronicles 34; John 6

August 5 – II Kings 23; II Chronicles 35; John 7

August 6 – Habakkuk 1, 2, 3; John 8

August 7 – Zephaniah 1, 2, 3; John 9

August 8 – Jeremiah 1, 2; John 10

August 9 – Jeremiah 3, 4; John 11

August 10 – Jeremiah 5, 6; John 12

August 11 – Jeremiah 7, 8, 9; John 13

August 12 – Jeremiah 10, 11, 12; John 14

August 13 – Jeremiah 13, 14, 15; John 15

August 14 – Jeremiah 16, 17; Psalm 96; John 16

August 15 – Jeremiah 18, 19, 20; Psalm 93; John 17

August 16 – II Kings 24; Jeremiah 22; Psalm 112; John 18

August 17 – Jeremiah 23, 25; John 19

August 18 – Jeremiah 26, 35, 36; John 20

August 19 – Jeremiah 45, 46, 47; Psalm 105; John 21

August 20 – Jeremiah 48, 49; Psalm 67; I John 1

August 21 – Jeremiah 21, 24, 27; Psalm 118; I John 2

August 22 – Jeremiah 28, 29, 30; I John 3

August 23 – Jeremiah 31, 32; I John 4

August 24 – Jeremiah 33, 34; Psalm 74; I John 5

August 25 – Jeremiah 37, 38, 39; Psalm 79; II John

August 26 – Jeremiah 50 51; III John

August 27 – Jeremiah 52; Revelation 1; Psalm 143, 144

August 28 – Ezekiel 1, 2, 3; Revelation 2

August 29 – Ezekiel 4, 5, 6, 7; Revelation 3

August 30 – Ezekiel 8, 9, 10, 11; Revelation 4

August 31 – Ezekiel 12, 13, 14; Revelation 5



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS is August 3-7, 6-8:00 p.m. with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. Ages 3 through those entering Grade 6 are welcome. This is a free event. We have 51 registered as of July 16.

We have 40+ volunteers who are willing to take on many more children. If you haven't registered your child or grandchild, you can do so at this link: <https://vbspro.events/p/715e28> or use this QR code.



LAST BIKE/WALK EVENT



Last of the summer Bike/Walk events

Our last Bike/Walk date is August 10 at 2:00 p.m. at White Sands Trail Center/Dog Park at 900 Lyndale Ave. North.

This is the paved trail center with paths in the shade and in the sun. The center also has a shelter and bathroom facilities along with a dog park.

TOUCH-A-TRACTOR



Save the Date: Touch-a-Tractor Event for Peace/Trinity/FLS and Preschool families - September 14, 2-4 p.m. at Mike Johnston's River View Veggie Farm at 23225 Glynview Trail, Faribault, MN 55021, just south of Faribault.

We will have tractors and farm equipment to view, pick your own pumpkins, corn maze, food trucks and more! Fun for all ages!

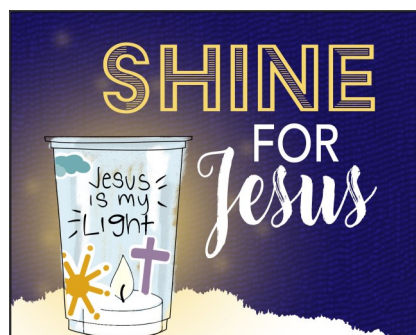
RALLY DAY

Rally Day is September 7. We will have one Sunday service at 9:00 a.m. (Regular 5:30 p.m. Saturday service). Registration for Sunday School will be available on this date. We are planning on a slightly different event this year with the opportunity for youth and parents to sign up to serve in various capacities in the church. Details will follow. Our first day of regular Sunday School will be September 14 at 9:15 a.m.

We always welcome new teachers, assistants and helpers for our Sunday School program. Most of all—we love to have all children come!

Contact Nancy Simonson for more information.





This easy and colorful craft helps kids remember that Jesus is their light—no matter where they go!

What you need:

- Clear plastic cup
- Battery tea lights
- Tissue paper squares (pre-cut)
- Glue stick
- Markers (optional)
- Stickers (optional)



What you do:

1. Use the glue stick to press colorful tissue paper squares around the outside of the cup.
2. Add a simple phrase like "Jesus is my Light" or use fun stickers to decorate.
3. Turn on the tea light and place it inside the cup.
4. Turn off the lights and let your lantern glow!



WHO AM I?

Did you know that some Old Testament books are named after prophets? Use the clues to figure out each prophet's name and write it on the lines. Then unscramble, use the circled letters to complete the sentence at the bottom.

1. I was called to preach to Nineveh, but I ran from God instead. My book is number 32 in the Bible.

I am _____.

2. I spoke God's message when the temple was being built. My book is number 37.

I am _____.

3. Israel's unfaithfulness to God is compared to my unfaithful wife. My book is number 28.

I am _____.

4. My book predicts punishment for wickedness and promises of comfort. It is book 23.

I am _____.

5. I had dreams and visions. My book is number 27.

I am _____.

6. I was often in danger because of my prophecies. I angered officials. My book is number 24.

I am _____.

7. I was a shepherd from Judah who called people to turn to God and leave their selfish lives. My book is number 30.

I am _____.

8. My book contains descriptions of strange visions. My book is number 26.

I am _____.

Prophets are _____.

Answers: Jonah; Haggai; Hosea; Isaiah; Daniel; Jeremiah; Amos; Ezekiel; Messengers.

FLS Monthly



Upcoming Events

Sunday, August 3-Thursday, August 7

- VBS @ Trinity Lutheran

Thursday, August 14

- FLS BOD Meeting @ 6:00 (Trinity)

Friday, August 15

- Teachers Report Back

Thursday, August 21

- Student Orientation @ 5-7

Sunday, August 24

- Backpack Blessing @ 9AM (Peace Lutheran) / Rootbeer float social to follow

Tuesday, August 26

- First day for 5th-8th grade

Wednesday, August 27

- First day for K-4th Grade
- Opening Chapel @ 8:30

School Summer Office Hours

- June 16 - August 14
- 9 AM - 2 PM

Wildcat Wow!

School Contact

(507) 334-7982
flsoffice@flsweb.org

Reflections on August

The summer has flown by, and we are eagerly anticipating the beginning of the 2025-2026 school year! We look forward to the sound of laughter echoing through the classrooms and the joy of learning that fills every corner of our building. We are thrilled to welcome back our returning students and new students joining our FLS family this year. As of now, we are excited to share that we will have 144 students walking through our doors this fall, each one bringing their unique gifts to our school community.

Our theme for the upcoming school year is "Make a Joyful Noise," inspired by Psalm 98:4: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" This verse is a beautiful reminder that we are called to celebrate, rejoice, and share God's love through our words, actions, and hearts. As we begin a new academic year, we hope to encourage our students, staff, and families to find joy in each day and let their voices rise in praise.

Thanks to the generosity of our school community and the funds raised during the Gala, FLS received a deep cleaning at the end of July. In addition, all classrooms, bathrooms, and the stack will be refreshed with a new coat of paint. These updates help create a clean, welcoming, and vibrant environment where our students can thrive.

We also invite all families and members of our school and church communities to a special worship service on Sunday, August 24 at 9:00 AM at Peace Lutheran Church. This will be a meaningful time of worship and blessing as we lift our teachers, staff, and students in prayer for the year ahead. During the service, all students, from any school, will be invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Following the service, we will gather for a root beer float social, offering a fun opportunity to connect and celebrate together before the school year begins.

More information about the FLS Golf Tournament will be shared toward the end of August. This event is an important fundraiser for our school. Proceeds from the tournament directly support student field trips throughout the year. Thanks to last year's generous contributions, our students were able to participate in educational and enriching experiences that would not have been possible otherwise.

We are truly grateful for the ongoing support of our families, staff, and community. Here's to a joyful, faith-filled, and exciting school year ahead!

God's Blessings,
Chrysteena Saehler
FLS Administrator

School Mission Statment

To empower and equip all students for Christian Discipleship and Academic Success in serving others for Christ and His church.

4TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE SALE



Saturday, November 22, 2025

9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

FLS/Trinity Auditorium



Start planning and making your crafts now! We are looking for crafts of all kinds, jewelry, baked goods, jams & jellies, homemade candies, etc.

You purchase a table for \$10 (which will be donated to the Youth program). Proceeds from the sale of your merchandise will be yours to keep.

Questions: contact Nancy B.



WOMEN IN MISSION

Women In Mission meets again on Thursday, August 21, at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Bible study topic is "That Human Touch."

We will be collecting back packs and other school items for students. More information to come.



AUGUST J.O.Y. GROUP

♪ I've got the J.O.Y....down in my heart ♪

Our **JOY** event for **August** is really sweet,
Providing **lunch/pontoon rides/fellowship** at **Twedt's**.

A **Free Will Offering** will be taken at **Larry's** request,

With the **proceeds** going to **FLS**.

Tuesday, August 5, is the date to mark;

Sign up and **come at noon**...that's your part.

One name per line on the **sheet** at the **Welcome Center**;

At **Twedt's** request, it's **limited**, **only 40** would enter.

4071 Wells Lake Court is the place to be;

Who will come? We will see.



OUTDOOR GAME NIGHT



Everyone is invited to an outdoor game night. This is a great time to make connections for the whole family. All ages invited.

There will be many games - croquet, badminton, bocce ball, Kubb, dodge ball, gaga ball, and more.

We will meet at the bottom of Peace hill at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 23. Bring a snack to share if you want, or just come for fun. This is an outside event.

JUNE PASTORS' REPORT

Each month a Pastoral Report is prepared in the Church Office. Classes, meetings, appointments, worship services, visitations and communions are tracked and reported by each pastor. In each month's newsletter we will be including the most recent form on file (June 2025).

	Home Visits	Hospital or Jail	Office Visits	Pro-spect Calls	Shut Ins/ Others Com-muned Privately	Shut Ins/ Others Visited- No Communion	NH Worship Attended	NH Worship Com-muned	Worship Services	Classes Taught	Mtgs. Attend
Interim Pastor	0	1 ^(H)	~	0	0	0	34	24	13	6	5 / 2.5*
Guest/Visitation Pastors	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	7	1	~
Lay Members	0	0	0	0	8	0	22	14	2	0	~

Baptisms: 0 Weddings: 0

Confirmed: 0

Transfer In: 0

Transfers Out: 0

Released/Removed: 3 Larry & Mary Olson, Pat McGannon

Profession of Faith/Affirmation of Baptism: 0

Deaths/Funerals: 3 **Welford Knauss, Shirley Rockman, Donna Babcock

Notes: *2.5 Days at Pastoral Convention

**Welford passed away 11/17/2020 – office learned of his passing in June 2025

Elders led 2 nursing home services; Pastor Stam & Pastor Utech - 5 weekend services and 1 Adult Bible Study, Pastor Longshore – Rockman funeral, Rev. Storm – Babcock funeral

Official Acts:



Rev. Gatluk Reat June Report:

Sudanese Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church

Attendance

Week 1 - 40; Week 2 - 35; Week 3 - 150;
Week 4 – 105 (funeral in Des Moines, IA)

Worship Services conducted in
Nuer & English in person and online.

Happy August Birthday!

We thank God for all of our church family. You are invited to remember the birthdays of our Octogenarian and Nonagenarian congregation members. Say a kind word, offer a prayer or send a card!



Omitted from web version for privacy reasons. Please contact Jennie in the church office or pick up a printed copy of the newsletter for a list of this month's birthdays.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <h1>AUGUST 2025</h1>					1 8:00 Men's Bible Study 8:30-4:00 FLS Volleyball Camp (Gym)	2 5:30 Worship Service <u>Rev. Dr. Utech</u>
3 7:40 Summer Choir 8:00 Worship 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Connection -c 5:30 VBS Meal 6-8:00 VBS <u>Rev. Dr. Utech</u>	4 8:00 Pie-makers 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 5:30 VBS Meal 6-8:00 VBS	5 8:30 Staff Mtg. 12:00 J.O.Y. Group (Twedt's) 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 5:30 VBS Meal 6-8:00 VBS	6 2:30 New Perspective -c 4:00 Pleasant View Estates -c 5:30 VBS Meal 6-8:00 VBS <u>Church Office Closed</u>	7 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) 5:30 VBS Meal 6-8:00 VBS <u>Pastor Out of Office</u>	8 8:00 Men's Bible Study	9 4:00 New Member Class 5:30 Worship Service -c
10 8:00 Worship -c 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:30 Empty Nesters Mtg. (Music Room) 10:30 Connection 2:00 Family Bike/Walk Event (White Sands Trail Center/Dog Park)	11 8:00 Pie-makers 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 6:00 Trumps' Bible Study (<i>off site</i>)	12 8:30 Staff Mtg. 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 6:30 LLB Mtg.	13 1:00 Mill City -c 6:30 Women's Gathering (FH) <u>Church Office Closed</u>	14 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) 2:00 Human Care 6:00 FLS Brd. Mtg. (Trinity)	15 8:00 Men's Bible Study <u>Teachers Back</u>	16 4:00 New Member Class 5:30 Worship Service
17 8:00 Worship 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Connection -c 2-5:00 Meland Birthday Party (Fellowship Hall)	18 8:00 Pie-makers 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV	19 8:30 Staff Mtg. 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 6:30 Elders' Mtg.	20 10:00 Milestone -c 3:30 Faribault Senior Living -c 6:30 Women's Gathering (FH) <u>Church Office Closed</u>	21 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) 1:00 Women in Mission Mtg. 5-7:00 FLS School Orientation	22 8:00 Men's Bible Study <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	23 4:00 New Member Class 5:30 Worship Service -c 6:30 Game Night (Peace Hill)
24 8:00 Worship -c 9:00 FLS Backpack Blessings (Peace) 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Connection	25 8:00 Pie-makers 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 6:00 Trumps' Bible Study (<i>off site</i>)	26 8:30 Staff Mtg. 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 6:30 Property Brd. <u>First Day of 5th-8th grade school</u> <u>FLS—Parent Drive Day</u>	27 8:30 Opening Chapel 6:30 Women's Gathering (FH) <u>First Day for K-4th</u> <u>FLS—Parent Drive Day</u> <u>Church Office Closed</u>	28 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) <u>FLS—Parent Drive Day</u>	29 8:00 Men's Bible Study <u>FLS—No School</u>	30 4:00 New Member Class 5:30 Gospel -c
31 8:00 Gospel -c 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Gospel -c						

LAY LEADERSHIP BOARD MINUTES - JULY 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church
Lay Leadership Board Minutes
6:30 PM, Tuesday July 08, 2025

Attendance: Pastor Gueldner, Mitch, Barb, Penny, Brian, and Carl.
Dan and Deb were absent.

Opening prayer led by Pastor Gueldner.

Faribault Lutheran School Report:

Registration for 2025-26 school year is currently at 144 with 8 pending. Mrs. Saehler will be visiting student family's farms to learn more about farming after she returns from the youth convention. She will be out of the office from July 15 to July 28. FLS is looking to hire a middle school ELA teacher to replace Sarah Meyer. There will be a two day camp for students enrolled in the 25-26 school year on August 11 and 12. There is a 25 student capacity with a cost of \$50 per student.

FOC report:

June expenses exceeded income by \$8,536.71. We are short of our 2025 expenses to date by \$29,144.00. Property insurance only increased by 10% due to switching companies.

Pastor Reat report:

The attendance for June saw an increase. Pastor Reat needs to start moving his office from the school side of the building into the associate pastor office by the time school starts. He will need help cleaning both offices for that to happen.

Property Manager:

Still waiting for a committee to form to research floor replacement in the sanctuary.

Pastor Guelder Report:

Pastor agreed to stay at Trinity for three more months to help prepare us for our next pastor as well as continue with the other duties in his contract.

Call Committee:

There has been a call committee formed with 3 LLB members, 2 Elders as well as members at large.

Future Discussion:

The Elders joined us for further discussion on how we can move forward since we will not consolidate with Peace. Rally Sunday was discussed and a committee was formed to organize it. The committee will consist of Barb, Curt, Brian, Sharon and Nancy.
The Time and Talent sheet is being prepared and will be handed out on Rally Sunday.

Calendar items:

Next LLB meeting: Tuesday August 12th

Mitch adjourned meeting
Pastor closed with prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Barb-LLB secretary



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Weekly Service Schedule - Saturday, 5:30pm
Sunday, 8:00am and 10:30am
Radio Broadcast: KDHL (AM 920)- Sunday, 8:00am
Consolidated Communications TV channel 10
& Charter/Spectrum channel 181,
Monday &/or Tuesday, 3:30pm

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.TRINITYFARIBAULT.ORG
8:00 & 10:30am services live streamed

WWW.TRINITYRADIOANDVIDEO.ORG
APPS FOR APPLE / ANDROID AVAILABLE

- OUR MISSION -
CONNECT, GROW, GO



Place
Postage Here
Post Office will not
deliver without
Postage

Address Service Requested



FIXER-UPPERS



Summer is peak time for home renovations and remodeling projects. Those can be super stressful, starting with the selection of a contractor.

In a blog about her own family's construction plans, Laura Elliott explains the challenge: "It's not just any builder I want. I want one who has impeccable workmanship, is completely trustworthy and delivers our long-awaited [projects] early and under-budget." After sifting through bids and reviews, she discovered that most builders "look like they do pretty similar work for a pretty similar price."

For spiritual renovations, however, the choice is clear. "God is the builder of everything," says Hebrews 3:4 (NIV). Elliott writes, "Jesus is not only the *builder* of His Father's house, but He is the *buyer*, and the *heir* as well." And what He's building, she adds, is "a better Bride," His church.

Faith upgrades are an ongoing, lifelong process. "The renewal of our natures is a work of great importance," said 18th-century minister George Whitefield. "It is not to be done in a day. We have not only a new house to build up, but an old one to pull down." It's a good thing God oversees this project!

—Stephanie Martin, ©ChurchArt Online