

TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church ~ Spencer, Iowa



June, 2026

To Know, Love and Share Christ



PASTOR RENAE'S JUNE MESSAGE

On Tuesday, our God Time Kids learned about sin. When I asked them the question, "What is Sin?" No one raised their hand. They knew that Jesus died on the cross for their sins, but they struggled to know the definition of sin and so they learned about the Ten Commandments.

Once I explained sin, some of the students were quick to name names of fellow student sinners. Each year when I teach our students about sin, the first response is to look outside themselves to someone else. This problem is not a child problem but an adult problem as well. This is our human nature.

We don't want to talk about our own sins. It is much more fun to point out others. This is our sinful nature. We live in a culture that wants to glorify sin. We live in a culture where right is wrong, and wrong is now looked at as acceptable and even good.

Isaiah 5:20 warns us, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."

We should be grieved by this (but not surprised by it) because we have been taught in scripture that this is how things will go.

Paul writes, "For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions." 2 Tim 4:3

This is the reality we live in. Paul teaches us in 2 Timothy 3:1-7, "But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people."

These last three words might sound a bit unloving or even a contradiction to the Great Commission in Matthew 28 to "Go make disciples, baptize and teach." But I believe what Paul means by "Avoid such people" is an acknowledgment that we are weak and sinful people who need guardrails. We need God to lead us and guide us.

God set those guardrails for us. Teaching us who we are and are not, and showing us our need for Christ Jesus and His saving grace. May we never stop examining ourselves, repenting of our sin, and clinging to the One True God who makes all things new.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Renae Behrends



INGHAM LAKE FUNDRAISER—MAY 31

Ingham Lake Bible Camp will be hosting a fundraiser on Sunday, May 31. This event will include a maid-rite dinner from 4:00-6:00 pm, and pie auction at 6:00 pm. Ingham Lake Bible Camp is located at 2258 450th Ave., Wallingford, IA. The public is invited.



WELCOME INGHAM LAKE CAMP COUNSELORS

On Sunday, June 7 we will kick off the summer camp season by hosting camp counselors from Ingham Lake Bible Camp. The counselors will perform special music, including camp songs. Please join us as we kick off the summer camp season.

SPENCER FLAGFEST PARADE

Trinity is planning to decorate a float for the Flagfest Parade on Saturday, June 13. We are looking for individuals to ride on the float, or walk along and hand out candy and bookmarks. If you are interested in participating, please contact the church office.



COMMUNITY WIDE WORSHIP SERVICE - JUNE 21



You are invited to join us on Sunday, June 21 for Church in the Park. This will be a community wide worship service at the East Leach Park Band Shell. The event will begin at 10:00 am. Prayers, worship, and river baptisms will be offered. Food trucks will also be available. Please bring your lawn chairs.

Note: No church service will be held at Trinity on June 21.

BIBLE CAMP ON US



To encourage our young people to attend summer camp, we are offering free tuition for Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp. Several options are available for those in kindergarten—sixth grades, from One Day Camp to Weeklong Camp. If you would like a list of camp dates or to register your child, please visit www.okoboji.org. In the section requesting payment information, just note that Trinity Lutheran Church—Spencer will pay the tuition.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Trinity's Vacation Bible School will be held August 4-6 from 9:00 - 11:00 am, here at Trinity. VBS is for youth ages 4-12. The theme this year is "*God's Story*." All Trinity youth are invited to attend. If you are interested in having your child attend VBS, please contact the parish office. There is no cost to attend.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBS

We will need volunteers of all ages to help with music, crafts, stories/skits and refreshments. Please contact the parish office if you would like to help out.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR INDOOR & OUTDOOR WORK

There are always projects that need to be done to keep our church building and grounds looking nice. We have created sign up sheets with a list of projects for both indoor and outdoor. If you would be willing to help out with any of these projects, please sign up in the narthex or call the parish office.



PENTECOST

June Calendar of Events

7 Sun	9:30 am	Sunday Worship / Welcome Ingham Lake Camp Counselors
14 Sun	9:30 am	Sunday Worship
18 Thu	8:30 am 4:30 pm	Preschool Camp Day Return to Trinity
21 Sun	10:00 am	Community Wide Worship - East Leach Park
28 Sun	9:30 am 10:45 am	Sunday Worship Parish Council Meeting

June



Birthdays

- 1 - Nancy Heideman
- 1 - Kinnick Nolte
- 2 - Pr. Renae Behrends
- 3 - Steve Licht
- 7 - Merlyn Winther
- 8 - Peyton Kelley
- 14 - Benjamin Kroll
- 15 - Brianna Schultz
- 17 - Zachary Christensen
- 22 - Natalie Kroll
- 24 - Deb Garnatz

CHURCH IN THE PARK

Prayer & Worship • River Baptisms • Food Trucks

JUNE 21st 10 AM

EAST LEACH PARK
BAND SHELL

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!



June Parish Worship Ministries

With Bible readings to prepare for worship

ALTAR GUILD:
Amy Gronemeyer

June 7, 2026

Second Sunday after PENTECOST

To prepare for worship, please read:
Hosea 5:15—6:6 Psalm 119:65-72
Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13

SERVERS: Sophia Porath
LECTOR: Natalie Kroll
C. ASSISTANT: Grant Leu
GREETERS: Dale & Tami Kroll
USHERS: Bob Bendlin, Dean Gronemeyer
O. COUNTERS: D. Gronemeyer, G. Schurz

June 14, 2026

Third Sunday after PENTECOST

To prepare for worship, please read:
Exodus 19:2-8 Psalm 100
Romans 5:6-15 Matthew 9:35—10:8 (9-20)

SERVERS: Nolan Kelley
LECTOR: Grant Leu
C. ASSISTANT: Dale Kroll
GREETERS: Grant & De Linda Leu
USHERS: Randy & Lisa Leonard
O. COUNTERS: Kay Lamport, De Linda Leu

June 21, 2026

Fourth Sunday after PENTECOST

To prepare for worship, please read:
Jeremiah 20:7-13 Psalm 91:1-10 (11-16)
Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

SERVERS: Harper Nolte
LECTOR: Tina Nolte
C. ASSISTANT: Lisa Leonard
GREETERS: Deb Garnatz, Jane Long
USHERS: Herb Kintigh, Guy Schurz
O. COUNTERS: Randy & Lisa Leonard

June 28, 2026

Fifth Sunday after PENTECOST

To prepare for worship, please read:
Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 119:153-160
Romans 7:1-13 Matthew 10:34-42

SERVERS: Sophia Porath
LECTOR: Andy Anderson
C. ASSISTANT: Dean Gronemeyer
GREETERS: Andy & Bonnie Anderson
USHERS: Dale Kroll, Michael Kroll
O. COUNTERS: Steve Grell, Walther Mantler





PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS



In our prayers during June, let us remember the following persons and causes in our intercessions:

- + **Brody Black**, grandson of Dave & Paula Hultgren, as he battles cancer;
- + **Lucas Christensen**, as he prepares for surgery;
- + **Scott Severeid**, church custodian, as he recovers from a shoulder injury and surgery;
- + **Ashley Ballou Bonnema**, cousin of Molly Vander Linden, as she lives with cancer;
- + **Leo Brownfield**, as he deals with health issues;
- + **Karen Kahley**, as she deals with health issues;
- + **Jim Smith**, as he undergoes medical testing;
- + **Stacie Smith**, friend of Pastor Renae, as she lives with terminal cancer;
- + The families of our parish: **Vaudt, Winther and Anderson**;
- + Parish Graduates: **Jacob Gronemeyer** (College) and **Emma White** (High School);
- + Staff and students of Trinity Preschool & Daycare;
- + Directors and staff of Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps;
- + Residents of our community's long term care facilities for health and peace;
- + Caregivers and workers who go above and beyond for our aged and infirm;
- + Fertility of the earth, favorable weather and for all those who labor in the fields;
- + All members of our parish, that as we continue to rejoice in the mystery of the Resurrection, we may be empowered to live the new life given in Christ in our daily lives.

“ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ...” (1 Timothy 2:1)



A BLESSING FOR FATHER'S DAY

The following prayer may be used as a table blessing on Father's Day.

Heavenly Father, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless our earthly fathers, through whom you provide guidance and care. Let the examples of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that their families may honor them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Give Thanks to the LORD

1Chron 16:34

Stewardship Report - April, 2026

Income to date:	\$ 90,016
Expenses to date:	\$ (72,491)
Difference:	\$ 17,525

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC



We are developing a list of individuals and families who would be willing to provide special music, vocal or instrumental, on a Sunday this summer. If you would be willing to share your talents, please contact Arla Kintigh at 712-363-1856.

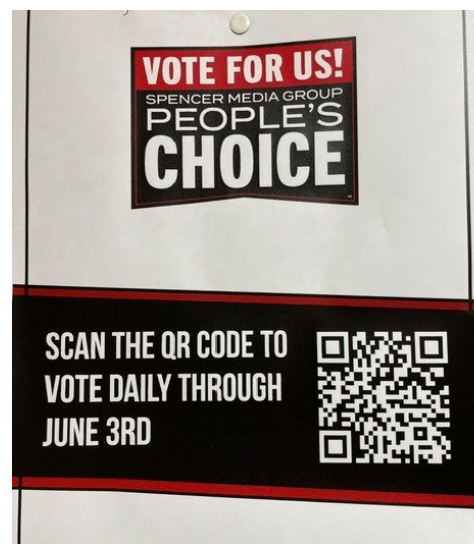
COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are looking for volunteers to provide and serve refreshments for our coffee hours, which are normally held on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. We will need two volunteers, or a family, on each of these Sundays. If you would be willing to help out, please sign up or call the parish office.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Trinity Preschool and Daycare has been nominated for Spencer Media Group People's Choice award. If you would like to support our preschool, please scan the QR code to place your vote.



Parish Council Meeting—April 19, 2026

"To Know, Love and Share Christ"

Pastor Renae's Cell: 712-209-3771

April Parish Council Meeting called to order by Secretary Lisa Leonard at 10:30 am.

Present: Secretary Lisa Leonard, Becky Caswell, Steve Grell, Dean Gronemeyer.

Excused: President Dale Kroll, VP Grant Leu.

Minutes of the March meeting were reviewed. Motion by Dean G. to accept the March Minutes. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Steve G. gave a briefing on the report. Was reviewed and discussed. Motion by Lisa L. to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Renae gave a briefing on her duties, activities and volunteering for the past month. Motion by Becky C. to accept Pastor's Report. Second by Dean G. Motion carried unanimously.

Parish Committees were reviewed and discussed. Preschool - Board Reports - Pastor Renae gave an update. Reviewed and Discussed. Motion by Lisa L. to accept the Parish Committee Reports. Second by Steve G. Motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Communion Assistant Schedule was reviewed and accepted.

Preschool Infant Room: Pastor Renae gave a progress update. Construction should begin in May. Trinity Infant Care Room has received these funds and grants to date:

\$10,000.00 from Clay County Community Fund.

\$15,000.00 from Spencer Local Option Sales Tax.

\$10,000.00 from Congregational donations.

Ecumenical Lenten Lunch and Worship was held on April, 1 2026. Pastor said Trinity had a great turn out with 120 in attendance.

Worship in the Park will be held on Sunday, June 21, 2026 at East Leach Park band shelter. There will be no church service held at Trinity on Sunday, June 21, 2026. Pastor Renae will be sharing service at the park including river Baptisms.

New Business:

National Day of Prayer May 7, 2026: Discussed. Pastor Renae will put together recommended prayers to email to the congregation.

Flagfest Float: Discussed.

Sanctuary Technology: Reviewed and discussed purchases and costs. Pastor Renae will remote through iPad during services. Motion to accept and proceed by Lisa L. to use Undesignated Memorial Funds to purchase two 86 inch Vizio TVs, wall mounts and transmitters. Becky C. will make TV purchases through Walmart at \$598.00 each. Second by Dean G. Motion carried unanimously.

Accent Color Change: Discussed updating church front turquoise exterior trim color. Motion to accept and proceed with church front exterior trim paint color change by Steve G. Second by Dean G. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Lisa L. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned with prayer at 11:35 am.

Minutes by Secretary,

Lisa Leonard

2026 Trinity Graduates

This year two members of our parish have graduated. **Emma White** graduated from high school and **Jacob Gronemeyer** graduated from college. Emma and Jacob were each recognized during Sunday worship.

Emma White

Emma graduated from high school. She plans to attend SDSU in Brookings, SD and major in Public Relations.



Jacob Gronemeyer

Jacob graduated from Liberty University, with a Bachelor's degree in Commercial, Corporate Aviation. He would like to be a commercial airline pilot.

Trinity Lutheran Church wishes Emma and Jacob every success and happiness in their future endeavors. May God smile on them and preserve the love of Christ in their hearts and minds.

INFANT ROOM PROJECT

Trinity Preschool & Daycare infant room remodel project has begun! Fairbanks Construction, along with several Trinity volunteers have been working on this project.

We are looking forward to welcoming infants into our preschool and daycare program!



Trinity Preschool & Daycare

TRINITY PRESCHOOL CELEBRATES GRADUATES

Trinity's All Day Pre-K program prepares each youngster for success in Kindergarten by learning social and emotional skills, along with alphabet and word recognition, numbers, writing and reading skills.



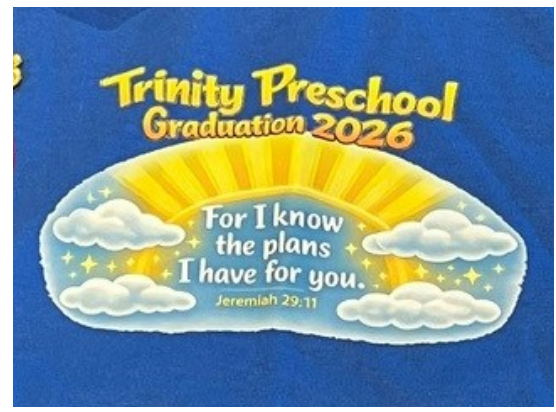
Each youngster received a Trinity Preschool Diploma



Graduates and their families enjoyed refreshments following the graduation ceremony.



Three members of our preschool staff were recognized for their years of service. Nicole and Robin have served 20 years and Jody has served 30 years. To commemorate this special occasion, they each received a crystal apple.



TRINITY TIDINGS is published monthly by Trinity Lutheran Church
9th & 11th Avenue West, P.O. Box 396, Spencer, Iowa 51301-0396;

712-262-1287

Pastor Renae Behrends

Email: trinchurch@outlook.com; Website: www.trinitylutheranchurchspencer.com

DEADLINE FOR JULY "TIDINGS" - JUNE 20