



# Trinity Lutheran Church

*Proclaiming, Teaching and Living the Gospel of Christ!*

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 8:30am

*Holy Communion is celebrated weekly on Saturday & Sunday*

Summer Sunday School will run

June 21st-July 26th  
Sundays at 9:30am

Sat. Adult Bible Study 4:00pm  
Sun. Adult Bible Study 9:45am

### *A Prayer for Fathers*

*Thank You, gracious Father, for the gift of fathers. Help them love their children well. Through Your Word and Spirit, enable them to boldly lead their children in faithful discipleship to Christ. Help them know when to speak, be silent, discipline, and offer grace, so that through them their children would see Your Father-heart. Assure them of Your unending love and grace.  
In Jesus' name. Amen.*



*Concordia Publishing House  
Portals of Prayer  
April-June, 2026  
Page 115*

## June 2026 - Newsletter

### VBS 2026—Tropical Trek Jesus Comes to Seek and Save June 8-12; 8:30-11:00am

Throughout this program, we will go on a Tropical Trek and along the way be guided by our Savior, Jesus who is the way, the truth, and the life! Let's go on an unforgettable journey!

**Register students and volunteers online at:**  
[vbsmate.com/trinitylutheranherscheril](http://vbsmate.com/trinitylutheranherscheril)

Questions??? Text Heather Meredith at 815-573-1056 or Lynne Noffke at 815-263-0411, Co-Directors of VBS 2026.

**VBS Craft & Snack Needs:** There is a poster in the Parish Hall listing needs for VBS. Thank you in advance for your donations!

**Decorating for VBS will be Sunday, June 7th at 10:30am.**  
All help is welcome.



### **Council Park/Picnic Cleaning & Set-Up Day**

Council members meet at the park Saturday, June 13th at 9:00am to clean tables etc., and prepare for the service on June 14th.

### **Church Service in the Park/Picnic**

An outdoor worship service will be held Sunday, June 14th at 10:30am at the park on the corner of 2nd & Park in Herscher. We plan to have the children sing a favorite song from VBS!



The church picnic will follow. Meat and drinks will be provided, please bring a dish to share and your own table service & utensils. The Board of Education will provide games! Please join us for worship, food, fun & fellowship!



255 E. Third Street, P.O. Box 414 Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2262

Web site: [trinitylutheranherscher.org](http://trinitylutheranherscher.org) Email: [trinityherl@comcast.net](mailto:trinityherl@comcast.net)

Visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/trinityherscher](http://www.facebook.com/trinityherscher)

## Creation – Not Just The Past

We are now moving in to looking at the 1st Article of the Creed from the Catechism, which tends to deal with the topic of Creation. God is our Creator. Sadly, when we discuss the idea of God as the Creator, we end up getting into wild debates about long ago when God created and when was it and how long did it take (short answer: it took six literal days and it happened some time ago, we don't know exactly when).



That's a worth while discussion to have... but it's the least important part of the topic of "Creation" in terms of theology. When we consider God, we aren't just considering things of the past, things of the long ago. No, the 1st Article of the Creed isn't merely waxing poetically about the first chapter of Genesis – it is present tense, right now thing. Right now, God is your Creator.

This is why I love how Luther begins the explanation to the 1st Article: I believe God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. When Luther talks about God as our Creator, it's all right now. He's created me and right now, this moment, as my Creator He is still taking care of me.

One of the temptations that Satan and the world unleash upon us is the temptation to turn God and His working into merely a past tense sort of thing – a long ago sort of thing. They do that because once you put something as merely something in the past, it can be dismissed and ignored. Tossed up into the attic and ignored. But that's not Who God is. God is active now in His creation, and we all exist simply and solely because He is our Creator and He wishes us to exist.

You woke up today. You took a good deep breath this morning. That's a gift to you from God. In fact, He kept on giving you life and kept you breathing while you were reading this article (and you probably hadn't even noticed your breathing at all). Your life itself is a gift to you from God. Today is a gift from God to you – hence the old familiar Psalm – This is the day that the LORD has made. See that right now attitude and approach to Creation? God the Father is your Maker, and He blesses you right now with your body and life. Let us rejoice and be glad in all of this!

- *Pastor Brown*

## Christian Education Schedule

**Summer Sunday School** will be held from June 21st-July 26th Sundays at 9:30am. Meet in the classroom.

**High School Bible Study** will resume in September.

**Sunday Adult Bible Study** is held Sundays at approximately 9:45am after Sunday worship and the Sunday School opening. We are currently studying the *book of Galatians*.

**Saturday Adult Bible Study** is held Saturdays at 4:00pm before the worship service. We will be studying the *book of Philemon*.

**Facebook Live devotions** are held online most weeks, Monday through Thursday at 8:00am.

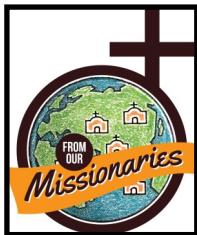
**Confirmation Class** will be forming and starting up in September. Contact Pastor with any questions.

**Be in the Word!**  
**It's a great place to be!**  
**All are welcome.**

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## Missionaries

Please continue to pray for our missionaries Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and their family as they continue to share God's love and spread His Word in Africa.



## Blood Drive

A blood drive will be held Monday, June 29th from 12:00pm-6:00pm in the Parish Hall. Contact Deb Chmielowiec with any questions or to reserve an appointment at 815-954-1363.

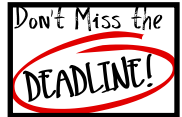


## Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office each **Wednesday by noon**. Thank you!

## Monthly Newsletter Deadline

Articles, announcements and information for the June newsletter are due **Thursday, May 21st by 9:00am**. Thank you!



## Pastoral Care Contacts

Pastor Brown often roams around in his duties, but he will be happy to meet with you. Please call, text or email to set up a time.

Pastor's Email: [pastorbrown.trinity@comcast.net](mailto:pastorbrown.trinity@comcast.net)  
Pastor's Cell phone (call or text): 815-953-9995  
Pastor's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x102

Diane Hart will continue to be in the office as often as needed. Phone messages and email are checked multiple times daily.

Diane's Email: [trinityher1@comcast.net](mailto:trinityher1@comcast.net)  
Diane's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x101  
Diane's Cell phone (call or text): 708-307-2710

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## Parish Hall Rental/ Property Check-Out List

The Parish Hall may be rented to Trinity members for various functions. Please contact Diane in the office to schedule, remit rental fee, and obtain a copy of the guidelines. **Reminder, the kitchen, tables and chairs should be left clean and floors swept. Restrooms should be checked for tidiness.**

Also, any property borrowed (old tables, kitchen items, etc.) need to be signed out on the check-out sheet in the church office. Please note, per the Church Council, the white tables and chairs may not leave the church property. **Also, all items used are to be returned clean and stored appropriately.**

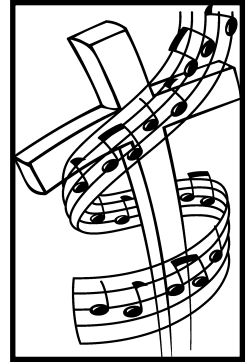
## Villas at Herscher Services

A worship service is planned for Villas at Herscher Monday, June 8th at 3:00pm.



**A Reflection My First Year Serving Trinity**

May 31st marked the official one-year mark since playing my first service as Trinity's Kantor. As I consider all the challenges, ups, downs, and (above all) countless blessings from God, I still feel an overwhelming sense of surreality. I have the absolute privilege of working with music each and every day in various capacities, whether it be hours upon hours behind the organ manuals each week, hymn planning for services with Pastor Brown, rehearsals with the choirs, or helping with Sunday School music. Every day for the past year, I've gotten to think about, dive into, prepare, practice, and lead music for my own "home" congregation. And every day for the past year, a resounding "Thanks be to God!" echoes in my head and heart.



A lot of changes have happened since stepping into this role. No, literally... Within a month of starting, Sammy and I had closed on our first house together, officially deciding to "put down roots" right here, in this area. The Herscher and surrounding communities have been so welcoming to us since moving back from Arizona in 2023, with this congregation at the center of our lives for 3 years. Growing up, my family had to move around constantly, so I never had a place to truly call "home". Since becoming members here at Trinity, God instilled in us a desire to be present and helpful to this congregation in any way we could... even, as I discovered, if that meant changing the entire trajectory of my personal career.

Learning the organ has been an incredibly fun adventure so far! The instrument itself has held the highest place of regard in my mind since I was little, growing up in the church. They don't call it the "King of All Instruments" for nothing! I've described learning how to play organ as very similar to driving a car: there's so much to constantly check, think about, and follow... ON TOP of, you know... playing the music. I call my time practicing organ an "adventure" because it really is just that! I've felt like I'm on a journey with every practice session, both here at the church, and at home on my household organ console. One thing I have found through it all is how easily I've fallen in love with the instrument as a whole. Don't get me wrong, I've always loved listening to the organ play. But getting to be the one playing it, learning all the mechanics and intricacies, and figuring out how best to use it in the music of the church has been the most rewarding work I've ever done in my 18 years as a musician. If you ever want to get me off on a passionate rant, come ask me any question about Trinity's organ, or any of the music we hear/sing in the services!

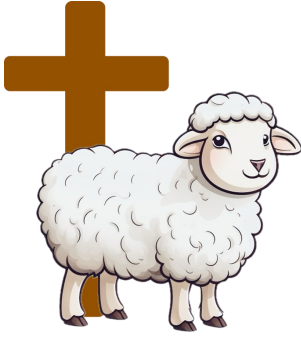
Then there's the choirs. The handbells and vocal choirs have been extremely rewarding to work with. What better way to spend Wednesday nights than with fellow musicians coming together for the sole purpose of ringing and singing to God's praise? Our musicians are some of the greatest blessings in our church, and I thank each and every one of them for their hard work this past music "season", and their commitment to preparing all the pieces you hear to the best of their God-given abilities. This is the perfect example of God working through us in worship, put on display every time we ring and sing in service!

Finally, this past year serving as Trinity's Kantor also had an unexpected impact on my life. Dealing with change is not easy, learning a new instrument is not easy, working through personal insecurities is not easy. God has not left my side through both the successes and the failures. The challenges I've faced have only served to strengthen my faith in Christ, and to notice and appreciate even more the work He does in all our lives, sometimes without us even realizing what He's doing. Everything I have been able to accomplish in this role so far is all because of His work in me. I give thanks to Him for all His blessings this past year, and I pray He continues to pile it on in the years to come.

*Soli Deo Gloria*

-- *Caleb Dehning*

## Little Lambs Preschool



Little Lambs had a great finish! It would not have gone so smoothly, however, had we not had a great deal of help. Thank you to Deb Weerts and Ruth Kruse for handling refreshments at the promotion and graduation ceremonies! We never know how many people we will have, but their skillful preparations meant the cookies, juice, and water were flowing without a single hiccup. Those who assist at these events each year also help me with another task: slideshow critique. Their feedback allows me to calibrate the class slideshows a little bit more each year, improving upon things like image size, number, and pacing. Thanks also go to Diane Hart for printing certificates, diplomas, and programs. Further assistance was offered, but declined this year, as she was also attending as a grandparent! Finally, we also want to thank Brian Noffke for setting up and putting away all the equipment that we use for these events, both for practice beforehand and for the actual ceremonies. It means a lot to the Little Lambs teachers to have so many people willing to step in and make our events a success.

Now that summer is here, it is time to begin the housekeeping work. The large volume of projects at the end of the year means we have plenty of bins and supplies to clean, reorganize, and put away. Once all the tidying is done, we can better take stock of what we have and what is needed. This is also the time of year when we undertake long-term projects, like repairing the library books and creating new teaching resources. In these final weeks of May, when the entire summer stretches out before us, it feels like we are replete with time. However, summer always flies by, so we have to remind ourselves to prioritize.

At the same time, God gives us seasons for a reason. We also have to remind ourselves that summer is a time of rest. Rest means that when we return in September, we are able to be better teachers, better parental resources, and better workers. In His wisdom, God makes us lie down in green pastures, that we may be prepared for all the Little Lambs to come. Thanks be to God! Amen.

— *Mrs. Brown*

## Raise Right Gift Card Program

**Trinity's Gift Card Program through Raise Right**—This program is available year-round.

**All orders will be placed on Mondays**, allowing for delivery usually by Thursday of the same week (online orders will be submitted with the paper orders). New customers please contact Diane Hart in the office for the enrollment code or with any questions. Go to [raiseright.com](http://raiseright.com) for more information or ask for a printed list of vendors if you prefer.

**Thank you for supporting Little Lambs Preschool simply by shopping!**



## **Trinity Sewing/Quilting Group**

Trinity Sewing group will meet Tuesday, June 2nd from 10:30am-3:30pm. Come when you can and stay as long as you want. We have 112 completed quilts in the closet and over twenty-five more in various stages of completion. We will meet on the first Tuesday of each month during the summer months. We were blessed with sheets donated from St. Paul Lutheran Church's rummage sale. They graciously let our quilters look for sheets prior to their sale. Donations of fabric and sheets are appreciated.

## **Martha Circle**

Martha Circle will meet for breakfast Friday, June 5th at the Herscher Restaurant for breakfast at 8:30am. Guests are welcome.

## **Church Council**

The Church Council will meet Tuesday, June 9th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

## **Board of Education**

The June meeting date is to be determined. Please contact Lynne Noffke with any questions.

## **Summer Sunday School**



Summer Sunday school will run from June 21st-July 26th. There will be a sign-up sheet with summer lesson information available for those that wish to volunteer to teach a week. Thank you in advance!

## **Hannah Circle**

We will not be meeting for the next three months. Thanks for your support throughout the year for our collections and fundraisers. Enjoy your summer!

*June Card Care: Jane Benjamin*

## **Herscher Council of Churches**

Herscher Christian Church will distribute boxes from the Illinois Food Bank on Tuesday, June 9th beginning at 10:00am.

## **LWR**

During July school sales will begin. We will be filling school bags for LWR again this year. More information to follow next month.

## **LWML**

The Zone 18 Spring Rally was held at Trinity April 25, 2026. We had a total of thirty-seven individuals attend the meeting. Ruth Kruse gave a slide presentation of her mission trips to Nigeria, Haiti, and Guatemala. If anyone is interested, you should be able to find on YouTube under Eric Brown at youtube.com. The other zone churches like our Herscher location. We have offered to hold next year's spring rally. Any suggestions on speakers may be given to Ruth Ann Fulton.

The Fall workshop for Zone 18 will be held October 3rd at St. Paul Lutheran School Bourbonnais.

LWML Northern District

Convention will be held September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> at Christ Lutheran Church and School Yorkville. We can send two delegates from our church. More details to follow.

42nd Biennial National convention will be held July 8-11, 2027.



## **Church Online Photo Directory App**

The Church Online Photo Directory App has been launched. Members of the Photo Directory Committee have mailed a flyer out to Trinity members containing an access code to download and sign-on to the app. If you have any questions regarding downloading/setting up the app, Cheryl Brutlag, Tammy Gray or Paula Kruse will be available for assistance. If you have any membership changes/updates, please contact Diane Hart in the church office. The church records and the photo directory app will both be updated. Thank you.

**Sunday, June 21st**  
**God's blessings on**  
**Father's Day**  
**& every day!**



## Member Birthdays



- 01 B.J. (William) Doss, Jeff Janssen,  
Tyler Schaumburg
- 02 Craig Bisaillon
- 03 Dave Becker, Ken Taube
- 04 Garrett Paulissen, Rodney Schwark
- 06 Earl Jensen
- 07 Clara Fisher
- 08 Jacek Kulach, Alan Ramsey
- 09 Karl Kruse
- 12 Connie Tranos
- 13 Dawn Sopko
- 15 Amy Dehm, Denise St. Pierre
- 16 Luke Smith
- 17 Cassandra Royal
- 18 Kevin Hill
- 20 Jeanette Pfeifer
- 22 Brandon Sopko
- 25 Aaron Cox, Carrie Kruse, Josie Royal
- 28 Keenan Hubly, Paula Kruse
- 29 Lori Marquis
- 30 Evelyn Bauer, Darrell Kooy, Shelby Shepard

*Please notify Diane in the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you!*

### A Birthday Prayer

*Lord of our lives, You gave us our first birth through our mothers on our birthday. We thank You for that day of birth and for all the blessings You have bestowed on us from our last birthday until this one. We praise You even more for the new birth You gave us by our Baptism into Christ. Enable us to know, having been born again in Christ, that we shall celebrate birthdays into eternity!  
In Jesus' name. Amen*



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## Trinity Lutheran Church April 30, 2026 Financial Summary

### General

Beg. Balance	\$17,900.82
Revenues	26,395.54
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>24,675.36</u>
Ending Balance	\$19,621.00

### Mission Fund

Beg. Balance	\$ 8,720.00
Revenues	11,070.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>9,565.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$10,225.00

### Little Lambs Preschool

Beg. Balance	\$ 6,111.36
Revenues	5,383.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>5,018.67</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 6,475.69

**Complete financial reports are reported at Quarterly Voters' Meetings held usually on the third Sundays of January, April, July and October.**

Please contact Diane in the church office if you need to pick up your offering envelopes, have them issued, or wish to be removed from the offering envelope list.



Treasurer's Report

### Online Giving Activated

You may now donate online. Type in this secure link to access online giving: <https://onrealm.org/TrinityLutheran76917/give/now>

No login is required. The link also is found on our website

(trinitylutheranherscher.org), and the Universal Church Photo Directory App. You may also scan this QR code, or text "TRINITYHERSCHER" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.



(This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply. Privacy Policy - <https://help.acst.com/en/trust-center/policies/privacy-policy> Terms of Service - <https://help.acst.com/en/trust-center/policies/terms-of-service>)



If you have questions relating to Online Giving for Trinity, please feel free to contact Diane in the church office.

## LCMS Stewardship Ministry – [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship) Newsletter article – June 2026

What Do You Want?

*(Originally published June 2023)*

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the “Shepherd Psalm.” There we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep.



When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don’t know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here’s the Good News: the Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.

# Serving Our Lord This Month — June 2026

## Elder/Communion Assistant

June 06\* Chris Knobloch  
June 07\* John Varvel

June 13\* Jerry Brutlag  
June 14 Service in the park/picnic-no Communion


June 20\* Mike Bruner  
June 21\* Dan Shute

June 27\* Ken Taube  
June 28\* Jeremy Thurston

\*Denotes Holy Communion Served

# USHERS

THIS MONTH



<u>Usher Captains</u>	<u>Usher Team</u>
Gerald Kruse (Sat.) Dan Shute (Sun.)	Kevin Kruse Don LaChappell; Jeff Stutz



Altar Guild

Heather Meredith  
&  
Val Simmons

## Altar Flowers

June 06/07 Kim & Deb Weerts on the occasion of their 54th anniversary


June 13/14 Available Sat./(Sunday picnic)

June 20/21 Hart/Shute families in honor of Jeanette Pfeifer's 93rd birthday

June 27/28 Keith & Penny Berger on the occasion of their 14th anniversary



# Trinity— June 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	<b>2</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Quilt Tying/ Sewing Group 10:30am-3:30pm	<b>3</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	<b>4</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	<b>5</b> Martha Circle @ Herscher Restaurant 8:30am	<b>6</b> <i>Communion</i> Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
<b>7</b> <i>Communion</i> Worship 8:30am Adult Bible 9:45am VBS Decorating/ Set-Up 10:30am	<b>8</b> VBS 8:30-11am Villas at Herscher Service 3:00pm	<b>9</b> VBS 8:30-11am	<b>10</b> VBS 8:30-11am	<b>11</b> VBS 8:30-11am	<b>12</b> VBS 8:30-11am	<b>13</b> <i>Communion</i> Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
<b>VBS 2026-Tropical Trek June 8-12 8:30am-11:00am</b> <b>Register online at: <a href="http://vbsmate.com/trinitylutheranherscheril">vbsmate.com/trinitylutheranherscheril</a></b>						
<b>14</b> Worship in the Park 10:30am Church picnic follows	<b>15</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	<b>16</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Council 7:00pm	<b>17</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	<b>18</b> Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <i>Communion</i> Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
<b>21</b> <i>Father's Day Communion</i> Worship 8:30am Summer Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 9:45am	<b>22</b> July Newsletter Deadline 9:00am	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <i>Communion</i> Worship 5:00pm
<b>Pastor Vacation—June 22-July 5</b>						
<b>28</b> <i>Communion</i> Worship 8:30am Summer Sunday School 9:30am Adult Bible Study 9:45am	<b>29</b> Blood Drive 12:00-6:00pm 	<b>30</b>				
<b>Pastor Vacation—June 22-July 5</b>						

**Deadlines for printing: Bulletin announcement deadline-Wednesdays 12:00pm**  
**July Newsletter deadline-Monday, June 18th by 9:00am**