



October, 2026

The Trinity Tribune

A monthly publication of Trinity Ministries.



**He has made everything
beautiful in its time**

Ecclesiastes 3:11

Trinity Merrill Lutheran Church
107 N. State Street, Merrill, WI 54452
www.trinitymerrill.com (715) 536-5482

"Carrying Christ to Our Congregation and Community"

Amazing Things Are Happening At Trinity



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. Watch for the Volunteer sign up in the Narthex. So grab your costumes, bring your friends, and come celebrate the season with us—we can't wait to see you there!

CANDY DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!
PLEASE DONATE CANDY FOR THIS WONDERFUL FAMILY EVENT!

The Fall Congregational Meeting is October 25 after the 10:30 service.

At that meeting, we will be electing three members to serve the next three years on the Church Council. If anyone is interested or if anyone has recommendations, please speak to Pastor G.



The Choir is Back!!!

Let's use the talents the Lord has blessed us with to enhance our worship services here at Trinity! The Trinity Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 9th, at 6:00 PM in the Choir Room. Everyone who enjoys singing is encouraged to join us! Come, share your gift, enjoy fellowship, and make a joyful noise unto the Lord! We hope to see you there!

'FAN THE FLAME' retreat

for Women of all Ages

Sat, Nov 14th: 9-1 @ Trinity Lutheran, Merrill



Stoke your faith
fire! Deep dive into
2 Timothy 1:6-7 with
musical speaker *Wendy Sue*

www.wendysue.com

Register: Trinity office: **715-536-5482**

Chili Luncheon

The Trinity Men's Club is hosting a Chili Luncheon in the church basement following the 8:00 a.m. Worship Service on **Sunday, October 18th, 2026**. The meal will feature 9 varieties of chili, including Beer Chili, Pineapple Chili, Lo-Sodium Taco Chili, EX-TREME Chili, White Chicken Chili and 4 choices of mild or medium chilies. We will also have macaroni & cheese (for non chili-lovers). Beverages (milk, juice and coffee) are included in the price. Shredded cheese, raw onions, crackers, bread and desserts will be offered at no additional cost.



Staff Anniversary Recognition

During our August 30th worship services, we were pleased to recognize and thank the dedicated staff of Trinity Lutheran School and Early Learning Center.

We celebrate these milestone anniversaries at Trinity Lutheran School:

5 years: Adonnica Laabs and Laura Bahlow
10 years: Matt Chapa and Keith Harmon
15 years: Georgia Gustafson
20 years: Jennifer Heisinger

We also celebrate this milestone at Trinity Early Learning Center:

5 Years: Melissa Ellenbecker

Please continue to keep our staff in your prayers as they share academic knowledge and the love of Christ with the children in their care.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH?

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Trinity is pleased to offer free taxi rides to and from worship services through Blue Jay Taxi. Simply call 715-921-4110 by Wednesday before the weekend service you plan to attend.

WHEN CALLING - PLEASE INCLUDE:

*Which worship service you will attend, *Your pick-up address, *How many people will need transportation to and from Trinity church.

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 Schaperl.....	October 12
Marge Giese.....	October 14
Judith Buntrock.....	October 16
Faye Meier.....	October 16
Gerald Voigt.....	October 22
Darlene Schult.....	October 23
Fern Whiting.....	October 25
Clara Kaiser.....	October 26
Joyce Batchelder.....	October 28
Phyllis Merkel.....	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 October 7
Jim & Jean Wiseman.....	59 Years on October 8
Walter & Mary Forster.....	57 Years on October 10
Gerald & Eileen Voigt..	58 Years on October 12
Glenn & Elaine Nass....	54 Years on October 14
Norm & Joyce Weisenfeld...	69 Years on October 19
Carl & Judy Blennert.....	58 Years on October 19
Lyle & Mary Banser.....	50 Years on October 20
Ralph & Judy Zimmerman.....	55 Years on October 23
Jane & Bill Hanson.....	56 Years on October 24
Norbert & Sharon Holz.....	57 Years on October 25
Roger & Shirley Voelz.....	64 Years on October 27
Orville & Darlene Schult.....	66 Years on October 29

Pastoral Acts...

Baptisms:

(9/13/2026) **Abby Lorraine Zara Bork**, daughter of Derek Jay Bork and Jafia Brittany Jo Bork. Abby's sponsors are: Craig & Danielle LaBarge.

(9/20/2026) **Aleyah Lynn Basinski**, daughter of Eric Basinski and Hana Lynn Bushar. Aleyah's sponsors are: Anna Basinski, Alexander Bushar, Finlee Lange Peronto & Ace Bushar.

Radio Broadcasts

are important to our ministry here at Trinity. Thank you to the following for sponsoring a broadcast so we can reach our homebound listeners.



September 6- In celebration of the 49th Wedding Anniversary of Richard & Ann Stoeckmann

September 13- In celebration of the birthday of Leila Marnholtz and in celebration of all grandparents on Grandparents Day by Roger & Becky Hinner and family.

September 20- In loving memory of the 70th birthday of Mike Moellendorf, which was on September 15th, by his wife Debbie Moellendorf.

September 27- In loving memory of Deanna Koebe by her husband Jim Koebe.

Stop by the church office to reserve your Sunday radio broadcast sponsorship. Broadcasts are \$190.

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

September 6- In loving memory of Roger & Lenore English and Gerald and Carol Duwe and also for blessings received by Brent & Crystal Duwe

September 13- Given to the glory of God by Chris and Heather Renzelmann and family, in loving memory of Roger & Lenore English, Gerald & Carol Duwe, Pat Renzelmann, and Vera & Renald Henriksen.

September 20- In loving memory of Donna Thompson by her family.

September 27- In celebration of all the blessings they've received by Bob & Janet Grunenwald

Your offering and tithe are a vital part of our growing ministry...

Rooted in God's Word Trees flourish when they receive the nutrients they need. Christians flourish when they are fed by God's Word. Throughout the school year, our students spend time daily in Scripture. They learn Bible history, memorize God's Word, sing hymns, and discover how God's promises apply to their lives today. One of the greatest blessings of a Lutheran school is that students don't just learn about God during religion class—they see Christ woven throughout every subject and every day. Thank you for helping make this ministry possible.

Trinity Cares About YOU!



SOCKTOBER

OCTOBER 1st - OCTOBER 31st

Trinity Dorcas will be collecting new and gently used socks for people in need during the Month of October. There will be a clothes hamper in the narthex for any size sock donations. "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." – Hebrews 13:16

Trinity Ministry Fair

On Sunday, October 25th, from 9 AM - 12:30PM our church will be hosting a Ministry Fair in our Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity to showcase the work, the mission and volunteer opportunities at Trinity Church, School and our Early Learning Center. Everyone is encouraged to browse through the ministry booths to generate awareness, enthusiasm and volunteer opportunities. Snacks will be provided.



Trinity Family Hayride! October 9th

Bring your family to an evening of fall family fun! Join us for hayrides, cozy hot chocolate and apple cider, snacks, campfire, and devotion. Families of all ages and sizes are invited to this night of fall festivities. Just bring a sweatshirt and camping chair! This event is sponsored by the new Faith and Family Ministry team. Sign up with this QR Code or Trinity website. Talk to Pastor Jon, Raena Grisa, or Steph Chapa with any questions!

LET'S GO ON
A HAYRIDE



Keep an eye on this QR code for any updates to this wonderful family event!

Early Bird Flu Shots for Seniors (65+)!

Drive Thru Clinic

Wednesday, September 16
8:30-11:30 am
Merrill Festival Grounds
303 N. Sales Street, Merrill

Inside the Steckling Building, next to the main Expo Bierman building

Important Information

- **Vaccines:** High dose flu (Fluzone High Dose) and regular flu (Fluzone) will be available.
- **No Appointment Needed:** Just drive right up, follow the signs. No need to get in or out of your vehicle.
- **What to Bring:** Please bring your Medicare card and/or Medicare Advantage Plan card. We will bill them directly so you don't have to.
- **Wear a short-sleeved or loose fitting shirt.**
- **Ask Questions:** We are happy to discuss vaccinations!



Coffee & Donuts
Provided!

Insurance plans we can bill: United Health, Security Health Plan, Aspirus Health Plan, Medicare Part B and/or Medicare Advantage Card, Railroad Medicare

Version 2026



715-536-0307 | LCHealth@co.lincoln.wi.us
lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com

TRINITY OPEN HEARTS FOOD PANTRY

Open on Wednesday's and Friday's 2:00-4:00

Donations are always appreciated!

TRINITY YOUTH

Middle School Youth
October 7th, 14th, 21st
and 28th
from 3:15 to 5:00pm
High School Youth
October 11th, & 25th
from 7-9pm



OCTOBER IS...

Pastor APPRECIATION MONTH

October is a special month set aside to let our pastors know how 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 has truly been good to us by sending Pastor Gustafson and Pastor Chapa to us. Take some time this month to express your appreciation to our pastors and their families. Together we can make this a month that will renew and refresh both of our good shepherds.

A FLU VACCINE CAN TAKE FLU FROM



WILD to mild

Adult Vaccine Clinics

Every Wednesday until Nov. 18
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Lincoln County Health Department
607 N. Sales Street, Ste 101, Merrill

- Accept United Health, Security Health Plan, Aspirus Health Plan, Medicare Part B, Railroad Medicare. Please bring your insurance card.
- If you do not have these insurance plans, cash, checks or credit cards are accepted.

Vaccines Available

High Dose Flu
(Fluzone High Dose)
Regular Flu
(Fluzone)
COVID-19
(Moderna)

Call or email us to schedule an appointment on a different day.

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lincolncountyhealthdepartment.com

Trinity Financial News & Happenings

August 2026 PROFIT LOSS								
	Aug-26	Aug-26	Aug-26	Aug-2026	Aug-2026	Aug-2026	Aug-2026	Aug-2026
Ministry	Income	Expenses	Profit/Loss	YTD Income	YTD Expense	YTD P & L	Fiscal Year BUDGET	YTD VARIANCE
Church	\$ 83,738.37	\$ 65,473.56	\$ 18,264.81	\$ 173,318.64	\$ 132,037.30	\$ 41,281.34	\$ 544,885.51	\$ (503,604.17)
School	\$ 11,996.21	\$ 139,940.47	\$ (127,944.26)	\$ 21,921.76	\$ 255,113.54	\$ (233,191.78)	\$ (464,041.50)	\$ 230,849.72
Teachergage	\$ 750.00	\$ 137.31	\$ 612.69	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,038.11	\$ 461.89	\$ 6,600.00	\$ (6,138.11)
Child Care	\$ 48,971.21	\$ 66,051.44	\$ (17,080.23)	\$ 92,661.19	\$ 177,337.03	\$ (84,675.84)	\$ (109,076.96)	\$ 24,401.12
After School Care	\$ 7,794.50	\$ 6,873.68	\$ 920.82	\$ 15,987.50	\$ 15,186.99	\$ 800.51	\$ 9,950.00	\$ (9,149.49)
TOTALS	\$ 153,250.29	\$ 278,476.46	\$ (125,226.17)	\$ 305,389.09	\$ 580,712.97	\$ (275,323.88)	\$ (11,682.95)	\$ (263,640.93)

**Our fiscal year will no longer run July 1-June 30. With this change, all financial records are now combined into one set of books. Because of that, some reports may look a little different moving forward. Please reach out if you have any questions or would like clarification.

Mark your calendars !

Trinity will be hosting the Community Blood Drive on Sunday, Nov. 1st from 9-1:00. Your blood donation saves lives.



OPEN HEARTS FOOD SHELF VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Our Open Hearts Food Shelf is open every Wednesday and Friday from 2:00-4:00 PM, providing food to individuals and families in our community. We are looking for a few volunteers who can help pick up food on Thursday or Friday mornings and bring it to Trinity. The food will already be packaged and ready to go—no shopping required! Some muscle is helpful, as there will be boxes and food packages to load and unload. If you can help on a regular or occasional basis, please contact the church office or speak with Pastor G. Your helping hands can be an Open Heart to someone in need!

Scrip Seller Schedule

October 4

8:00 am - Jim & Esther Johnson
10:30 am - Jen Rajek
6:00 pm - Mark & Laurie Folz



October 11

8:00 am - Carol Holz & Donna Rhode
10:30 am - Dennis & Jocelyn Weber
6:00 pm - Al & Joy Hulke

October 18

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

October 25

8:00 am - Ed & Julie Cordova
10:30 am - Jim & Jean Wiseman
6:00 pm - Robin Tomajcik

November 1

8:00 am - Marty & Barb Sizer
10:30 am - Terry Swanson & Laurie Swope
6:00 pm - Dawn Ives

November 8

8:00 am - Joe & Marlene Thomaschefskey
10:30 am - Dennis & Jocelyn Weber
6:00 pm - Mark & Laurie Folz

November 15

8:00 am - Fern Whiting & Jane Dehnel
10:30 am - Robin Grenfell & Raena Grisa
6:00 pm -

November 22

8:00 am - Randy & Sharon Welch
10:30 am - Jean Ravn & Molly Schult
6:00 pm - Jeff & Cindy Artus

November 29

8:00 am - Jim & Esther Johnson
10:30 am - Jennifer Rajek
6:00 pm - Robin Tomajcik

Please join us for our **FREE** Lincoln County

Community Baby Shower

For pregnant and parenting families with children 0 to 18 months
Bring a friend or family! Kids welcomed.. No registration needed..

Tuesday, October 6, 2026

New Location! **3 PM to 6 PM**

Merrill Enrichment Center (303 N Sales St, Merrill)

Each family will receive a care package (includes diapers, wipes and more). Available while supplies last.

- Connect with community resources
- Learn about child safety and milestones
- And MUCH MORE!!

LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

SCRIP NEWS

Do you need gift ideas for children's birthday parties? Consider giving gift cards! We have \$5 gift cards for Hugo's, Culvers, The Grandstand and Cosmo Theater. There are also \$10 cards available for Arby's, Barnes & Noble, Claire's, Culvers, Dairy Queen, Dunkin Donuts, McDonald's, Auntie Rae's and Target. Thank you to all who buy scrip!

DO YOU NEED OUR PRAYERS?

Your fellow Trinity members would love to pray for you or celebrate with you. If you or a loved one are in need of prayer, please contact the church office or submit a prayer request through the Connect Card tab on the Trinity website so we can share your prayers over the altar. If you carry a heavy prayer burden but don't want it prayed from the altar, please fill out a prayer card and drop it in the locked prayer boxes which are located on the side of each exit door in the sanctuary. Our Prayer Warriors will pray in complete confidence for you.

POWERFUL TOOLS FOR CAREGIVERS

A six-week program that explores improving your decision-making, time management, and communication skills, while improving your SELF CARE. Reduce stress, guilt, anger and depression while caregiving.



CAREGIVERS...

provide so much to others while caring for another adult. Powerful Tools helps caregivers learn strategies to balance caring for themselves too.

Registration required
www.adrc-cw.org/classes-groups
888-486-9545

Program is free. Contributions welcome. Not intended for professional caregivers.

MERRILL WORKSHOP

Mondays
Oct 12 - Nov 16
1:30 - 3:15pm
Merrill Fire Department
110 Pier Street



OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC) 9:15am Sunday Morning Bible Class with Ken 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC) 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC)	28 1:00pm Quilters 6:00pm -7:30pm Griefshare 6:30pm Schneider/Kleinschmidt Bible Study	29 6:00pm -7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm -9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	30 8:10am TLS Chapel Service- led by DJ Schult 1:00pm Diane Kreager Bible Study 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry 3:15pm -5:15pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm -8:00pm Public School Confirmation	1	2 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry	3
4 8:00am Traditional Worship Service 9:15am Sunday Morning Bible Class with Ken 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service	5 1:00pm Quilters 6:00pm -7:30pm Griefshare 6:30pm Schneider/Kleinschmidt Bible Study	6 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	7 8:10am TLS Chapel Service- led by Church Staff 1:00pm Diane Kreager Bible Study 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry 3:15pm -5:15pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm -8:00pm Public School Confirmation	8	9 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry  5:30pm -8:00pm Trinity Fall Family Fun Hayride	10
11 8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC) 9:15am Sunday Morning Bible Class with Ken 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC) 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC) 7:00pm -9:00pm Sr. High Youth Group (Grades 9-12)	12 Columbus Day TLS Picture Day (AM) 1:00pm Quilters 6:00pm -7:30pm Griefshare 6:30pm Schneider/Kleinschmidt Bible Study	13 1:00pm Pastor G's Bible Study 6:00pm -7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00pm -9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	14 8:10am TLS Chapel Service led by Gr. 8 1:00pm Diane Kreager Bible Study 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry 3:15pm -5:15pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm -8:00pm Public School Confirmation	15 2:00pm Pine Crest Service 6:30pm -8:00pm Dorcas Meeting	16 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry	17 7:30am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study "Living and Leading as a Man of God"
18 Men's Club Chili Luncheon  8:00am Traditional Worship Service 9:15am Sunday Morning Bible Class with Ken 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service 6:00pm Traditional Worship Service	19 1:00pm Quilters 6:00pm -7:30pm Griefshare 6:30pm Schneider/Kleinschmidt Bible Study	20 1:00pm Pastor G's Bible Study 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	21 8:10am TLS Chapel Service- led by 4K 1:00pm Diane Kreager Bible Study 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry 3:15pm -5:15pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm -8:00pm Public School Confirmation	22 2:00pm Bell Tower Church Service	23 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry	24
25  8:00am Traditional Worship Service (IC) 9:00am -12:30pm Ministry Fair  9:15am Sunday Morning Bible Class with Ken 10:30am Contemporary Worship Service (IC) 11:30am Fall Congregation Meeting  6:00pm Traditional Worship Service (IC) 7:00pm -9:00pm Sr. High Youth Group (Grades 9-12)	26 1:00pm Quilters 6:00pm -7:30pm Griefshare 6:30pm Schneider/Kleinschmidt Bible Study	27 6:00pm -7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:30pm Altar Guild Meeting  1:00pm Pastor G's Bible Study 7:00pm -9:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal	28 8:10am TLS Chapel Service- led by Gr. 3 1:00pm Diane Kreager Bible Study 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry 3:15pm -5:15pm Middle School (Gr. 6-8) Youth Group 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm -8:00pm Public School Confirmation	29	30 2:00pm -4:00pm Food Pantry	31  10:00am -12:00pm Trunk to Trunk


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The Trinity Tribune is a
Monthly publication of
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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



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)