



# Joyful Noise

OCTOBER 2023

## *A Message from Your Pastor...*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Picture a blacksmith, a glass blower, a potter, or a carpenter. Typically we don't see individuals like this working every day. But if we visit a historic village or go to various "Old Time" festivals, we have the opportunity to see the handiwork of skilled individuals as they strive to mold, sculpt, and build beautiful creations. It is fascinating to watch a skilled worker.

The ease with which the individual accomplishes a task—the knowledge, the experience, the patience, the confidence—all those characteristics make it fascinating to watch the individual work.

Scripture speaks about the handiwork of God. In Isaiah 64:8, we read, "But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter." This passage, along with passages like Genesis 2:7, Jeremiah 18:6, and Psalm 139, describe us as being God's handiwork. Picture that! You are the handiwork of a skilled worker who has the knowledge, experience, confidence, skill, and patience to mold and sculpt a beautiful creation. God is the potter; we are the clay. God continues to mold and sculpt us as He cares and desires. And if we are honest with ourselves, we usually find it much more enjoyable to watch the process of molding and sculpting rather than to be the one who is molded and sculpted. Sometimes we can be a little rough around the edges. Sometimes we aren't quite ready to be molded and formed, but God as the master craftsman has the patience to continue to work on us.

God can mold and shape us in many different ways. He can mold us through the various experiences, challenges, struggles, and opportunities that we have. Really, He could mold and shape us in any way that He so chooses and desires – there are many ways to add water to the clay to make it pliable. But one way God has promised to mold and shape us is through His Word. Through His Word, by the power of the Holy Spirit, God works in our lives to mold and shape us. Through His Word, we learn how we fall short of His glory when we sin. Through His Word, we are forgiven. Through His Word, we learn how to live as His redeemed children.

This month, we celebrate the Reformation. We remember and celebrate what Martin Luther did on October 31, 1517, when he nailed his 95 theses on the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, Germany. He wanted the church to stand on the truth of God's Word alone – a Word that shapes, molds, and leads us as God's children and God's church. Along with Reformation, several of our young people who have completed confirmation instruction will stand before God's altar and confess their faith in Jesus at the 10:30am worship service on October 29th. They have been molded and shaped by God's Word – taught by parents and you as a congregation. They will also promise to continue to be fed with God's Word in worship and Bible study. It's a promise to continually be shaped and molded by God.

Last month we celebrated Rally Day, the official kick-off for Sunday School and another season of Bible studies. I would encourage you to get connected with a group and be in Bible study together. Join fellow sisters and brothers in Christ as they too are molded and shaped by the hands of the Potter.

In Christ, Pastor Keinath



*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*

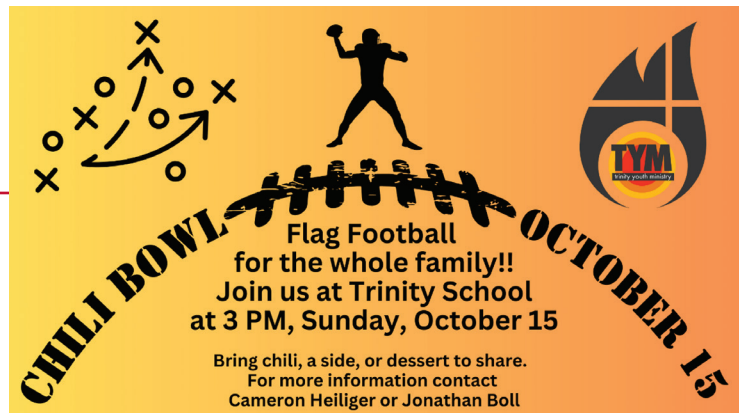
# School NEWS



Richard Thomas  
Principal of Trinity  
Lutheran School

## UP AND RUNNING

Greetings from school. It is hard to believe but we are already halfway through the first quarter. The Lord has blessed us with our largest enrollment ever. We have the honor of serving 320 of His children. This could not have happened without the awesome support of our congregation. The mission at the school shares the love of Christ not only to the children but also to their families. The Billings community is strengthened through His Word being shared daily. Thank you to our members. Together, we will witness His love and walk His path.



# Youth NEWS



Cameron Heiliger  
Director of Youth and  
Parish Education

## Whatever is honorable...

*"Honor your father and your mother,"* (this is the first commandment with a promise), *"that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land"* (Ephesians 6:2-3).

These words of Paul resonate with me as we move on from focusing on God's TRUTH in September to looking at the word HONOR in October. Throughout this section of Ephesians, Paul encourages the church at Ephesus to consider their personal relationships and to consider how they can HONOR others above themselves. He begins to point us toward this truth at the beginning of chapter 5 when he writes, *"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us..."* (v. 1-2).

What better way to HONOR those around us than to be imitators of Christ and show them the same kind of love that He showed to us? Over the next two months, we will have a number of opportunities to HONOR each other; through being present with each other, serving others, and sharing our gifts, time, and talents.

On October 6-7, youth in 8th grade and up will head to Muddy Cluster for our fall retreat. We'll have the opportunity to spend time together around the campfire, in God's Word, and through serving the congregation as we build bunk beds for their youth lodge. That same weekend, we will start collecting items and names for our yearly Thanksgiving basket service project. On October 15 and 29 we'll have opportunities to gather for fellowship and fun at the Chili Bowl and Trunk or Treat.

*Would you HONOR us by considering how you might serve or participate in the above activities?*



# MAKE A DIFFERENCE: GIVE A GIFT TO THE TRINITY SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND!

For most parents, sending their children to Trinity Lutheran School to receive a quality, Christian education comes at a huge financial sacrifice. For some families it is not a reality without the help of others. Did you know that Trinity Lutheran School has a new endowment fund designed to provide needs-based scholarships to students? The best part is that your gift to the endowment fund will *help nurture children in the faith for generations to come!*

In addition to the blessing of providing a gift to a self-perpetuating endowment fund to help students, the Trinity School Endowment Fund qualifies for the *Montana Endowment Tax Credit*. Montana is one of only four states that has passed legislation to offer this unique tax credit. This law provides for:

## **Planned Gifts** (*Applies to individual or business entity taxpayers*)

Credit against state income tax liability in the amount of 40% of the present value of any planned gift to a permanent endowment of a Montana charity up to a maximum amount of \$10,000 per year per taxpayer (\$20,000 for joint filers). Individuals and joint-filing taxpayers are required to convey their gifts through a planned gift. Gift annuities, charitable trusts and estate gifts all fall under the definition of a planned gift. Charitable gift annuities, in most cases easily established, are the most often-used planned gift for this purpose.

## **Outright Gifts** (*Applies to corporations, small business corporations, partnership or limited liability company taxpayers*)

Credit against state income tax liability in the amount of 20% of the present value of any outright gift by a business entity to a permanent endowment of a Montana charity up to a maximum of \$10,000 per year.

Want to know more about how to make a difference by giving a gift to the Trinity School Endowment Fund? Contact Jonathan Boll at [jboll@trinitybillings.org](mailto:jboll@trinitybillings.org) or 406.670.0124.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>1</b> <i>Psalm 140</i> <b>MITE BOX SUNDAY</b> <b>LWML SUNDAY</b> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School Adult Bible Classes Toddler Sunday School 2pm Paintball for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and up @ Diamond Paintball</p>	<p><b>2</b> <i>Mark 10</i> 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>3</b> <i>Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32</i> 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 6:30pm Properties Mtg. 7pm Bible Study led by Pastor Zage</p>	<p><b>4</b> <i>Philippians 2:1-18</i> 1pm Kitchen Guild Mtg. 2:15pm Chapel at TLS 6pm Youth Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr. Confirmation</p>	<p><b>5</b> <i>Matt. 21:23-32</i> 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>6</b> <i>Mark 11</i></p>	<p><b>7</b> <i>Proverbs 19</i> 5pm Worship with Communion Thanksgiving Basket Collection Begins</p>
<p><b>8</b> <i>Psalm 141</i> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship w/Communion 9:30am Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes Thanksgiving Basket Collection Begins</p>	<p><b>9</b> <i>Mark 12</i> 6pm Fellowship Mtg. 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>10</b> <i>Isaiah 5:1-7</i> 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 6:30pm Cradle Roll Mtg. 7pm Bible Study led by Pastor Zage</p>	<p><b>11</b> <i>Philippians 3:4b-14</i> 8:30am Chapel at TLS 5:30pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr. Confirmation 6pm Youth Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr. Confirmation</p>	<p><b>12</b> <i>Matt. 21:33-46</i> 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>13</b> <i>Mark 13</i> Fall Festival at Trinity School 5pm</p>	<p><b>14</b> <i>Proverbs 20</i> 2pm Caregivers Group Mtg. @ TYM Square 5pm Worship LWML District Board Meeting</p>
<p><b>15</b> <i>Psalm 142</i> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School Adult Bible Classes Toddler Sunday School 3pm Chili Bowl Flag Football @ TLS</p>	<p><b>16</b> <i>Mark 14</i> 7pm LWML Meeting 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>17</b> <i>Isaiah 25:6-9</i> 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 7pm Bible Study led by Pastor Zage</p>	<p><b>18</b> <i>Philippians 4:4-13</i> 8:30am Chapel at TLS 1pm Wrinkled Righteous Game Day 6pm Youth Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr. Confirmation</p>	<p><b>19</b> <i>Matt. 22:1-14</i> 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>20</b> <i>Mark 15</i></p>	<p><b>21</b> <i>Proverbs 21</i> 5pm Worship with Communion</p>
<p><b>22</b> <i>Psalm 143</i> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship w/Communion 9:30am Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes</p>	<p><b>23</b> <i>Mark 16</i> No School @ TLS 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>24</b> <i>Isaiah 45:1-7</i> 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 5:30pm YVFL Meeting @ Mt. Olive 7pm Bible Study led by Pastor Zage 7pm Elders Mtg.</p>	<p><b>25</b> <i>1 Thess. 1:1-10</i> 8:30am Chapel at TLS 5:30pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr. Confirmation 6pm Youth Group 2<sup>nd</sup> Yr. Confirmation</p>	<p><b>26</b> <i>Matt. 22:15-22</i> 10:30am Bible Study 6pm Council Meeting 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>27</b> <i>John 1</i></p>	<p><b>28</b> <i>Proverbs 22</i> 8am Fall Church Clean-up Noon Flicker @ TYM Square 2:30pm Flame @ TYM Square 5pm Worship</p>
<p><b>29</b> <i>Psalm 144</i> <b>Reformation</b> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship <b>Confirmation at 10:30 Service</b> 9:30am Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes 2pm Trunk or Treat @ TYM Square 4pm Fire Youth – Pumpkin carving</p>	<p><b>30</b> <i>John 2</i> 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>31</b> <i>Rev. 14:6-7</i> <b>Reformation Day</b> 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 7pm Bible Study led by Pastor Zage</p>	<p><b>ACOLYTES:</b> Saturday: Landon Rogalla Sun., 8:00: Landon Heiliger Sun., 10:30: Elaina Stricker <b>ALTAR DUTY:</b> Shared Duty</p>	<p><b>ELDER:</b> Saturday: Neal Wagenman Sun., 8:00: Mark Wollenburg Sun., 10:30: Ted Loomans</p>	<p><b>Trinity Worship Services on Community 7</b> 8am Sundays &amp; 5pm Tuesdays</p>	<p><b>Website: www.trinitybillings.org</b> Church: 245-3984 School: 656-1021</p>

# Financial REPORT

August 2023 Finances		
Income		424,174
Expenses		195,022
<b>Net Margin</b>		<b>229,152</b>
2022-2023 Finances		
	<i>YTD - Actual</i>	<i>Target</i>
Offerings	127,549	139,122
Total Income	597,469	438,687
Total Expenses	385,558	438,687
<b>Net Margin</b>	<b>211,911</b>	<b>0</b>

## BAPTISMS

Michael Andrew Edelman & Annalise Diane Mohr were baptized into God's family at Trinity on Sunday, September 17th, by Pastor Daniel Keinath. Parents are Derek & Tiffany (Edelman) Mohr.

## TRANSFERS OUT

Rev. Daniel & Cathy Rinderknecht to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Worden, MT



## LWML NEWS

**Southeastern Fall Zone Rally | October 7 | Bridger, MT Begins at 9:00 am – Cost is \$5**

**Honey Sundays to support Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch** will be October 1, 8, & 15. Order forms will be in the bulletin and there will also be a table in the fellowship hall before Bible Class to purchase bottles of honey.

### Meeting on October 16th at 7:00 pm

**Opening Devotion:** Cradle Roll Guild

**Program:** Bible Study from "Chosen"

**Meeting Hostesses:** Cradle Roll Guild

**Church Service Greeters for October:** Roll Guild

## ASSOCIATE PASTOR CALL PROCESS

Associate Pastor nominations are being received until October 15th. The nomination forms and position description are available in the church narthex or by contacting the church office. Please give completed forms to Pastor Keinath or Angie in the church office. Thank you for helping us with this project!

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to the many golfers and donors who made our 15th annual Trinity Tee-Off a huge success. We had a beautiful day, a record number of golfers, amazing food, and a whole lot of fun. The Trinity Tee-Off has raised over \$200K for Trinity School and other Trinity outreach missions over the years. We are especially grateful for our major sponsors of this event: Brown's Auto Service, CMS Roofing Inc., Jimmy John's, Langlas & Associates, Laser 1040, Meat Palace, Patton Aviation, State Farm: Sean O'Daniel, Stockman Bank, Thompson Pools, Wagenman Enterprises, and Yellowstone Bank. Thank you to all involved!



# Special Events

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1**

LWML Sunday  
Youth at Diamond Paintball @ 2pm

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6 & 7**

Confirmation Retreat – Muddy Cluster

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 & 14**

LWML District Board Meeting

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 3PM**

Chili Bowl @ Trinity School

**OCTOBER 19, 20, & 23**

No School at Trinity

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 8AM**

Fall Church Clean-Up

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 - REFORMATION**

Confirmation @ 10:30am

Trunk or Treat @ 2pm

Fire Youth Pumpkin Carving @ 4pm



# News



Our 15th annual Fall Fest Carnival and Auction is coming up on Friday, October 13! It's a night of fun and fellowship for the family, and one of our school's biggest fundraisers of the year. We need your help to make this night a success! There are lots of opportunities for church members to serve at this event. If you're interested in volunteering at Fall Fest, you can view and sign up for needs at [tinyurl.com/volunteertrinityfallfest](https://tinyurl.com/volunteertrinityfallfest) or contact Tina Benson at 406-850-4063. Online ticketing will be available this year as well. To purchase tickets visit [tinyurl.com/trinityfallfesttickets](https://tinyurl.com/trinityfallfesttickets). Early bird pricing available through October 12th. We look forward to seeing you there!

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*