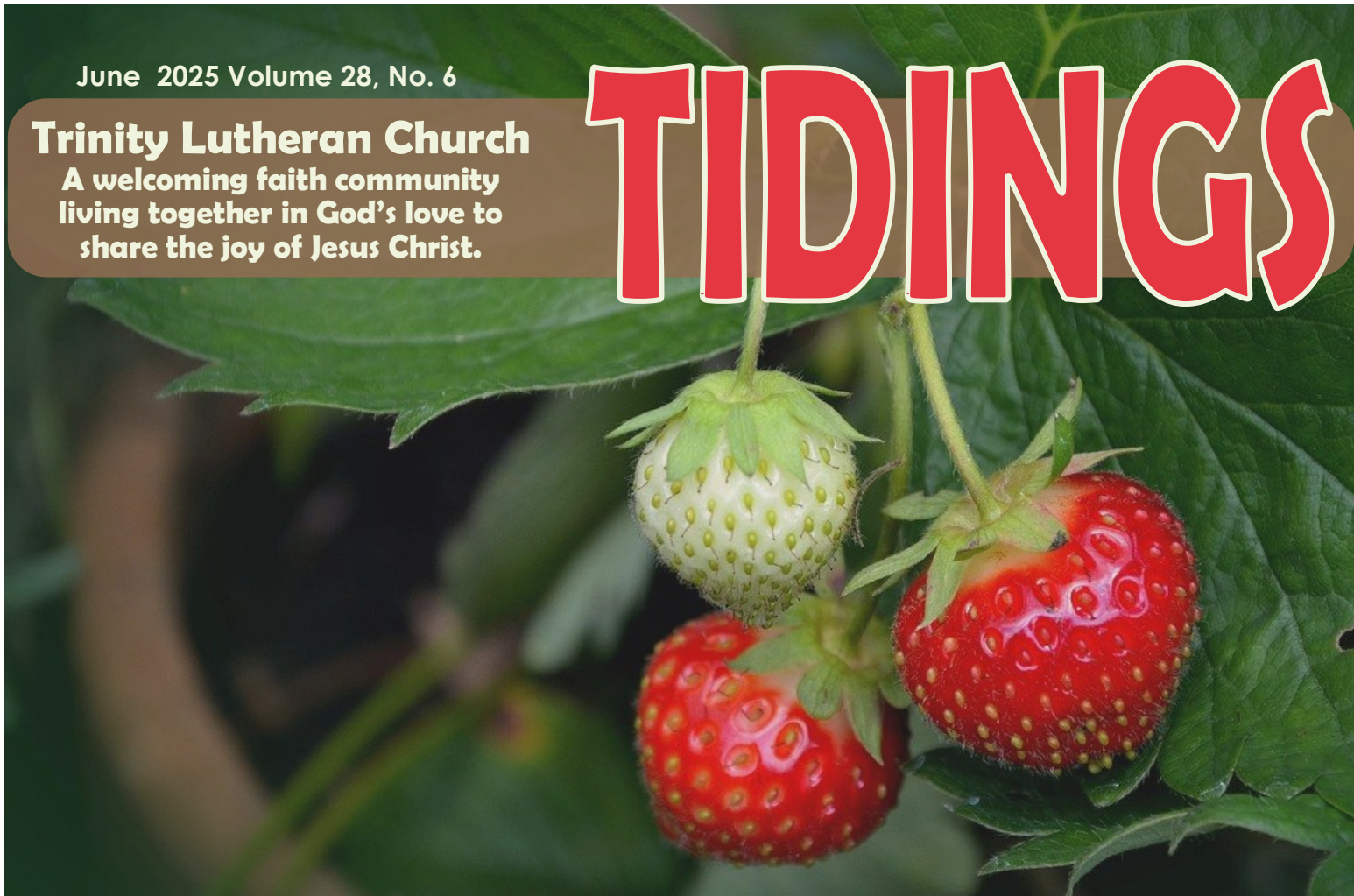


June 2025 Volume 28, No. 6

Trinity Lutheran Church

A welcoming faith community
living together in God's love to
share the joy of Jesus Christ.

TIDINGS



Property

As I approach six months as the new property chair for Trinity, I am grateful for all who help out in big was and small. If you picked up a piece of trash or changed a light bulb you have helped with the property! We can use a few more people to help out with the property team. You do not need to have strong back or understand the difference between mechanical and electrical engineering, the property team can use your help.

God has given us different talents and abilities, this means that many hands make light work and you will bring new ideas on how we maintain the place where the 301 Faith Partners call home. Please consider joining us for our monthly meeting (2nd Monday at 6pm in the Fireside room) or reach out to me for ways you can help preserve this building for another 50 years!

One way you can help is on **Saturday, June 7 at 9am**. We have new handicap parking signs to install. We are also going to replace the old leaning poles in the north parking lot as well. All the tools will be provided and a few more able bodied people who can help with the manual labor would make this easier on everybody. (this is an example of many hands make light work). Will you consider joining folks from the property team to ease the workload on us this morning?

If you have questions concerns, ideas and or ways to help with the property, please reach out to me!

Your property chair- Soren Nicholson ib24601@yahoo.com or 719-761-4387.

On Break for Summer

Sunday School, Confirmation, Adult Forum (Nursery is available till June 8), Bible Study, 301 FP Prayer Group are on break for the Summer! Join us again this fall! A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making these activities a success. Your time, effort, and enthusiasm have made a meaningful impact, and we truly could not have done it without you. We are grateful for your support and collaboration!

Council Meeting Highlights

- ✦ Special guests, representing the TLC Preschool, were Katie Barron, Andy Sprain and Brenda Harju. They reported on recent challenges, improvements, and budget.
- ✦ Council approved Finance Ministry's nominations of Steve Backsen and Stephen Zink to be Stewardship Co-Chairs.
- ✦ There will be an extra council meeting May 27th at 6:30 with synod representatives. The purpose is to discuss our clergy transition.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Morrissey, Council Secretary
(Complete minutes available in the office)

301 FP JET ECO Tip of the Month

The League of American Bicyclists <https://bikeleague.org/> does annual rankings with national measures of bicycling participation in multiple categories. It is quite impressive to see how Fort Collins measures up, so here are some impressive kudos!

- ✦ Out of 460 Bicycle Friendly Communities able to receive a level, Ft. Collins is one of 5 attaining the highest Platinum level in 2024!
- ✦ 1,233 Bike Friendly Businesses are recognized in 2025 and our 24 BFB's place us 9th in the country!
- ✦ Colorado State University also achieved a Platinum level, one of only 9 schools out of 209 to achieve this level in 2024!

Summer is an especially great time to ride your bicycles around this very special bicycle friendly community. And don't forget, **Wednesday June 25th is Bike to Work Day!**

The Joint Ecological Team (JET) meets as needed to plan educational events, bike to work day, volunteer opportunities, and advocacy. If you have any suggestions for future Eco-Tips, please email them to the Trinity church office(amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org). Our next meeting is **Tuesday, June 24 at 5:30 pm**. Be sure to check out the JET table and bulletin board in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



www.trinitylutheranfc.org

Phone: (970) 482-1226

After Hours Emergency:
(970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS
MON-THURS 9AM-3PM

WORSHIP TIMES
SAT: 5 PM | SUN: 10:30 AM

Senior Pastor: Rick Reiten
pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org

Education & Family Minister
Deacon Katie Kline
katie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Office Admin: Deana Andrist
office@trinitylutheranfc.org

Financial Manager: Brenda Moore
bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Communications & Volunteer Coordinator
Amanda Backsen
amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org

Church Musician: Carrie Hansen
carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Choir: Tessa Espinosa
choir@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Handbell: Jill Hunt
bells@trinitylutheranfc.org

Saturday Worship Leader
Clinton Ellerbe
saturdayworship@trinitylutheranfc.org

A/V Technician: Claire Pickerel
claire@trinitylutheranfc.org

Sunday School: Jennifer Reeve
childrensminister@stpauls-fc.org

Nursery Coordinator
Tiffany Klijewski
tiffany@trinitylutheranfc.org

TLC Preschool Director
Brenda Harju
brenda@trinitylutheranfc.org

Minister's Message - A Prayer of Courage

By now, you should have received a letter sharing that I am moving to Tucson, Arizona for a postdoctoral position for Curtis. A number of you have asked what will come next for me. That is a great question! The short and honest answer is, I don't know. This will truly be a liminal time for me as it will also be for you, the congregation. We are no longer where we were, but not yet where we are going. It is precisely here, between the known and the unknown, that the Prayer of Courage speaks (this prayer is from the Lutheran Book of Worship, author unknown):

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This is the truth of transition: we often do not see the full path ahead. We cannot predict what's coming or control every step. As I leave Trinity, I am not sure what the future will hold for me. I plan to take time to settle our family in Tucson, establish ourselves, and find a preschool for Theo (maybe Raphi or maybe he will stay home). Because Curtis' position is a 2-year contract, I will most likely not work in another congregation. I am excited to be a member of a congregation and worship with my family. I will apply for positions as I find exciting opportunities, and this is the beauty of the diaconal call (Deacon), I may stay clergy even without serving in a congregation.

I know that, while the future is unclear, God is present in the unknown. Just as I know, God is present with you, Trinity, as you discern the future for this place. I know we are both (you, Trinity as well as I am) being called to a new venture, and I don't know what it will look like, and honestly some days that scares me. But I also know that God's hand is leading us, and God's love supporting us. This has become my daily prayer. I am excited for the next chapter in my life. I know God's hand is leading, and God's love is supporting us. So now, we take the next step (and the next one), with good courage, knowing that God is leading.

Deacon Katie Kline

TLC 2025 Ministry Fund Plan Actuals		
	April 2025	Year-To-Date
Receipts:		
Offerings	\$ 29,652	\$ 144,017
SPE and MoM Building Use Donations	4,580	18,320
Building Use	1,081	7,256
Benevity Funds Released	2,800	5,600
Total Receipts:	38,113	175,193
Expenditures:		
Operating and Support	\$ 31,574	\$ 122,009
Ministries	8,129	40,780
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc)	8,310	8,310
Total Expenditures:	48,013	171,099
Receipts less Expenditures:	\$ (9,900)	\$ 4,094
Total Checking/Savings as of 4/30/2025		\$ 178,056.13
Total Checking/Savings as of 12/31/2024		\$ 204,772.61
Difference		\$ (26,716.48)

JUNE 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
1 10:30 am Outdoor Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am Small Group End of Year Celebration 3 pm BBQ & Bluegrass	2 9:30am Trinity Readers 12 pm Sermon Discussion	3 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 1 pm FP Clergy Mtg 5:30 pm Soc/Eco Justice 6:15 pm 301 FP SEJ
8 Pentecost 10:30 am Worship <i>Confirmation Celebration</i> 11:30 am Fellowship	9 12 pm Sermon Discussion 5:30 pm Pub Theology 6 pm Property	10 6:30 pm Executive
15 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am Faith Formation	16 12 pm Sermon Discussion	17 4 pm Habitat Sign the studs/bless the home 6:30 pm Council
22 Dcn. Katie Last Sun 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	23 12 pm Sermon Discussion	24 5:30pm FP Eco Justice JET
29 10:30 am Shared Worship 11:30 am Shared Fellowship	30 12 pm Sermon Discussion	



Birthdays



Cathy Schilling-Preble	6/2	Cooper Hopkins	6/10	Nyla Anderson	6/20
Martha Webb	6/2	Carol Arnold	6/15	Gary Schwartz	6/23
Steph Dugger	6/3	Pam Jacobson	6/18	Lisa Dunworth	6/25
Judy Sersen	6/4	Kathy Lipscomb	6/18	Sharon Johnson	6/28
Andy Sprain	6/8	Erik Elliott	6/19	Jodie Burgoon	6/29
Madysen Hopkins	6/9	Howard Smith	6/19	Leonard Russ	6/30



Anniversaries



Ben & Ilene Drews	6/5	Don & Jan Garman	6/11	Lee & Susan Lamb	6/22
Colleen & William Foos	6/5	Carrie & Bruce Hansen	6/16	Cheryl & Ron Smith	6/24
Carolyn & Eric Biedermann	6/9	Adrianne & Eric Jurgenson	6/19	Cheryl & Steve Backsen	6/25
James & Jo Anne Gearhart	6/10	David & Kelli Karst	6/20	Dan & Donna Dauner	6/25

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 5:15 pm Bells	5 	6 10 am Quilting Grp	7 9 am Handicap Signs with Property 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
11 	12 8 am Habitat Build Day 4 pm Finance 6:30 pm FP Co-Op Mtg	13 10 am Quilting Grp	14 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
18 	19 6 pm FP Get Together	20 Saints & Sinners Golf Group 10 am Quilting Grp	21 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
25 Bike to Wherever Day	26 7 pm Immigration	27 10 am Quilting Grp	28

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

May 31/June 1 Vicki Volbrecht / Margaret Wick

June 7/8 Vicki Volbrecht / Shelley Aust

June 14/15 / Don Garman

June 21/22 / Rick Aust

June 28/29 / Delores Wisner

**Pull Me OUT! HANG ME up!!
PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!**

Small Groups

Sermon Discussion Enjoy a discussion of the weekend sermon to share where we see God present in our lives. Join us most **Mondays at 12 pm**.

301 Quilters will be working all through the summer this year. If you've been interested in being a part of this group but weren't able to make it through the school year, please consider joining us in the summer months. We all have busy schedules with appointments and travels, so feel free to come whenever you're in town and available. Maybe there are some youth that would like to participate? We'd love to have you. We all know the saying regarding many hands. We meet every **Friday 10 am-12 pm** with the exception of July 4.

Trinity Readers will meet in the Fireside Room on **Monday, June 2, at 9:30 am** to discuss the novel *Inside the O'Briens* by Lisa Genova – a fictional account of a cop who is diagnosed with Huntington's Disease, as well as his four young adult children who then wrestle with the decision about undergoing genetic testing. Pastor Rick will join us for the discussion. Our selection for July will be *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray: This is a historical novel about an extraordinary partnership between First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and civil rights activist Mary McLeod Bethune. Questions? Call Nadine Hunt at 970-825-3730.

Pub Theology 2.0 OPEN Group will meet on the **2nd Monday June 9**. Anyone with an affinity for exploring the influence of the 20th century pastor-theologian, Dietrich Bonhoeffer is welcome to attend. The resource will be: *Bonhoeffer for Armchair Theologians*, easily available online. Kevin Mabry, will convene each of the sessions. A private room is reserved for us at the **Moot House from 5:30-7:30pm**. Come in time to enjoy Happy Hour and one another's company and prepare for a good 1.5 hrs of theological engagement. For more information call James Gearhart at 303-817-2361.

Habitat for Humanity The 301 Faith Partners helps to support Habitat for Humanity as they build safe, secure, and affordable homes in the community. Our next Habitat Build Day is **Thursday, June 12** from 8 am-3ish pm. No experience or skills needed. Contact [Jo Anne Gearhart](#) or [Steph Dugger](#) to volunteer/sign up.

TGIF (Second **Friday at 6:30 pm**) - *Note*, Hosts may opt for another Friday of the month. Come, kick back, relax, and enjoy an evening connecting with others from the Trinity family and meet new faces! Bring yourself, an appetizer/dessert and a beverage you'd like or would like to share. If you have questions and or would like to sign up to host, please contact Liz Johnson or 402-320-3699.

June 13: Cheryl & Ron Smith; **July 11:** - Don & Jan Garman; **Aug. 8:** - Jennifer Anderson

301 FP Fellowship Get-Togethers takes place ** this month the **3rd Thursday (June 19)** for a **Special Night Out 6-9 pm** at Avogadro's Number (605 South Mason St.) We will be entertained by Mary of Magdala's own Bill Smith and his Jazz Combo! There will be plenty of seating out on the patio in the back. There is a ticket sale for the event - \$15 at the door or \$10.00 advanced sale - go to Avogadros.com to purchase on line. All gatherings are informal and no RSVP needed.

Saints & Sinners Golf Group is back for the 2025 summer season! We plan to play nine holes on three Friday mornings and then gather for snacks and fellowship. Tee times will be reserved at Northern Colorado courses, most within 30 minute drive of Fort Collins. We are a small but committed group. If you would like to join the group, send an email to [Donna](#). Saint Paul and Mary of Magdala members are invited to join this Trinity small group ministry. Our play dates are **June 20, July 25 & September 12**.

Little Pantry Thanks to all who contributed to the Lenten Food Drive! Your generosity makes a difference! God bless you, The Little Pantry Small Group



Habitat for Humanity

Bless the Home & Sign the Studs on **Tuesday, June 17 from 4-5 pm** at Harmony Cottages. Join us to write prayers, blessings, and well-wishes on the studs of Ashley and Morgan and Brian's future homes.

Meet the Future Home-buyers - Ashley & Morgan and Brian

With kids engaged in sports and activities in Fort Collins, Ashley, Morgan, and Brian are excited to put down stable roots in their community as future Habitat homebuyers.

Brian loves the outdoors and spending time with his kids and their dog, Breck. When he learned he qualified for Habitat's homeownership program he was excited he could "give his kids the home they deserve, where they can feel safe and happy and that they can come back to year after year."

Ashley and Morgan live a life of service through their careers and time providing respite care for kids with disabilities. They feel excited and Joyful becoming Habitat homebuyers. "This opportunity gives us the ability to stay in the community we work, love to live and where we want our children to grow up."

Your Gifts In Action ~ Outreach Fort Collins

Rooted in downtown, Outreach Fort Collins is a street-based outreach program that maintains our community as a safe and welcoming place while connecting those in need to services and supportive networks is Outreach Fort Collins' mission statement. Outreach Fort Collins is a dedicated team of committed to making a positive impact on our community. We specialize in street outreach, working to engage individuals experiencing homelessness and address related impacts. We work hard to build collaborative relationships, listen with empathy, and provide effective solutions that create a welcoming and safe environment for everyone.

Outreach Fort Collins is a community-based program dedicated to helping individuals experiencing homelessness in the Fort Collins area. Our team provides on-the-ground support and resources to address issues such as disruptive behavior, mental health concerns, and safety risks. Outreach Fort Collins provides proactive street outreach and rapid response in downtown, midtown, and northern Fort Collins. We collaborate closely with local businesses, law enforcement, service providers, and city departments to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all residents.

Outreach Fort Collins (OFC) maintains a consistent presence throughout Fort Collins to meet clients where they are. During these proactive outreach efforts, OFC aims to build trusting relationships with underserved populations, identify their needs, and connect them with higher-level services. Additionally, proactive outreach enables OFC to address community concerns before they escalate, while also providing basic needs and behavioral health support in the field.

Here is the impact just to give you some idea of the numbers:

Total Contacts										Contacts by Geographical Area		
2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	Downtown	Midtown	North Fort Collins
2,441	13,935	14,463	11,096	8,123	5,347	4,292	5,135	3,047	1,631	55,888	3,789	7,738

Trinity members Lisa Dunworth and Andy Sprain work for Outreach Fort Collins and have given the church great advice on how to understand the homeless population we encounter on our property. Please visit their website to get a better picture of how this amazing organization works to make Fort Collins a welcoming community for ALL!

When you give to Trinity, you give to Outreach Fort Collins



TRINITY LUTHERAN
301 E. Stuart St.
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 482-1226

BBQ & Bluegrass

BBQ & Bluegrass 2025 Join the Sky Ranch Community at Trinity Lutheran for the Annual BBQ & Bluegrass on **Sunday, June 1 from 3-7 pm**. There will be live music, yard games, bounce house, and delicious BBQ and Desserts! For this event we need approximately 25 (9x13) pan of bars, brownies, or cookies, basically, a handheld dessert option. Note, we need some gluten free options as well. Sign up to bring desserts [HERE!](#)

Interested in attending? This event is not just about delicious food and bluegrass music (Jerusalem Road), but about building a stronger community and making a difference. The Sky Ranch family, unite to support our mission of bringing the camp experience to all, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to create lasting memories and friendships.

Tickets available at the door \$15/person for ages 4 and up. New this year is Bingo (\$15 to donate for a board).