

Trinity Lutheran Church

PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8:00 am– 2:00pm
(608) 564-7920 Website: arkdaletlc.org

Pastor Terri's info: arkdalepastor@outlook.com, #608-475-0748



From the Pastor's Pen — October 2026



Dear Friends,

Perhaps you know the saying about when we 'assume' something about another or a situation... [Read how the Pastor stole a spoon.] "He stole the spoon!" one says. But did he now? Just because you see someone holding a Bible, does not mean they have read it. And just because they have read some of it, doesn't mean they understand. And even if they understand, it doesn't mean they live by God's Word.

In 2 Samuel 10, the Ammonite princes, looked at David's servants, but did not recognize David's sincerity. They came from a place dominated by politics and conflict, so they **jumped to conclusions** and, well, they humiliated David's messengers, and thereby King David. You and I tend to presume motives, intentions, or outcomes - without full understanding, and out of our own personal biases and preconceptions draw conclusions.

Proverbs 18:13 warns us, *"To answer before listening—that is folly and shame."* James 1:19, *"Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger."*

Darrell Delaney on expectations and assumptions wrote, *"Jumping to conclusions based on assumptions can hinder relationships and lead to unnecessary conflicts. Taking the time to communicate openly, ask questions, and listen attentively fosters understanding and promotes harmony."*

We need to listen better, put our own presumptions on hold and be open to another perspective to better understand others and see a bigger picture. We often let our imagination and worries go right to the worst-case scenario. Instead, let's use our imaginations to think on the best-case scenarios. If you are going to assume – assume the best.

The 8th commandment: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor; Martin Luther said that means: We are to fear and love God, so that we do not lie about our neighbor, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead, we are to >come to their defense, > speak well of them, and >interpret everything they do in the best possible way.

Your sister in Christ, *Pastor Terri*

THE PASTOR STOLE OUR SPOON!

A pastor had dinner at the home of a couple in his church. After he left, the wife said to the husband, "I think he stole our spoon!" This bothered her for a whole year.

A year later the couple had the pastor for dinner again. Unable to resist, the wife asked, "Did you steal our spoon last year?" The pastor replied, "No, I put it inside your Bible."



OCTOBER VOLUNTEERS

Altar Guild: Donna Olson, Crystal M. Nawrot, Carrie Easterly
Garbage: Hank Sauer Food Pantry: Donna Turcany

**THANK
YOU!!**

**You're
Amazing!**

	Lector	Camera	Liturgist	Ushers
Oct. 4	Lloyd Waller	Avery Christensen	Mike Willis	Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka
Oct. 11	Lily Bittner	Owen Amundson	Tom Guzman	Zach Hobbick & Garret Gould
Oct. 18	Meagan Grabarski	Brayden Hendricksen	Mike Kuss	Ed Heideman & Steve Peterson
Oct. 25	Sarah Wright	Izzy Nawrot	Roxie Irey	Sue McIntosh & Marge Edwards

	Acolyte	Greeter/s	Bulletin Sponsorship
Oct. 4	Ellie Christensen	Ed Heideman & Penny Ross	Ken & Dana Henriksen (60th Ann.)
Oct. 11	Karlie Amundson	Donna Turcany & Dee Draeger	Tom & Gretchen Wetzell
Oct. 18	Raylee Pavelec	Jeff Chase & John Stormoen	Steve & Danna Peterson
Oct. 25	Ava Nawrot	Leif & Vickie Pedersen	

Counters		Lawn Mowing	
Oct. 5	Tom Guzman & Maggie Wahlen	Oct. 1	Mike & Sandy Willis
Oct. 12	Maggie Wahlen & Barb Bennett	Oct. 8	Brian & Donna Olson
Oct. 19	Barb Bennett & Sharon Guzman	Oct. 15	Rich & Deb Wachholz
Oct. 26	Sharon Guzman & Sue McIntosh	Oct. 22	Dennis McClyman & Leif Pedersen
		Oct. 29	Steve Peterson & Kris Peterson

Special Thanks to TLC Gardeners!

You brought color and beauty to our church surroundings this year. We appreciate the time and effort you shared to plant flowers, trim bushes, pull weeds, water plants, and provide an amazingly lush outdoor area. This year's gardening crew included: Dana Henriksen, Tony & Ramona Forman, Vickie Pedersen, Terri Soley, Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka, Zach & Shelby Hobbick, Rich & Deb Wachholz, Tom & Sharon Guzman, and Penny Ross. Thank you Glenn Quinnell for setting up the hoses and Lloyd & Darlene for your care of the fountains! Sincere apologies to anyone I missed. We enjoyed the beauty of your dedication to our outdoor landscape! Thank you!

2026 LWR School Kit Update

Heartfelt Thanks to everyone who so generously supported this year's drive to fill school kits for Lutheran World Relief! Once again, we were able to surpass last year's number (228) and set a NEW RECORD OF (242) SCHOOL KITS ready for shipment in October. Whether you donated cash or notebooks, pencils or erasers, your gifts are very much needed and appreciated!!

SHARING TABLE — Please bring gently used items

that you no longer need or want. If you have a large item too big for the table, fill out an index card listing the item, description, your name and contact information (and a photo, if you wish). Each week, peruse the Giving Table. Take any items you want for yourself or someone you know. Happy Sharing! Thank you Pat & Kathy for facilitating this!

KFC – Kids For Christ

★ **Fundraiser! Adopt a Day** starting **October 1 through Oct. 31**. Pick a day or more and donate that amount to a youth heading to next summers National Youth gathering. Kids will be posting this on social media and there will be a form in the narthex for donations for the travel expenses for the group.

★ **Thanks** for all those who helped clean at the fairgrounds!!

★ **Sock collection** this month, gently used and new ones.

★ **Save the Dates:** October 25 is Confirmation Day. The Christmas Program is December 20.

★ **Bible Verse: Genesis 2:15** – “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.” This verse highlights our responsibility to care for what God has made and given us.

★ **Activity:** Check the boxes in the Kid’s Time and Talent form below.

★ **Table Talk:** Even though we may not have much money, there are things we can do to help others, animals, and the earth. What would you like to do? What tools might you need? Who can help you do this?

★ **Prayer:** *Lord you gave me my life, my family, my friends, my ability to learn. You gave me the world to enjoy. Help me to say “Thank You, God!” instead of “What about me?” Guide my hands and teach me to use what I have wisely and to share with others. I love you and want to care for the things You give me. Amen.*

Kid’s Time and Talent: What I can do for God:

Name _____

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| ☐ I can pray every day. | ☐ I can wash the car. | ☐ I can make my bed. |
| ☐ I can do my homework. | ☐ I can listen in church. | ☐ I can be nice to _____. |
| ☐ I can help my mom _____. | ☐ I can help my dad _____. | |
| ☐ I will pick up my trash. | ☐ I will not yell at _____. | |
-

Bible Moment

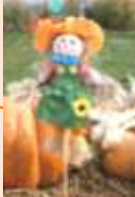
AMEN is from old English and from ecclesiastical Latin, from Greek amēn and from Hebrew 'āmēn. It does not mean ‘the end’. At the end of a prayer or message amen means you agree with what was just spoken, that you want God to make it happen. It means ‘it shall be so’ or ‘so be it’. Adopted in the Septuagint it is a solemn expression of faith or affirmation. Amen says you think what was just spoken as the truth or in today’s lingo ‘word’ or ‘mic drop’. In Star Trek after laying in the coordinates of where they are going next, Captain Jean-Luc Picard, instead saying ‘let’s go’, his amen was ‘engage’. And off the space ship would go. Deuteronomy 27:16 ‘All the people shall say, “Amen!”’



Cranberry Snack Pouches are available in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds benefit TLCW. Purchase these delicious and healthy snacks for \$1.50/pouch, or 4 pouches for \$5.00. Thank you, Leif & Vickie Pedersen!

October

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			***** Sept. 30— 6:00- Crafting	1	2	3
4 9:00-Worship w/ Baptism 10:00-Education & Fellowship	5* 9:30- Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	6* 8:30-Quilting 6:00-Prop. Comm. Mtg.	7* 9:30-Exercise Class 6:00-Choir/ Confirmation 6:45-Cantata Practice	8	9 	10
11 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship 10:00-TLCW Mtg.	12* 9:30- Exercise 3:30-Bible Study 6:00-Council	13* 8:30-Quilting Newsletter Items Due	14* 9:30-Exercise Class 6:00-Choir/ Confirmation 6:45-Cantata Practice	15	16	17
*open office hours/days 8:00 am—2:00 pm Mon., Tues., Wed.						
18 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	19* 9:30- Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	20* 8:30-Quilting	21* 9:30-Exercise Class 6:00-Choir/ Confirmation 6:30-Cantata Practice	22 	23	24 8:30-Noon LWR deliv- ery in Wis. Rapids
25 Confirmation 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship 1-3pm-Trunk or Treat/Dance @ Fairgrounds	26* 9:30- Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	27* 8:30-Quilting	28* 9:30-Exercise Class 6:00-Choir/ Confirmation 6:30-Cantata Practice	29	30	31 Tonight: turn clocks back 1 hour

November 1st

- All Saints Sunday
- Commitment Sunday
- Daylight Savings

TLCW CORNER: The next TLCW meeting will be held Sunday, October 11th, following the 9:00 service. We meet in the Fellowship Hall at one of the back tables. Grab some treats and join us to plan upcoming events.



Stewardship: Consider what ministries of our church you pray for, and those for which you are grateful: *Sunday School, choir, shut in visits, Confirmation, worship, family assistance with funerals & weddings...* Then, please prayerfully fill out the Time & Talent form and your pledge to support the work of this congregation. **Commitment Sunday is Nov. 1.** This is also All Saints Sunday & Daylight Savings (fall back).

Dear Member(s), The Finance Committee is beginning to develop the budget for 2027. To accurately budget, **please reply by Nov. 1! (online forms will also be emailed)**

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____ **Address:** _____

Spouse/Partner's Name: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

My/our pledge for Ministry Expenses (General Fund) of Trinity Lutheran is:

\$ _____ per week, or \$ _____ per month, or \$ _____ per year

_____ I/we will support the ministry without a specific pledge.

_____ I/we would like to start giving electronically, please mail form.

_____ I/we currently give electronically, and will continue to do so.

My/our pledge for The Ramp Hill Project of Trinity Lutheran is:

\$ _____ per week, or \$ _____ per month, or \$ _____ per year.

My/our pledge for The Solar Panel Project of Trinity Lutheran is:

\$ _____ per week, or \$ _____ per month, or \$ _____ per year

It is also that time of year when the office starts to put together various schedules. Please initial next to what you can help with. ***Even if you are currently volunteering in a role, please complete this form so we know you would like to continue serving.*** Share your wonderful and rich talents!

Committee (membership as needed)

_____ Care & Creation _____ Council _____ Education

_____ Endowment _____ Fellowship _____ Finance

_____ Long Range Planning _____ Property _____ Outreach

_____ Safety _____ Stewardship

Building & Grounds

_____ Trim Bushes _____ Woodwork

_____ Refill Gas Cans (Reimbursed) _____ Garbage pickup (rotational) _____ Electrical

_____ Gardening (rotational) _____ IT/Computer Support _____ Mechanical

_____ Lawn Mowing (rotational) _____ Seasonal Decorating _____ Painting

_____ Snow Shovel (rotational) _____ Repairs—General _____ Plumbing

Fundraising

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Bake Sale | ☐ Brat Fry |
| ☐ Harvest Dinner | ☐ Lefse Making |
| ☐ Aluminum Cans Delivery (for youth group) | ☐ Raffles |
| | ☐ Tailgate Brunch |

Teaching

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Confirmation (September - May) | ☐ Confirmation Mentor |
| ☐ Sunday school (September - May) | ☐ Vacation Bible School |

Worship

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☐ Altar Guild (Monthly rotation) | ☐ Worship Screen operator |
| ☐ Camera (record service) | ☐ Choir (Wed 6pm practice Sept-May) |
| ☐ Dramatic readings/plays/skits | ☐ Greeter (Rotational) |
| ☐ Lead worship when Pastor's away | ☐ Lector/Reader (Rotational) |
| ☐ Liturgist (Rotational) | ☐ Offering Counter (Rotational) |
| ☐ Usher (Rotational) | ☐ Play instrument, list: _____ |

Outreach

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ Attend Bible Study | ☐ Blizzard Boxes |
| ☐ Driving/Ride Share | ☐ Fair booth in August |
| ☐ Fellowship (Sept-May/Rotational) | ☐ Food Pantry Delivery (Rotational) |
| ☐ Parade (July) | ☐ Kids Day Booth in April |
| ☐ Mentoring New Members | ☐ Parade of Trees (Nov/Dec) |
| ☐ Photography | ☐ Prayer Chain (phone or email) |
| ☐ Quilting (Tuesday's at 8:30am) | ☐ Senior/Veterans Fair |
| ☐ Women's/Men's Night Out | |

Funeral Support

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Set up and serve funeral meal | ☐ Supply dish of food for meal |
| ☐ Work in kitchen & help with dishes | ☐ Usher for service |

(Please complete & return to office)

Unapproved, abbreviated Council Minutes—September 14, 2026

Present: Sandy Willis, Mike Willis, Carrie Easterly, Leif Pedersen, Pastor Terri Skildum, Dana Henriksen, Garret Gould. Excused: Liz Hendricksen, Zach Hobbick, Gretchen Wetzell will arrive late.

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by President Garret Gould.

Opening devotion: Pastor shared the shortest Bible verse: "Jesus wept." The verse showed Jesus' humanity and his empathy for people. Followed with discussion and prayer.

Approve last month's Council minutes: Motion by Mike/Carrie to approve. Carried.

Approve Treasurer's Report: Treasurer absent; report reviewed. Motion by Carrie/Mike to approve. Carried.

Review Budget to date report: Found report to be in line with budget.

Pastor's Report: Shut-in visits: 8. Visits scheduled: 5 and 2 in Hospital. At Rest: Beth Thurf Memorial TBA. Mike Moran Memorial 8/29 offsite. At Altar: 8/15 Alisha Prasalowicz Wedding (offsite). At Font: 8/23 Franklin Williams, son of Alex Williams & Adrienne Cartes Elmore. Other: Oct. 13-14: Pastors' Fall Synod Theological Days.

Set next month's meeting: Monday, October 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

Old Business:

- BMO fees/BMO Savings Account/Treasurer: tabled till October meeting.
- Donation to Adams County Fire District: to December agenda for distribution of yearly benevolence funds.
- Review of Solar Dedication: Everything went well – it was well attended especially with the donors present. Food and Outreach booth participation for the children were great. Kudos to the "Green" Committee.

New Business:

- Finance Comm. Liaison replacement: Motion to appoint Zack Hobbick to the position by Mike/Leif. Carried.
- Ramp Hill Project Funds: there are still monies being donated to the Ramp Hill.
- Solar Panel Project: \$5,000 offered as matching funds. Donations being given-should reach matched \$5000.
- Restructuring Council Positions: Sandy resigned as Secretary but will stay on Council. Carrie will take minutes.
- Stewardship: Time for Time & Talent forms and Temple talks. Forms will be in Narthex, newsletter, & online.
- Council unanimously approved students to be confirmed on Reformation Sunday. Nov. 1 will be Commitment Sunday for Stewardship

Committee Reports:

- Education Ministry: VBS went well: 9 attended. Adult Bible Study will start up again. Rally Sunday is Sept. 13 with an ice cream social and lawn games for all-table games inside if raining. Need a teacher for 4-6th grade.
- Outreach: Trunk or Treat at Fair Grounds-handing out glow bracelets, church info & "Be the Light" sticker. We received a reduced registration fee of \$30 instead of \$50 due to Visit Adams County membership. Ladies Night—waiting for info. Will have a table of giveaways & raffle gift of a Max Lucado book. Parade of Trees: theme is Noah's Ark. "Let it Glow" event: upcoming. Council appreciates all the Outreach efforts!
- Property: Signs have been placed on fire doors stating to keep them closed. Asked if money given as pledges to the Ramp Hill project are being applied to the loan. The answer is yes since they are designated funds. Is a separate Safety Committee needed to handle security cameras, and other security roles.
- Worship Ministry: Met on 8/30. Discussed upcoming services and change of the liturgy setting. Dec. 9 will be the Christmas Cantata with the dessert extravaganza; Dec. 20 will be the Sunday School Christmas program.
- Care & Creation: Solar Dedication went well. Still making sure all funding available was applied for.

Agenda items for next meeting: Old Business: 1. Council Secretary 2. Stewardship 3. BMO Fees/ Savings; New Business: 1. Conceal Carry 2. Internal Security

Motion to adjourn at 6:40 pm by Mike/Carrie. Carried.

Submitted in His Service: Sandy Willis, Secretary



Look for the sign-up sheet for altar flowers on the narthex table. Donations may be in honor/memory of someone, or just to share your garden's abundance of beauty.



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PO Box 65
Arkdale, WI 54613

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It's Socktober!

Donate new and gently used socks.

October Community Outreach—Kathy Murphy

FREE EVENT- Adams County Trunk or Treat at Adams County Fair grounds. This will be Sunday, October 25, from 1:00- 3:00pm. Also in 4-H building there is a dance 1:00-3:30pm, then a costume contest. TLCW will be there handing out glow in the dark bracelets. Our trunk theme is **“Be The Light”**.

Upcoming events: Ladies Night Out- more information to follow once received. Parade of Trees at the Hospital and Let it Glow Light event. More info to come. TLCW will be represented at all these events. Happy Fall Ya All!



October Food Pantry Donation Idea

Why didn't the fettuccine go out for Halloween?

It was too alfredo!

For the month of October, let's con-



tinue with our pasta donations for the local food pantry. Please help stock their shelves with noodles for soups and casseroles! Place your donations in the shopping cart and we'll get them there!

The Women of Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church, and the Adams County Food Pantry thank you!