

The Trinity Times

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)

October 18, 2026

www.trinitystpeter.org

Election Day 2026: Make a Plan to Vote!

"Voting is one of the most important ways we can be involved in our representative democracy." From ELCA Civic Engagement Guide. Election Day is November 3, 2026. Are you ready to vote? Make a plan!

- Register to vote (mnvotes.gov/register) or check your voter registration (mnvotes.gov). You can also register to vote on Election Day at the polls.
- View your sample ballot (mnvotes.gov/myballot)
- Learn about the candidates' positions.

The League of Women Voters has vote411.org, which contains responses from candidates to issues.

The League of Women Voters St Peter Area has conducted candidate forums that are available for viewing at <https://www.youtube.com/@LWVStPeter> or on the City of St Peter YouTube channel.

- Find out where to vote (mnvotes.gov/pollfinder)
- You can also vote early, either by absentee ballot or in person.
 - o Request an absentee ballot at mnvotes.gov. If you are voting by mail, you will need a witness.
 - o If you live in Nicollet County, early voting is available at the courthouse. Beginning October 16, you can complete your ballot and scan it directly into the voting machine. Hours are daily from 8:00-4:30. Additional hours are: Saturday, Oct 24 from 9-3; Tuesday, Oct 27 from 8am-7pm; Saturday, Oct 31 from 9-3; and Sunday, Nov 1 from 9-3.

Additional information is available in the narthex from ELCA Advocacy and the office of the Secretary of State of Minnesota.

Safer Together, Beyond the Gun Control Debate: A Conversation about Faith, Gun Violence & Building Safer Communities

Tuesday, October 27 | 6:30 pm – 7 p.m.

Trinity will serve as a host site in the Southwestern Minnesota Synod for this livestream event, offering a place to gather and participate together.

Presented by all ELCA synods in Minnesota, the event features Dr. Jillian Peterson of the Violence Prevention Project.

Join us for this important conversation about faith, gun violence, and building safer communities for everyone.

Ways to Give...

Thank you for supporting Trinity Lutheran Church ministries that Gather, Grow, and Go! Ways to give:

Text: message 844-373-8817 with amount you want to contribute (example: 25).

App: download Vanco Mobile through your app store.

Website: Click on "Give" button on the TLC website.

Mail: 511 S. 5th St., St. Peter, MN 56082

Scan:



Isaiah Training

Trinity and First Lutheran Churches will present a short Isaiah Rapid Response Training at Trinity today Sunday, October 18, at 4:00 pm.

Discussion will include encouraging everyone to vote in this important election and the accurate sharing of information in a chaotic and uncertain environment.

Faith and Civic Life Study

Interested in thinking about how our Lutheran faith informs our lives as citizens, especially in this election season? Pr. Scott will lead this five-week study of the ELCA social statement "Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-Being of All." We'll meet on Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. The remaining dates are: Oct 22 & 29.

Count Every Vote Election Night Vigil

Gather with neighbors on Tuesday, Nov. 3, from 8:00 pm – 9: 00 pm. at Minnesota Square Park in St. Peter to pray or show solidarity for the counting of every voice and vote, and for a peaceful transfer of power.

RSVP at bit.ly/VoteVigilStPeter



Tips for a Green Halloween

Halloween can create a surprising amount of waste. A few simple choices can help protect the environment

while keeping the fun and traditions of the season.

Decorate naturally. Choose biodegradable decorations such as pumpkins, gourds, corn-stalks, branches, pinecones and fallen leaves. Get creative by making decorations from reusable or upcycled materials like jars, cardboard, fabric scraps and paper bags.

Protect wildlife. Avoid artificial spider webbing, which can trap birds and small animals. Skip glitter-covered decorations, too, as they can shed microplastics into our soil and waterways.

Give pumpkins a second life. Compost pumpkins or donate them to local farms or organizations that accept them rather than throwing them in the trash.

Reuse next year. Save baskets, ceramic pumpkins, signs and other seasonal decorations. Reusing what you already have saves money and reduces waste.

Small changes can make Halloween a little greener while still keeping it fun!

~ Trinity Creation Care Team

This week @ Trinity

Sunday, October 18

8:00 am *Celebration Singers Rehearsal*
9:00 am *Worship Service*
10:00 am *Coffee Fellowship*
10:15 am *Adult Ed: Recovering Character & Belonging to Yourself*
4:00 pm *Justice & Belonging*

Monday, October 19

1:00 pm *Bible Study*
5:30 pm *The Kitchen*

Tuesday, October 20

9:00 am *Mission Quilters*
10:30 am *Staff Meeting*
4:30 pm *Endowment Committee Meeting*

Wednesday, October 21

4:00 pm *Bell Choir Rehearsal*
5:45 pm *Joy Choir Rehearsal*
6:00 pm *Confirmation*
7:15 pm *Youth Group*

Thursday, October 22

7:30 pm *Faith & Civic Life Study*

Friday, October 23

Saturday, October 24

10:00 am *Visitation Barb Palm*

Sunday, October 25

8:00 am *Celebration Singers Rehearsal*
9:00 am *Worship Service*
9:00 am *First Communion*
9:15 am *Sunday School*
10:00 am *Coffee Fellowship*
10:15 am *GWOH property cleanup*
10:15 am *Adult Ed: Extending Nobel '26*

Adult Education Schedule

October 18: *Recovering Character & Belonging to Yourself*
Dr. Peg O'Connor (GAC Philosophy, Gender, Women's Studies)
October 25: *Extending Nobel '26: Decoding the Driftless*
(video)

GAC Office of the Chaplains

October 12, 19, 26 & November 2 (7-9:00 PM)
Exploring Religious Questions, 10/12 Gustavus on Dakota Lands
10/19 500 Years of Broken Treaties
10/26 After the Doctrine of Discovery
11/2 Beyond Land Acknowledgement

Preview of Christmas in Christ Chapel

Chaplains Ben and Alicia Hilding invite you to a special preview of this year's Christmas in Christ Chapel theme, "A Shoot Shall Spring Forth," on Sunday, November 8, from 6:30–8:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall at the Student Union.

The evening will offer a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the planning and inspiration for this beloved worship tradition. Religion Professor Dr. Blake Couey will lead a Bible study on the passage from Isaiah that provides the foundation for this year's theme and points us toward the birth of Jesus.

The evening will also feature music by award-winning songwriter and composer John Hermanson, who wrote one of the songs being used in this year's worship service. Chaplain Ben also hints that there may be one more surprise!

The event is free and open to all and offers a meaningful way to prepare for Advent. If you are unable to attend the Christmas in Christ Chapel services December 5–7.

Attendance

October 11: 9:00 am ~ 154

In our prayers..

Tim Rietz, brother of Ron Rietz
Beau and Estee Bachman and family
Mary Jo Erickson
Mari Feder
Tami, friend of Mari Feder
Sheila, daughter of Ruth Sundin
Sue Guth
Jill, sister of Mari Feder
Helga Haedt
Bryan Ebbenga
Sandy Grochow
Merle Hoffman, son of Melva Leonard
Daniel Espeland, friend of Tammala Pierce
Geneva Mueller, mother of Gretchen Lind
Edi Thorstensson
Erin Buss, daughter of Dale Buss
Judy Maharry
Dorothy Paulsen
Casey Dunker
David Scheff
Jesse Hokom
Alena Nyhammer
Walt Grochow
Nancy Sizer
Ruth Sundin
Sally Lambert
Sandy Fahning
Jaye Marcotte, sister of Ytve Prafke
Arlene Lindquist

...our sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Mari Feder of the passing of her father, Marlyn Bottolfson. May God comfort and strengthen them during this difficult time.

Contact Information

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Joy Choir, Larissa Nieves

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