# Trinity Connections Booklet



"For the body (of Christ) is not one member, but many."

Trinity Lutheran Church – Downtown Campus 122 W. Wesley St Jackson, MI 49201 517-784-3135 office@tlcjackson.com www.tlcjackson.com

Trinity Lutheran School Preschool and Child Care – West Campus 4900 McCain Rd Jackson, MI 49201 517-750-2105 office@tlsjackson.com www.tlsjackson.com

# Trinity Lutheran Ministries Connections Ministry

Where do you fit?

By the grace of God, the Connections Ministry seeks to intentionally create space for the Holy Spirit to work in people's lives. It is our purpose to do this in and through the connections created within the community of believers here at Trinity. Whether you have a desire to serve or a need to be served let us help find the best fit for you by filling out the CONNECTIONS CHECKLIST in the back of this booklet and returning it to the Welcome Table or Susan Franck

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### Welcome to Trinity

*For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. – Romans 12:4-5* 

Welcome to the fellowship of members at Trinity Lutheran Ministries. What does it mean to be a "member" of Trinity? Our answer to that question follows.

We recognize that we are sinners. We know that Christ has paid the price for our sins when He died on the cross. As a result of His grace, those who believe in Him will have eternal life with Him in Heaven. John 6:40.

St. Paul tells us, "You are saved by God's grace because of your faith. This salvation is God's gift. It is not something you possessed. It is not something you did that you can be proud of. Instead, we are God's accomplishment, created in Christ Jesus to do good things. God planned for these good things to be the way that we live our lives." Eph. 2:8-10 (CEB).

In our lives as members of Trinity, we pray and strive to carry out God's plan for us to spread His Word though the Church and School. As a fellow member, God and His Church have expectations for us all, not in "repayment" for what He has done, but in our thankful gratitude for the great gift He gave us.

Among the many ways to show our gratitude are the following:

- Prayer Live a life filled with prayer of thanksgiving, and for God's will to be done in all aspects of our life. Luke 18:1; James 5:16.
- Worship Ensure our regular weekly attendance to join with other believers in praising and thanking God. In this manner we encourage each other to share His love and to carry out the "good things" He has planned for us. Heb. 10:24-25.
- Sacraments Once baptized, regularly participate in the Lord's Supper to receive the blessing that Christ uniquely established for us. 1 Cor. 11:26.
- Stewardship Support the work of the Church with our personal time, talents, and treasure, giving back a portion of what He has given to us. Luke 21:1-4. Besides financially supporting the Church with 10% of our money, we give of our time in volunteer efforts which puts the talents and spiritual gifts we've received to good purpose. Rom. 12:6-8. It is a "privilege" to share, which we welcome joyously. 2 Cor. 4:4-5.
- Study His Word Learn all that we can, at home and in Bible study, so that we can grow individually and with others and be fully equipped for the work at hand. Eph. 4:11-13.
- Share His Word Tell others about what He has done. Tell our family, friends, coworkers, and the rest of the world about God's great gift of salvation, which is available to all. Matt. 28:19-20.

Trinity has entrusted the monitoring and discipline of the faithful to its Pastors, aided by the Board of Elders. The Elders cannot know what is in a member's heart. But they do monitor the attendance, communion participation, and formal Bible study of the members. This is done in the hope that any missing, ill, or troubled members will be encouraged every day to be full participants in the life of the congregation. Heb. 3:12.

If you are contacted formally by an Elder about attendance or participation, it is out of concern for you and for your role as a Trinity member. The Elder doesn't always know what is happening in your life. Share with him your situation and any concerns. Pray with him for whatever may be troubling you. Rejoice with him over the great gift that Christ has given to us all.

## Core Values of Tríníty Lutheran Mínístríes

We pray that these core values would be honored in our life together as we strive to intentionally weave these values throughout our ministry, relationships with each other and in our homes.

**Worship:** We value God's grace by receiving it in Word and Sacrament and responding to it with prayer, praise, lives of worship and trust in God. (Acts 2:37-47; Matthew 26:26-28; Proverbs 3:5-6)

**Family**: We value an environment which strengthens families and where Christian values are taught, nurtured and modeled. We support family members living together in harmony and encouraging one another as followers of Jesus. (Ephesians 5:24-6:4; Colossians 3:12-17; Hebrews 10:23-25)

**Reading the Bible:** We value reading the Bible because the Bible helps us to know, love and trust in Jesus and to lovingly live together. We adhere to the teachings of the Bible since it is the only unerring standard of faith and practice given by God to the church. (2 Timothy 3:14-17; Psalm 119:105; Luke 7:47-49)

**Praying**: We value daily talks with our Savior in private moments and together with others. (Matthew 6:9-13; Matthew 7:7-11; Philippians 4:5-7; Ephesians 3:14-21)

**Serving Others**: We value good works as the fruits of faith that lead one another to "love your neighbor as yourself." We seek to demonstrate God's love and equip people for lives of service in our homes, church, local community and beyond by using our gifts, abilities and resources to advance Kingdom purposes. (Ephesians 2:8-10; Mark 12:28-31; 1 Peter 4:8-11)

**Sharing the Gospel**: We value the saving Gospel and are therefore highly motivated to intentionally share the Gospel through word and deed with those near and far. (Matthew 28:18-20; John 13:34-35)

**Servant Leadership**: We value leadership habits and attitudes that embody the fruit of the Spirit and cultivate healthy relationships while pursuing the common good, which may also include willingly setting aside personal motivations. We strive to pass this on to every generation through life example and intentional mentoring. (Matthew 20:26-28; Galatians 5:22-26; 2 Timothy 2:1-2)

**Healthy Relationships:** We value each of God's children by showing honor and respect to all. When conflict arises, we seek to address it with patience and forgiveness, leading to reconciliation and unity. (Romans 12:10, 18; Ephesians 4:1-3; Matthew 18:21-35)

**Discipleship:** We value the Holy Spirit's continual transformation of our lives into joyful and generous followers of Jesus. (Matthew 28:18-20; Titus 3:4-8; Romans 12:3-18)

Excellence: We value honoring God in all we think, say and do. (Colossians 3:17, 23-24;)

Adopted by Church Council 3/4/19

# Who to contact if you need...

## Prayers

- If you would like a prayer said during worship you can write your request on the new Prayer Sheet located in the back of the sanctuary. Thanks for doing this before the service starts.
- To ask for someone to be added to the Prayer Chain please contact the Prayer Chain lead Pauline Ropp 517-524-8597 propp@frontiernet.net
- Prayer requests can also be written on the Connection Card in the red attendance folders. Church staff will cover these prayers during the week.

Please contact the church office if you need:

- comfort or have concerns for yourself or someone in your family (hospitalization, upcoming surgery, emergencies)
- to order flowers for the altar give 2 weeks prior notice
- homebound? We have visitation/communion services
- to make an appointment to speak with the Pastor
- help with funeral arrangements,
- to reserve the Fellowship Hall for an event
- to schedule a wedding
- to update your contact information
- to be added to the email distribution lists for the weekly announcements in the Beacon and Monthly Newsletters

Contact the church office:

- 517-784-3135
- Office Manager: holesoa.tlm@gmail.com
- Use the Connection Card in the red attendance folders
- Trinity Lutheran Church 122 W. Wesley, Jackson, MI 49201