

THE YOUTH MINISTRY HANDBOOK

2016

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Villa Park, IL 60181

(630) 834-3440

Pastor: The Rev. Robert A. Rogers

Youth Director: Mrs. Judy Bruschuk

www.trinitylutheranvp.com

A NOTE FROM PASTOR

YOUTH MINISTRY at TRINITY

The mission of Trinity Lutheran Church is "Always Growing in Christ." The Youth Ministry at Trinity fulfills a part of that mission by helping our members in 6th through 12th grade to grow in Christ. So, everything we do is geared toward helping in that growth process. However, we do not believe that growth takes place without means. So, the purpose of youth ministry at Trinity Lutheran Church is to create, nourish and strengthen relationships between youth and God, youth and His Church, youth and the ministry staff, youth and their families and youth and their peers so that, through these relationships, they may hear the Gospel and the Gospel will nourish, strengthen and grow their faith.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

While we are not in a financial position to fully fund the entire youth ministry at Trinity, we also never want cost to be a determining factor. There are many benefactors at Trinity who are willing to help with finances so never hesitate to let Pastor or Judy know if the cost of an event is burdensome for your family. Also remember that our youth have many opportunities throughout the year to earn "Youth Bucks" to help offset the costs. Please carefully read the enclosed **Youth Bucks Guidelines** in this book to ensure that you fully understand the purpose and function of this credit from the church. Watch the bulletin and the youth newsletter for how to earn "Youth Bucks."

~ Pastor Rogers

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**** If at any point throughout the year we have corrections or editions to add to this book, we will send it home with your child, so please keep a lookout!*

IMPORTANT INFO FOR PARENTS

Chaperons

Parents of all youth are invited to join us as chaperons on any event we attend, whether it be a weekend retreat at a hotel or a week-long servant event out-of-town. This is a wonderful opportunity to build relationships with the youth in the program and serve as a leader to them. Please contact Judy if you are interested.

Consent Forms

Event Consent- Parents must fill out, sign, and turn in consent forms prior to *any event off-campus* for all children under the age of 18. This paperwork is vital as it enables the adults in charge to help your child medically in case of an emergency.

Media Consent – we ask parents to sign a media consent form at the start of each church year to gain your permission to post pictures of your child in media.

Policy and Guidelines Consent – Parents need to please read the policies and guidelines outlined in this handbook each year. Then sign our permission form acknowledging that you have read and understand all.

* Consent forms are on the Youth page on the Trinity web site.

Family Service Assignments

In order to ensure that all of our Youth fundraising and special events are staffed, we ask each family to serve at assigned events throughout the year. This includes events like the Easter Breakfast, Darts Tournaments, and Soup Suppers. In addition to serving their community and building fellowship, youth will also earn Youth Bucks for working these events.

If you and your children are unable to serve at the event to which you are assigned, we ask that you trade assignments with another family.

* ***The schedule is posted on Youth Page on the Trinity web site.***

Registration Fees

Registration fees are important for us to gather on time so that we can plan our ministry events accordingly. Please watch the calendar for deadlines.

Deposits are typically due a month in advance of an event to secure your child's place and they often allow us to receive early discounts on our participation in events. Youth bucks cannot be used for deposits on events.

Balances are due at the time of the event. Thank you for helping us run our ministry smoothly!

Acolyte Guidelines

1. PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE pay attention to the schedule*. If you must miss a service to which you have been assigned, PLEASE find your own substitute and then call the church office and let us know who will be fulfilling your obligation that weekend.
2. Arrive at least 10 minutes prior to service. Check in with pastor and go to the sacristy and get robed.
3. Read over the worship folder to determine if there are any unusual items in the service.

4. Normally your job will be to light the candles during the prelude. Give out the offering plates to the usher. Receive the offering plates back from the ushers. Assist with Holy Communion as directed. Extinguish the candles at the conclusion of the service.

5. Remember that you, like pastor, are a worship leader. Therefore you will model for the congregation an appropriate worship posture, participate in all aspects of the service and behave as though you are serving at the high altar of God (because you are). Acolyting is not a chore. It is a privilege and an honor to be one of the few people who come and go from God's high altar in the course of a worship service. Conduct yourself with great reverence and with great pride in your service to God.

** The acolyte schedule and list of subs are both on the Youth Page of the Trinity Web Site. www.trinitylutheranvp.com*

Confirmation Guidelines

The 8 Commandments of Confirmation

1. Thou shall hand in a sermon report* each week.
2. Thou shall say thy memory work* to thy parents (verbatim) EVERY WEEK prior to coming to class.
3. Thou shall read, mark and inwardly digest the acolyte schedule* so that the pastor is not in want of you on Sunday morning.
4. Thou shall treat confirmation (and it accompanying work) as a top priority; more important than school, sports or social life. This is an opportunity to leap forward in your relationship with God, so take this time seriously.
5. Thou shall be in Sunday School, Church and Confirmation every week.** There is no point in confirming someone who is not serious about worship, study and commitment to God and his Church. If you are not serious, then perhaps the time is not right for you to be in confirmation. That's okay, just let Pastor know and we will contact you next year to see if you are ready yet.

**I realize that people do become ill from time to time and that a rare schedule conflict could cause one to miss a Sunday. Families who have circumstances that will cause the student to miss worship and/or confirmation more than 2 or 3 times in the year should speak to pastor privately if you have not already done so.

6. Thou shall complete six (6) hours of service* during the confirmation year.
7. Thou shall make an effort to come to know one another and bond as a whole class eliminating cliques and school groups.

8. Thou shall treat one another with mutual respect as we grow together in faith, neither discounting another's belief nor compromising one's own.

** Sermon reports, a copy of the catechism for memory work, the acolyte schedule, and the church service hours record form are all available on the Youth Page of the Trinity web site. www.trinitylutheranp.com*

Policy on Overnight Stays

Adult Leaders

- Adult leaders must *21 years of age or older*.
- Anyone under the age of 21 may volunteer but must have supervision.
- Any event should normally have at least *2 adult leaders*.
- If both sexes are present at an event, an *adult leader of each sex* must attend.
- Adult leaders must sign Trinity's sexual abuse policy every year.
- Adult leaders on youth events are expected to participate with youth in all activities throughout the event.

Sleeping Arrangements

- Ordinarily, *adults over age 18 WILL NOT share sleeping accommodations with youth*, EXCEPT for large dormitory sleeping arrangements in which more than one like-gendered adult is sleeping in the same room.
- *Rooms will not be mixed-gender*.
- Youth should be of similar age when possible.
- Like-gendered *youth may be expected to share a double (or larger) bed*.
- Youth may opt to bring a sleeping bag or air mattress to sleep on the floor.
- Parents will be notified of sleeping arrangements IN ADVANCE of trips.
- Ordinarily, adults will be housed in rooms with like-gendered adults.

Meeting Spaces

- *Any adult leader should avoid being left alone with one youth*.
- Meetings may occur in hotel rooms, under proper supervision.
- Adult leaders should act in a prudent manner if meeting one-on-one with a youth. For example:
 - The adult and youth should move to an open area where their interaction could be observed.
 - If it is necessary to meet one on one with a youth, the adult should take measures to ensure that there is an open door and another adult nearby.

Safety Guidelines

- Adult leaders are expected to set a curfew and continue supervision after 'lights out' to ensure safety of youth.
- Adult leaders must ensure that youth know where to locate them at all times.
- No youth should be allowed to leave the property without adult supervision.
- Youth participants should never be alone; use the buddy system.

Youth Bucks Policy (Condensed)

Definition of Youth Bucks:

- Youth Bucks are credits / work units that youth earn to supplement the costs/fees associated with Youth Ministry events.
- Youth Bucks are earned by working at Youth Buck earning events, not at ministry or volunteer events.
- Credits earned are determined by the type of event and time worked.
- Youth Bucks have ordinarily have no tangible monetary value and cannot be traded for actual dollars. The only exception to this rule is for NYG food stipend.

Youth Bucks *cannot be used to pay deposits.*

Youth Bucks *cannot be withdrawn as money from an account.*

Disbursement:

- 100% of Youth Bucks generated at each event will normally be disbursed using the guideline below:
 - 10% to the Scholarship Fund (help those in need of assistance)
 - 10% to National Youth Gathering (NYG) Fund
 - 10% as a Charitable Tithe to a charity chosen by the Youth Board

Closed Accounts:

- A personal Youth Account will be closed after a period of inactivity of two years post high-school graduation.
- Youth Accounts may also be closed if the youth transfers membership to another church or moves away.
- All remaining Youth Bucks in a closed account will be deposited into the Scholarship Fund.

Negative Balances

- Allowing accounts to reach negative balances is highly discouraged.
- Negative balances should be corrected in a timely manner either by working at upcoming Youth Buck earning events or by paying off the negative balance with money.

**** The complete Youth Bucks Policy is available on the Youth Page at Trinity's website www.trinitylutheranvp.com

Youth Dinner Guidelines

* Please contact Lisa Ticaric with any questions.

- Please provide a meal for approximately 35 people. (Verify number of people with Lisa prior to the event). The Youth also greatly enjoy and appreciate dessert ☺

- The lower glass door of the parking lot on the South side of the church will be open for you to enter by 5:00. Dinner should be served at 6:15.

- Our YOUTH kitchen next to Kendrick Hall has plenty of cookware, tableware and serving dishes. We also have paper goods for use. Feel free to use what you need, but please clean and return it to where you found it.
- Kitchen must be clean before you leave.
- Tie up trash bags and leave at bottom of stairs by youth room. Teens will take the trash to the dumpster for you. New trash bags are in the cabinet above the sink.
- Wipe off tables.

Volunteers Needed!

Youth Dinners

- **Please consider signing up to provide a meal or dessert for our Youth Dinners on Wednesday nights.**
- **With your generous support, we are able to provide our youth with a meal and time to grow in faith in fellowship!**
- **Contact Lisa Ticaric at 630-310-7033 or lisa@firepipes.org to learn more and to sign up.**

GLOSSARY

Key

C – College Age
 HS – High School
 JH – Junior High

2Clickfundraising ***HS, JH, C**

This is an opportunity for everyone to help fundraise for the Youth program. Before you purchase anything online, go to www.2Clickfundraising.com and check to see if your website is hosted. Select Trinity Lutheran Youth and a portion of your purchase will go to support our program!

Acolyte *JH

All confirmation students will be scheduled to acolyte. 6th graders are trained during the first confirmation class. Assignments will be made on a rotating basis including both the 8:00 and 10:30 services. Being an acolyte is an excellent way for the youth to serve the church and God. It's also important to Pastor Rogers to have acolytes present to assist him during worship. If your child cannot serve on the day they're scheduled it's their responsibility to find a sub.

The acolyte schedule and list of subs are both on the Youth Page of the Trinity Web Site.

Anniversary / Italian Dinner *HS, JH, C

All youth help serve our Italian Dinner as we celebrate our congregation's anniversary. High School, you are the waiters/waitresses. Middle School, you are the bussers/dishwashers. Family service assignments will determine which families will help to staff this event. Youth will earn Youth Bucks for working this event. **Note:** we will NOT assist this year due to the special 100th anniversary celebration.

Big House *HS

Big House is the senior high youth ministry. We divide the time into about thirds. For 1/3 of our time together we have a Bible Study led by youth leaders and pastor. For 1/3 of our time we do some kind of craft or service project. Then for the last 1/3 of our time we just hang out, play basketball, play bumper pool or sometimes the youth leaders have a wacky game to play. Our High School youth are "frontline Christians" facing many challenges to God and morality head on. BIG HOUSE is what they need to fulfill their calling.

Big House Christmas Party *HS

If you are in High School, come to Judy's or Katie's for some food and games and the White Elephant Gift Exchange. Remember to start early finding your white elephant! Bring Pop and desserts and we will furnish the pizza.

Bowl-A-Rama *HS, JH, C

Service is a primary building block for a youth's spiritual formation. This is an opportunity to have some fun bowling but also to help the folks at Lutherbrook as they serve youth who have not been as fortunate as our youth have been. Bowling will count for required confirmation service hours. Cost is \$30 in pledges.

CSM (Center for Student Missions) *JH

This trip is typically for 7th and 8th graders only. On this service trip, students stay overnight at North Park University in Chicago and are assigned to ministry sites such as soup kitchens and homeless shelters to help administer to the homeless in the area. A CSM host leads the group by teaching students about the city, as well immersing in the cultures of the city by eating at ethnic restaurants. We typically ask the congregation to cover the costs of this event. Please see www.csm.org for more information.

Camp C.H.A.O.S. (Chocolate holiness and other stuff) * JH

This is an opportunity for all of our confirmation age youth to gather for a little fellowship time. During this hour before confirmation, we have some time for fun & games, some quiet time with God and some time to just hang out and be with friends. Please make every effort to let your middle schooler attend as this is prime opportunity for our youth to grow and bond together.

Camp C.H.A.O.S. Christmas Party *JH

We begin our celebration of Christmas as a confirmation group by caroling together at a local retirement home. Then, at Camp C.H.A.O.S, we party it up. Remember to start early finding your white elephant! We'll provide snacks and pizza for dinner and play fun games.

Camp Wilderness *JH

This is an opportunity for the incoming 6th graders to get to know their fellow confirmation students and have some fun fishing, cooking out and playing some games. **Note:** this event may not occur every year.

Catechisms *JH

Each student is given a copy of Luther's Small Catechism as a gift when they enter confirmation. Most of them have chosen to leave their catechisms in the room because we use them for class. Those who bring them home should bring them to class each week. If your child has lost his/hers they can purchase a new one.

Coffee Hours *HS, JH

Held on Sunday morning services, coffee hours are an opportunity for the youth to share with the congregation what they are doing and offer thanks for their support. Youth and parents will be asked to help set up, staff, and clean up these events.

Confirmation Class *JH

Confirmation instruction for 6th through 8th grade youth begins in September and ends a few weeks before Palm Sunday. Included each week is a time for music with our Director of Music, Mary Stahlke. Each year Pastor will confirm the 8th grade youth in their Baptismal vows in a special confirmation ceremony on Palm Sunday. The purpose of confirmation instruction is to "sew the youth into the quilt" before having their Baptismal vows confirmed by the Church.

Confirmation Day *JH

Eighth grade youth are confirmed on Palm Sunday at the late service. Be sure to arrive early and be robed and ready to process by 10:10 am.

Confirmation Practice and Pictures *JH

Eighth Grade Youth meet in the Trinity Center the day before to practice for confirmation and take pictures. Bring your robes for pictures.

Confirmation Retreat *JH

This is the kick-off **MANDATORY** event for the confirmation year. We typically go to Dixon, IL to Camp Reynoldswood and Pastor and Judy lead the youth in some group building activities, bible study, and fellowship as they prepare for another year of confirmation. Cost is approximately \$100. We will be going to a camp, so you city kids bring your Bibles, snacks, sleeping bag, soap, towel, flashlight, bear repellent, snake bite kits, chigger, tick, leach and mosquito spray, anti venom syringes, defibrillators, emergency thoracotomy tray, etc...

Confirmation Ringers *JH

As part of the Confirmation curriculum Mary Stahlke teaches the youth to ring chimes. The 8th graders will attend this part of class the first half of the year and the 6th/7th graders during the second half. Please make every attempt to have your child in worship on the days they are scheduled to play.

** A copy of the schedule is on the Music Page of the Trinity web site.*

Construction Zone *HS

This weekend-long event is hosted by Youth Encounters and is held at a local area hotel. Youth (and chaperons) will hear speakers, listen to bands, and participate in “treks” with the goal of bringing them closer to one another and to God. See www.youthencounter.org for more info. Cost is \$150. **Note:** We may not participate in this event every year.

Darts Tournaments *HS, JH, C

The Mens’ A and B Dart teams do a lot to help support our youth program. We like to support them by cooking and selling snacks at their annual dart tournaments, which typically occur three times a year in the spring. Family service assignments will determine which families will help to staff this event. Youth will earn Youth Bucks for working these events.

Easter Breakfast *HS, JH, C

The Youth help support the church and raise funds for our program by setting up, serving food, and cleaning up at our annual Easter Breakfast. Family service assignments will determine which families will help to staff this event. Youth will earn Youth Bucks for working this event.

Eighth Grade Grand Adventure *JH

This is an opportunity for the new confirmands to bond together and celebrate their accomplishment with Pastor and Judy. Where will the adventure lead? The eighth grade class brainstorms as a group where they would like to go. Past adventures have led to the Wisconsin Dells and to local hotels. We will have the opportunity to spend some time together and have some fun. Cost is approximately \$75. **Note:** this event may not occur every year.

Family Night Out *HS, JH, C

This is a new event that is a night for the entire family. We’ll make dinner together, do service projects, and have some fun family competition. Come to the new youth kitchen and lounge for a night of bonding and meaningful work.

Family Service Assignments *HS, JH

In order to ensure that all of our Youth fundraising and special events are staffed, we ask each family to serve two times a year at an assigned event. This includes events like the Easter Breakfast, Darts Tournaments, and Soup Suppers. If you and your children are unable to serve at the event to which you are assigned, we ask that you trade with another family.

** The schedule is posted on Youth Page on the Trinity web site.*

Fifth Quarter *C

Fifth Quarter refers to all college age students and beyond who are pursuing the “fifth quarter” of their lives beyond the typical four quarters of a school setting.

Fifth Quarter – meets one Friday a month for fellowship, food, and fun with Pastor and Judy in the Youth Lounge.

Girls' Bible Study – Lisa leads a bible study on Boundaries. We meet the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00pm in the Trinity Center.

Servant Event - College age students hit the road with Pastor in a van for a week-long servant event somewhere in the continental U.S. In the past, the group has worked at Camp ReStore in Louisiana. **Note:** this event may not occur every year.

Annual Dinner at Hi-View – Wednesday night before Thanksgiving we meet at Hi-View for our annual dinner and catch-up time.

Bonfire at Judy's – every summer we meet as a group at Judy's for fire, food, and fun!

Chaperons - College age students and young adults also have numerous opportunities to volunteer as chaperons for various retreats and events throughout the year. Please see Judy if you're interested.

Fourth of July Parade *HS, JH, C

This is another opportunity to serve our community by handing out water and the famous Trinity Crosses to hot, thirsty parade watchers. We typically enter a Big House Float into the parade. Watch for signs about the work dates to get the float ready!

Girls BS *HS, JH

Lisa Ticaric has led a bible study just for our girls once a month in the summer to discuss the pressures and opportunities for teenage girls in our society. We met at Judy's house and have yummy food, great company, and deep conversations! We are currently not running this bible study.

Girls Night Out *HS, JH

This is an opportunity for our girls to get together for some fun and Christian fellowship with one another. Food, games, activities, crafts, Bible study and other fun surprises are all part of this evening. Invite your friends!

Guys Night Out *HS, JH

This is an opportunity for the guys to get together for some fun and fellowship. It includes food, fun, sports and video games. Invite your friends!

High School Retreat *HS

This is a two night opportunity at a nearby camp to spend some intense time with pastor and Judy, one another, and God. Pastor will lead this retreat and he chooses a movie around which to base the bible study and weekend events. Faith growth is guaranteed as we spend 48 hours living together, playing together and worshipping God together.

Italian Dinner

See Anniversary Dinner.

Lay Assistant *HS, C

High school and college-age students have the opportunity to serve during our Sunday morning services. As a lay assistant, they would perform a reading and assist in serving communion. Please see Pastor if you are interested in this service opportunity for our Lord!

LWML Food Drive / Service Project *HS, JH

The Lutheran Womens' Missionary League hosts a food drive each fall and our youth help to support this event. Working during Camp C.H.A.O.S. time and one Saturday, we help distribute fliers, collect food and then take it to the Uptown Food Pantry in Chicago.

Memory Work *JH

Each week at confirmation, the students will have a small portion of Luther's Small Catechism to memorize. The memory work can be found in the catechism. If your child is leaving this in the classroom, you can find a copy on the church web site.

A link to the Catechism is on the Youth Page and Christian Education on the Trinity web site.

Morren Chelsi Lampas

Morren is a little girl from Indonesia whom we sponsor as a youth group through Compassion International. We have committed to sending her \$38 as a group each month to provide her with health care, education, and other needs. We will ask youth at youth group each week to give a donation toward Morren. Please encourage your child to donate!

NYG 2019(National Youth Gathering) *HS, C

9th grade in the fall of 2016 - age 21 (prior to the gathering)

This national event held by the Missouri Synod lets us spend five days with 25,000 other Lutheran Youth hearing the word of God proclaimed and worshipping Him. We also spend 3 days exploring the many exciting tourist sites. 2019 will take place in Minneapolis!! Please watch for Parent Information meetings throughout the year. See www.lcmsyouthgathering.org for more information, or join on Facebook at National LCMS Youth Gathering.

Not So Silent Night *HS, JH, C

Start working on your acts now and be ready for this Christmas Extravaganza. The youth play a key part in this parish Christmas party and talent is ALWAYS optional! See Mary Stahlke if you need accompaniment. Note: this event may not occur every year.

Parent Dinner Meeting *ALL Parents of Youth

Parents and youth are the Youth Board's guests for dinner. This is kick-off night for the fall program. We start with dinner in Founder's Hall. Then we talk about youth ministry plans, confirmation class plans and needs, acolytes will be trained and every possible question will be answered

Prayer Blankets

Youth help to cut, tie, and deliver felt blankets to members of our congregation in need of comfort and prayer.

Presentation Sunday *JH

Eighth Grade Confirmands are presented to the congregation at the 10:30 service. After worship we have the opportunity to congratulate our youth at a reception in the Trinity Center.

Rolling Lockout *HS

Hang on to your bloomers grandma! This is the biggest party of the year. We start with a bus; add 25 or 30 High School kids and head for the movies, dinner out, laser tag, whirly ball and anything else we can squeeze into 6 hours!

Cost is approximately \$40 per person. **Note:** this event may not occur every year.

Season of Giving *HS, JH, C

This event is run by the Sunday School and Board of Christian Ed during Christmas time. It is a fun day for the Sunday School and TCNS students to learn about Jesus and the true meaning of Christmas. This event offers a great variety of opportunities for our youth to volunteer their talents to teach the little ones about Christmas. **Note:** this event may not occur every year.

Simple Suppers during Advent / Soup Suppers during Lent *HS, JH, C

Here is a great opportunity to earn some Youth bucks by helping to set up, serve and clean up soup suppers during Lent and Advent. Family service assignments will determine which families will help to staff these events. Youth will earn Youth Bucks for working this event.

Senior / Graduate Recognition *HS

We recognize our high school graduates at the 10:30 service each summer, and they receive a gift from the church. Please be sure to attend!

Sermon Reports *JH

As a part of their confirmation commitment, Pastor requires that youth submit a sermon report to him each week after church service. Also known as Homilitical Explications, these reports ask youth to summarize and interpret what they heard in Pastor's sermon. They should be turned into Pastor or Judy.

**Sermon reports are on the Youth page of the Trinity web site.*

Servant Event *HS

High school youth have the opportunity to serve on a week-long servant event somewhere in the United States during the month of June. In the past we have traveled to Ohio, Indiana, and Iowa. This is an incredible week of faith growth, meeting new friends from around the country and helping people who have been severely hurt by the recession. Cost is approximately \$150.

Summer Trip Days *HS, JH

During the summer (June – August), Judy has designated Thursdays as Trip Day and on that day we will have various activities. Sometimes we will go offsite and some days we will stay at church. Watch for sign up notices for information on each specific activity.

Sunday Morning High School Bible Study *HS

High school students meet with Lisa Ticaric during Christian Education hour on Sundays from 9:15-10:15. This year we'll meet in the new youth lounge and we'll be looking at how our faith helps us to understand our culture and media.

Sunday School *JH

Sixth, seventh and eighth graders all meet together with Katie Boudro and Rudy Croon to study the bible and have fun! Sunday school meets in the morning from 9:15-10:15 and is a great opportunity to build faith and friendships. It is also a required commitment for Confirmation students.

Sunday School Assistants *HS, C

Once youth are no longer a part of the Sunday School program, they have the opportunity to serve as an assistant teacher in a Sunday School class for younger kids. Anyone interested should contact Marna Rundgren at marnal@sbcglobal.net

Ushers *HS, C

Youth who are interested in serving during Sunday morning services can volunteer as ushers. You will work in a team of ushers to hand out bulletins and collect offerings. Please see Pastor Rogers if you are interested in this opportunity.

Youth Board

The youth board is a committed group of volunteers who run our youth ministry from behind the scenes. Their purpose is to oversee the finances and scheduling of the youth program, while supporting Judy in ministry needs.

Lisa Ticaric serves as the Youth Board Director. Her husband, *Mike Ticaric*, is the treasurer. *Liz Suriano*, whose two children both graduated from our program, is our secretary. *Dave Barry* also has a son in the program currently and is our phone man! Expect to hear from Dave plenty this year. *Chris Gore*, a graduate of the program, is our go-to guy for anything we need. And *Katie Boudro*, a graduate of the youth program herself, is our NYG coordinator and College-Age ministry coordinator.

Jackson Scofield is also program graduate who is now studying to pursue seminary! He is a constant presence at Big House, serving as a junior guide at NYG, and teaching with Lisa on Sunday mornings at bible study. We are ALWAYS looking for volunteers, especially parents, to join us in our important endeavor to serve as the backbone of our program!

Youth Bucks *HS, JH

Youth bucks are an opportunity for youth to earn credits at church that can be applied toward youth events such as retreats and servant events. Family Service Assignments will ask each family to serve at different fundraisers and events throughout the year, and by working these events, youth will earn bucks. Please read the **Youth Bucks Guidelines** in this handbook to ensure you fully understand the purpose and use for these credits.

Youth Dinner *HS, JH

The High School youth come at 6:00 to join the middle school youth for dinner. We need Moms, Dads, Grandmas and Grandpas to take turns providing dinner for the kids. This has become a much looked forward to part of the week for many of our youth as we sit down together around the tables and talk over dinner.

Youth Encounters

See *Youth Quake* for junior high ministry and *Construction Zone* for high school.

Youth Quake *JH

Youth Quake is an event presented by Youth Encounter out of Minneapolis. Youth Encounter has been in the business of providing high quality, spirit-filled weekends for youth for almost 40 years. This weekend will be filled with music, bible study, and the opportunity to meet and mingle with 750 other Christian middle school youth from all around the mid west. In addition it gives our group the opportunity to grow together as we live together for a weekend. Cost is approximately \$145. See www.youthencounter.org for more info.

Whine Tasting *This is for our Moms!

Judy graciously hosts a night just for our moms in the fall/winter. This is a time to talk with other moms (“whine”), eat some yummy treats, and be pampered. Please look on the calendar for this worthwhile social event.

WinterXtreme *HS

This is a fun winter weekend retreat at Camp Timber-lee in Wisconsin! In addition to bands, worship, and bible study, high schoolers get the opportunity to toboggan, sled, cross-country ski, horseback ride, and even play in a broomball tournament! There’s yummy food, lots of hot chocolate, and great friendship building. Cost is approximately \$134. **Note:** we may not participate in this event every year.

WHO’S WHO IN YOUTH MINISTRY

Pastor Rob Rogers

We are incredibly blessed at Trinity to have a Pastor who is deeply invested in our youth and their ministry. Pastor teaches confirmation class every week, attends Youth Nights, teaches bible study at Big House, and provides ministry while chaperoning every event and retreat we attend.

Judy Bruschuk – Youth Director

Judy has served as the Youth Director at Trinity since 2002, after serving as a volunteer for 8 years. As the Director, Judy is a staff member at Trinity and she coordinates and facilitates every aspect of Youth Ministry. From planning what the youth do at Camp C.H.A.O.S. every week, to organizing fantastic NYG fundraisers, to filling out paperwork for every event, Judy is devoted to our youth.

Lisa Ticaric – Director of the Youth Board

Lisa has been involved in youth ministry at Trinity since 2006. Lisa plays numerous roles, including the leader of the Sunday Morning High School bible study and Fifth Quarter Bible Study, Pastor’s Confirmation sub teacher, and the Director of the Youth Board.

Mike-Mike Ticaric – Treasurer of the Youth Board

Mike has also been involved in youth ministry at Trinity since 2006. Mike has played an active role in youth ministry, most notably serving as the Youth Board Director for 4 years. He has chaperoned countless events, and now serves as Treasurer of the Youth Board.

Chris Gore – Confirmation Mentor , NYG Coordinator

Chris is a college-age graduate of the youth group at Trinity and has served as a Confirmation mentor for many years. He is a go-to guy as a chaperon for retreats and is a member of the Youth Board. He also headed up the 2016 NYG trip.

Katie Boudro – Sunday School Teacher, NYG Coordinator

Katie graduated from the youth program at Trinity. She sits on the Youth Board as the NYG Coordinator and College-Age Coordinator. She also is the Co-teacher for the Junior high Sunday School class.

Jackson Scofield – Big House Mentor

Jackson is a graduate of our program who is now pursuing seminary! He is the newest member of the youth board, and teaches with Lisa on Sunday mornings for High school bible study.

YOUTH NIGHTS

EVERY WEDNESDAY during the school year

4:00-4:45 pm	Camp Chaos	Junior High
4:45-6:15 pm	Confirmation Class	Junior High
6:15-6:30 pm	Youth Dinner	ALL YOUTH
6:30-8:00 pm	Big House	High School

The 411

Pastor's Cell	630-439-6176	pastor@trinityvp.com
Judy's Cell	630-220-6364	jbruschuk@aol.com
Mike's Cell	630-712-8070	mticarc@firepipes.org
Lisa's Cell	630-310-7033	lisa@firepipes.org
Margaret Cotterill, Church Secretary	630-834-3440	margaret@trinityvp.com

Trinity Web site: www.trinitylutheranvp.com

**Youth Facebook Page: Trinity Youth of Villa Park
Parents' Facebook Page: Parents of Trinity VP Youth**