

Trinity's History

1870 A pastor, sponsored by the Norwegian Synod, held occasional worship services in homes in Stevens Point.

1874 Official incorporation occurred on April 26. Norwegians shared a building with the German Lutherans.

1889 The congregation wrote the constitution and by-laws.

1890 The first Sunday School was established, quickly followed by the choir, Ladies Aid, and the Girls Club.

1898 The name legally changed to *Trinity Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*. The new church was built on the corner of Strongs Avenue and Brawley Street.

1905 Church records were changed from Norwegian to the English language.

1913 All services were held in English, and the New Lutheran Hymnary was adopted.

1927 The tradition of Christmas Eve services began.

1928 The name legally changed to *First English Lutheran* to correct the idea that Trinity was exclusively a Norwegian church.

1934 LeRoy Fieting became church organist and continued for 40 years.

1943 Lots on Clark and Rogers Streets were purchased as a site for a new larger church.

1949 The name was changed to *Trinity Lutheran Church*.

1952 The cornerstone of the new church on Clark and Rogers Streets was laid.

1953 The new Trinity Lutheran Church was dedicated May 24.

1956-1962 Three seminary students successively interned at Trinity.

1960 The adjacent Breitenstein apartment building was purchased and connected by a tunnel. One apartment was used by the seminary interns, and the rest served as Sunday School rooms and a library.

1962-1964 Another three seminary interns successively served the congregation.

1966 The first associate pastor was added.

1970 A remodeling project, which turned the sanctuary around, was completed.

1974 Trinity celebrated its centennial anniversary. Golden Trinities, a senior fellowship, began meeting.

1977 Trinity hosted an organizational meeting for a mission congregation, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Nineteen families transferred.

1978 Trinity hired its first Christian Education Director. The “green hymnal,” Lutheran Book of Worship, was adopted.

1980 Trinity began its radio broadcast ministry.

1982 Trinity began a commitment to global mission through the ELCA Mission Sponsorship program.

1986 Trinity hired its first Associate in Ministry to lead the education program. The Building for Mission project added rooms around the perimeter of the building. The Trinity Day Care began serving a community need. The ALC, LCA, and AELC merged to form the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

1990 Trinity began its cable TV broadcast ministry.

1993 Trinity generated another mission congregation, Redeemer Lutheran Church. One hundred sixty members transferred.

1994 Trinity hired its first Youth Director.

1999 Trinity celebrated its 125th anniversary. Stained glass windows were added to the sanctuary.

2000 The Stephen Ministry program began.

2003 A seminary student interned at Trinity.

2005 Lay Worship Assistants began serving during worship.

2007 The Trinity Child Care and Learning Center expanded to include a 4K program affiliated with the Stevens Point Public Schools.

2013 Barb Towey retired as Senior Choir Director after 40 years of service.

2015 The sanctuary was renovated to include a new floor and technology upgrades (new sound, lights, projection, and hearing loop). Trinity purchased the adjacent Lardinois professional building.