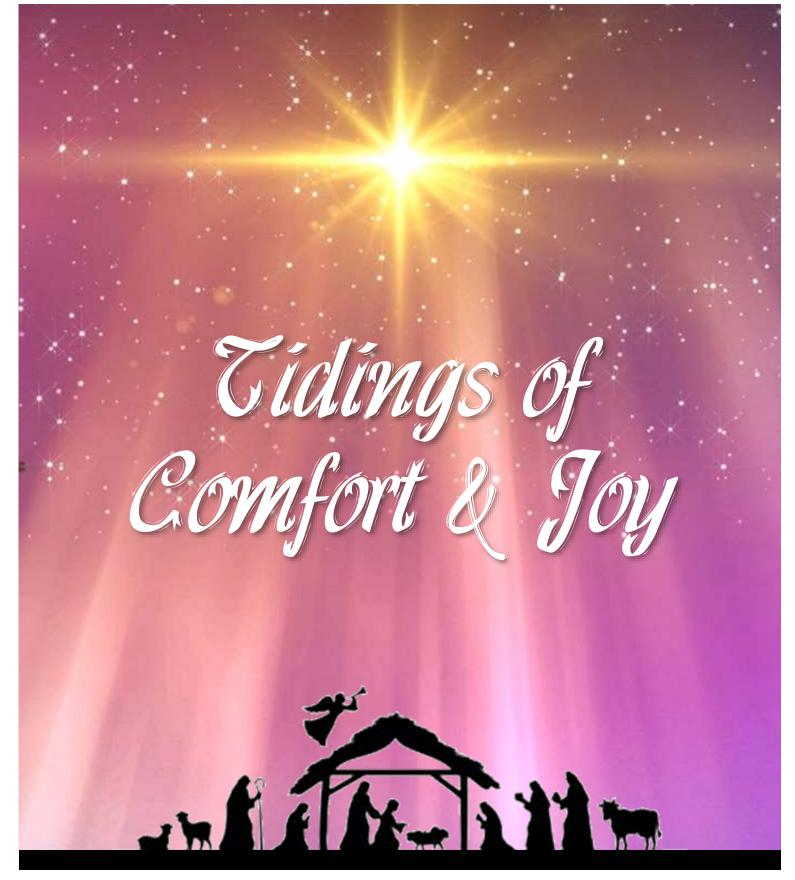


VOLUME 12 ISSUE 20

TRINITY—A MISSOURI SYNOD LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

December 2020



FROM THE PASTOR...

"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD." (јонм 8:12)

"THE LIGHT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT." (John L5)

Back in November, I made an observation.

It seemed once Halloween was over everyone started to

put up Christmas decorations. One night, in early November, after a council

meeting, it became apparent just how many people had lights up on their houses and actually had them on. Usually I am a traditionalist when it comes to decorating for Christmas. The tree and lights go up the day after Thanksgiving! However, this year as I was driving home that cold November night I realized that I was not even annoyed about all the lights. In fact, I found them quite joyful.

I began to ponder why my traditional sense of Christmas decorating eroded and delighted in the lights early. I then realized that people are searching for comfort and joy in the midst of uncertain times. It seems that putting up Christmas lights early brought a little comfort and joy for some people.

The season of Christmas is all about comfort and joy. Yes, lights, trees, gifts and celebrations are joyful, but true comfort and joy are found in the babe of Bethlehem, Jesus Christ. We are reminded in Isaiah 40:1, 10-11 of God's comfort in the coming Messiah, "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.... Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young."

Remember also, what the angel said to the shepherds on the day of Christ's birth in Luke 2:10-12, "'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.'"

So as lights are hung, the tree glistens, and celebrations are had, even if they are a little different this year, we truly have comfort and joy. Nothing can change the fact that our Savior was born in Bethlehem. This is truly good news of great joy, for He came to tend His flock. He came to die and rise for her, for you and me. May this good news bring comfort and joy to you this Christmas season!

Pastor Zach Holdorf

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL-LCMS

MILESTONES

December 4

December 5

December 8

December 9

December 10

LESTONES

Constanties! Congratulations to the following

who will be celebrating their 50th or more Wedding Anniversary!

Gerald & Beverly Erdmann

December 22

Our Sympathy. We extend our sympathy to

ANNOUNCEMENTS

the families of those who have passed away.

- Dale Carr •
- Norma Grasmick •

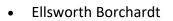
Arlet Johnson

- Marjorie Huehnerfuss
- LeRoy Tasche •

October 25 October 26

October 24

- November 2 November 12
 - November 15



OFFICE HOURS are 7:00am-4:00pm. SCRIP will be sold during office hours only. Offices will be closed on December 24th & 25th for Christmas and December 31st and January 1, 2021 for New Year's.

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON EVERYTHING TRINITY! Find our Trinity Lutheran Church & School—Wausau Facebook page by searching "@TrinityWausau." We also have a YouTube channel, "Trinity Lutheran Wausau." If you would like to receive important news via email and be added to our church email list, please share your email address with the church office (info@trinitynet.org or 715-842-0769). If you do not have internet or Charter TV, you can still watch the weekly worship services! A limited number of DVD recordings of each worship service will be made available each week. Please call 715-843-7023 to request a DVD.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL CONTACTS Office Hours: 7AM-4PM Phone: 715-842-0769 or 715-848-0166 Website: trinitywausau.org Email Address: trinity@trinitynet.org Rev. Zach Holdorf, Senior Pastor..... Rev. Timothy Smith, Associate Pastor...... 715-842-0769, ext. 302 Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Pegorsch, Pastor Emeritus......715-675-4074 Rev. Dan Kohn, Pastor Emeritus..... Matthew Hoehne, Director of Music......715-842-0769, ext. 303 Penny Swanson, Director of Childcare........... 715-842-0769, ext. 348 Tina Dickens, Church Administrator......715-842-0769, ext. 304

154181 County Rd. WW 54403 December 10 Helen Wendt **Benedictine Nursing Home** 1821 N 4th Ave., Rm. 312B 54401 December 12 Bernice Grosskreutz 818 N 7th Ave. 54401 December 14 Helen Stubbe 1207 W Wausau Ave. 54401 December 16 Carol Leubner 507 Fleming St. 54403 December 18 Gordon Hansen 4602 Barbican Ave. #126 Schofield, WI 54476 December 18 Shirley Wolfgram 821 13th Dr. 54403 December 23 Marion Froemming 1402 Evergreen Rd. 54403 December 24 Helen Marschall 227585 Teal Ave. 54401 December 28 Donald Beese 146188 Marmel Dr. 54401 December 29 **Robert Schalow** 916 Knox St. 54401

S

Happy Birthday To our members who are

celebrating their 80th or more birthday in December!

Adeline Krause

Grace Raddatz

Marlene Goetsch

Lucille Froehlich

Iva Poppe

Surprise them with a card or visit.

т

4001 Stewart Ave., Apt. 311 54401

1320 Grand Ave., Apt. 107 54403

232371 Wellborn Rd. 54403

Holy Baptism! We welcome the following

into the Lord's family through Baptism.

Liam Lemerande

Tanner Lemerande +

November 4 November 4



TRINITY CHILDCARE

MRS. PENNY SWANSON, DIRECTOR

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you w

who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:10-12)

Christmas Program: As with many things this year we need to be creative in having to do things differently due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. The childcare is taking this opportunity to do a combined Christmas Program with the school. This will be pre-recorded and released for at home viewing.

Carpenters Needed: Are you handy in building things and looking for a new project? I have your next project. The School Age Care classroom is in need of some custom-built shelves to go under their counter. If you are interested in donating supplies or your time please email Penny Swanson at swansonp@trinitynet.org and let her know how you are able to help.

Childcare Scholarship Fund: This scholarship fund is made available through donations from servant-hearted people looking to help. It is available to childcare families that have seen some financial hardship and are looking for some assistance. If you feel it on your heart to help financially, you can make a donation to Trinity Childcare and label it "Childcare Scholarship." There is an application process for families to apply for this scholarship.

Enrollment: The Coronavirus pandemic has drastically affected the childcare enrollment for all ages in our program. The childcare is continuing to work on enrolling children into the program. Several tours have recently been given to interested families. We are continuing to call families on our waitlist about enrolling their child(ren). This process is tedious as we wait to hear back from families in a timely manner.

Hiring: The childcare continues to have full-time lead teacher positions open along with part time assistant teachers. To apply, contact Penny Swanson at 715-848-0166, ext. 348 or swansonp@trinitynet.org.

Childcare Committee: We are in process of working with the School Board to define our role as a committee under the new governance. We are working together as a team to put onto paper the details of how the committee will run.

Free Hot Lunch: Hot lunch continues to be available for free to all Trinity students including childcare children. This has become available from the USDA and the Food and Nutrition Service. See the flyer for more details, found on the family information board in your child's classroom or outside the childcare office.



CHURCH & SCHOOL

CHILDCARE





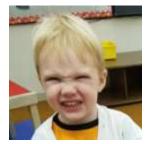














Here's What's Happening

"What's New At Trinity?"



While we still do our best to keep things as normal as we can in this year of change and uncertainty, each day that we can be here together face-to-face is a blessing. Many of our students and workers have missed days due to CoVID concerns, but we continue teaching students both face -to-face and virtually. This is a challenge to all as there is still some learning to be

done to how to best serve those that need to be learning from a distance, but overall our teachers and families are rising up to the task.

Our classes observed the election that took place in November by participating in it also. At the time of this writing, the results are still too close to call. It was a fun time and a way for our students to get a taste of the election process. We thank the teachers for getting things together to make this learning experience happen.

Time to Think 2021-2022

With temperatures dropping and snow in the forecast, it may be hard to think about fall of 2021 and the start of a new school year, but plans are already being made for that. Due to CoVID, we will not be having the annual 4K/5K Open House at the end of January this year, but please watch for information on 4K and 5K along with information on re-enrollment and the WPCP program enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year.

Dates to Remember

- → December 23—January 3— Christmas Break
- → January 15—End of Quarter 2.
- → January 18—Inservice Day (No School)

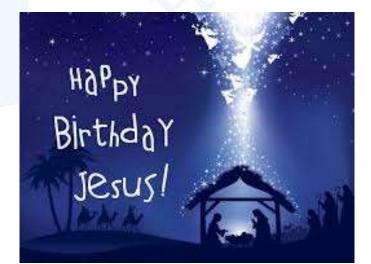
Substitute Teachers Needed!

If you or anyone you know of is interested and able to serve our school as a substitute teacher (need to have a teaching degree and current license), please contact the school office at (715) 848-0166.

Teacher Assistants Needed

We are still in need of Teacher Assistants to help out in our school and the classrooms. This is a part-time position, hours are flexible. TAs work in conjunction with teachers to help out in the classroom, playground, lunch room, etc. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact the school office at (715) 848-0166.

Christmas Blessings to Your Family from the Trinity Lutheran School Family!



CALENDAR—DECEMBER 2020

In-person worship is being held at the following worship times: Saturday 5pm and Sunday 8am, 9:30am & 11am. This calendar is subject to change. All videos on Facebook Live will also be posted to the Trinity Lutheran Wausau YouTube channel.

Tuesday, December 1st:

| 8:00 AM | Quilters—Parlors |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 9:15 AM | MStaff Meeting—Bethany Rm |

Wednesday, December 2nd:

| 9:00 AM | Wednesday Morning Bible Study: |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| | Ephesians—Sanctuary |
| 10:00 AM | Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary |
| 5:15 PM | Wednesday Evening Bible Study: |
| | Ephesians—Sanctuary |
| 5:15 PM | 7th Grade Public School Confirmation |
| | Class—Parlors |
| 5:15 PM | 8th Grade Public School Confirmation |
| | Class—Bethany Rm |
| 6:30 PM | Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary |

Thursday, December 3rd: No Scheduled Events

Friday, December 4th:

| 8:00 AM | Bulletin Assembly | – Parlors |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|
| 0.00 AN | Dunctin Assembly | y i anois |

Saturday, December 5th:

| 9:00 AM | First Communion Class (1st Option)— |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| | Parlors |
| 11:30 AM | NO Blind Outreach Gathering |
| 5:00 PM | Blended Worship w/Communion— |
| | Sanctuary |

Sunday, December 6th:

| 8:00 AM | Traditional Worship w/Communion— |
|----------|----------------------------------|
| | Sanctuary & on Facebook Live |
| 9:30 AM | Traditional Worship w/Communion— |
| | Sanctuary |
| 11:00 AM | Blended Worship w/Communion— |
| | Sanctuary & on Facebook Live |
| 6:00 PM | Sr. YAT—Youth House |
| | |

Monday, December 7th:

| 10:00 AM | Weekly Banter Bible Study on |
|----------|------------------------------|
| | Facebook Live |

Tuesday, December 8th:

| 8:00 AM | Quilters—Parlors |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 9:15 AM | MStaff Meeting—Bethany Rm |

Wednesday, December 9th:

| 9:00 AM | Wednesday Morning Bible Study: |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | Ephesians—Sanctuary |
| 10:00 AM | Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary |
| 5:15 PM | Wednesday Evening Bible Study: |
| | Ephesians—Sanctuary |
| 5:15 PM | 7th Grade Public School Confirmation |
| | Class—Parlors |
| 5:15 PM | 8th Grade Public School Confirmation |
| | Class—Bethany Rm |
| 6:30 PM | Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary |
| <u>Thursday, De</u> | cember 10th: |
| No Scheduled | Events |
| Friday, Decen | nber 11th: |
| 8:00 AM | Bulletin Assembly—Parlors |
| <u>Saturday, Dec</u> | cember 12th: |
| 9:00 AM | First Communion Class (2nd Option)— |
| | Parlors |
| 5:00 PM | Blended Worship—Sanctuary |
| <u>Sunday, Dece</u> | mber 13th: |
| 8:00 AM | Traditional Worship—Sanctuary & on |
| | Facebook Live |
| 9:30 AM | Traditional Worship—Sanctuary |
| 11:00 AM | Blended Worship—Sanctuary & on |
| | Facebook Live |
| 6:00 PM | Sr. YAT—Youth House |
| <u>Monday, Dec</u> | ember 14th: |
| 10:00 AM | Weekly Banter Bible Study on Facebook |
| | Live |
| <u>Tuesday, Dec</u> | ember 15th: |
| 9:15 AM | MStaff Meeting—Bethany Rm |
| 1:00 PM | JOY Group—Parlors |
| Wednesday, | December 16th: |
| 9:00 AM | Wednesday Morning Bible Study: |
| | Ephesians—Sanctuary |
| 10:00 AM | Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary |
| 5:15 PM | Wednesday Evening Bible Study: |
| | Ephesians—Sanctuary |
| 5:15 PM | 7th Grade Public School Confirmation |
| | Class—Parlors |
| 5:15 PM | 8th Grade Public School Confirmation |
| | Class—Bethany Rm |
| 6:30 PM | Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary |
| Thursday, De | cember 17th: |
| No Scheduled | |

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL-LCMS

| CALEND | DAR-DECEMBER 2020 (CONT | Г.) | BIBLE STUDY |
|---------------------|---|-------------------------|--|
| Friday, Dece | ember 18th: | 9:30 AM | Traditional Worship—Sanctuary |
| 8:00 AM | Bulletin Assembly—Parlors | 11:00 AM | Blended Worship—Sanctuary & on |
| 10:00 AM | Childcare Chapel—SLC | | Facebook Live |
| Saturday, D | ecember 19th: | Monday, De | ecember 28th: |
| 5:00 PM | Blended Worship w/Communion— | 10:00 AM | NO Weekly Banter on Facebook Live |
| | Sanctuary | | - |
| Sunday Day | ambar 20th | | ecember 29th: |
| | c <mark>ember 20th:</mark> First Communion at All Services | 8:00 AM | Quilters—Parlors |
| 8:00 AM | Traditional Worship w/Communion— | 9:15 AM | MStaff Meeting—Bethany Rm |
| 8.00 AW | Sanctuary & on Facebook Live | Wednesday | , December 30th: |
| 9:00 AM | Sunday School Christmas Celebration— | 9:00 AM | NO Wednesday Morning Bible Study |
| 5.007.00 | Parlors | 5:15 PM | NO Wednesday Evening Bible Study |
| 9:30 AM | Traditional Worship w/Communion— | 5:15 PM | NO Public School Confirmation Classes |
| 51007.001 | Sanctuary | | |
| 11:00 AM | Blended Worship w/Communion— | | ecember 31st: |
| | Sanctuary & on Facebook Live | | Eve—Offices Closed |
| 6:00 PM | Sr. YAT Youth Group—Youth House | 6:30 PM | New Year's Eve Worship w/Communion |
| Marila Da | · | | —Sanctuary |
| | ecember 21st: | Friday, Janu | uary 1st, 2021 <u>:</u> |
| 10:00 AM | NO Weekly Banter on Facebook Live | | Day—Offices Closed |
| | ecember 22nd: | Contradour la | and and |
| 9:15 AM | MStaff Meeting—Parlors | Saturday, Jo 5:00 PM | NO Blended Worship |
| Wednesdav | , December 23rd: | | No blended worship |
| 9:00 AM | NO Wednesday Morning Bible Study | Sunday, Jan | |
| 5:15 PM | NO Wednesday Evening Bible Study | 8:00 AM | Traditional Worship w/Communion— |
| 5:15 PM | NO Public School Confirmation Classes | | Sanctuary & on Facebook Live |
| Thursday D | and an 24th. | 9:30 AM | Traditional Worship w/Communion— |
| | ecember 24th: ve—Offices Closed | | Sanctuary |
| 2:00 PM | Christmas Eve Traditional Worship w/ | 11:00 AM | Blended Worship w/Communion— |
| 2.00 FIVI | Communion—Sanctuary | | |
| 3:30 PM | Christmas Eve Traditional Worship w/ | | |
| 3.301101 | Communion—Sanctuary | | |
| 5:00 PM | Christmas Eve Blended Worship w/ | | |
| 01001111 | Communion—Sanctuary | | |
| 10:00 PM | Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship w/ | 3-1- | DUEGIANIC |
| | Communion—Sanctuary | | PHESIANS |
| Friday, Dece | omher 25th | - Ly | I I LORA IND |
| | ay—Offices Closed | 1.16 | BIBLE STUDY |
| 9:00 AM | Christmas Day Traditional Worship w/ | | |
| | Communion—Sanctuary | 18 8 | |
| 6 | | Wed | Inesdays at 9:00am & 5:15pm |
| | ecember 26th: | | Upper Sanctuary |
| 5:00 PM | NO Blended Worship | Want to lea | rn about the important truths of the Chris- |
| <u>Sunday, D</u> ec | cember 27th: | | Dr see how a book written thousands of |
| | | 11 | |
| 8:00 AM | Traditional Worship—Sanctuary & on | years ago pe | ertains to life today? If so, join us as we dive |

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL—LCMS

December 2020

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Paul Cell: 715-393-7222

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Email: HomeTeam@Amaximmo.com





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YOUR AD HERE!

Advertise in the Trinity Connection 1/8 Page = \$250/yr

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS THEMES

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2020

Tidings of Comfort and Joy

The holiday season can stir deep emotions within each of us. Many children greet the advent of Christmas with joy and excitement, where-as those who have lost loved ones during the past year may find great sadness in the very same event. During this season of CoVID-19, the feelings of doubt, confusion, and fear are greatly increased. Thankfully, our God meets us wherever we are, spiritually, physically and emotionally! This Advent series gives voice to the complex situations and emotions with which we greet the coming Messiah and uses the reactions of those who first received the news of Jesus' birth (Zechariah, Joseph, Mary, and the shepherds) to do so.

Join us on:

-December 2 (10:00am & 6:30pm) – The Angel Speaks to Zechariah -December 9 (10:00am & 6:30pm) – The Angel Speaks to Joseph -December 16 (10:00am and 6:30pm) – The Angel Speaks to Mary -Christmas Eve (2:00, 3:30, 5:00, and 10:00pm) – The Angel Speaks to the Shepherds



Stump the Organist

Come early for our Midweek Advent services and enjoy a hymn sing (aka Stump the Organist)! You'll receive a song book of some of the most beloved Advent-Christmas-Epiphany hymns from our hymnal, as well as a couple of bonus carols not in the hymnal! Matt Hoehne will take requests and we'll lift up our voices in song! December 2, 9, and 16 – 9:45am and 6:15pm

"Bah! Humbug! or Hip, Hip, Hooray!"

Join the students of Trinity on Monday, December 21st at 6:30pm as they present "Bah! Humbug! Or Hip, Hip, Hooray" a Christmas service by Adele Bluhm. The students will be exploring the challenges of 2020 in comparison to the Christmas Story and discovering how God loves and sustains us through it all! This will be a prerecorded service and presented online – we encourage you to tune in and watch it with your family and enjoy

some Christmas treats while you watch!





Fellowship & Spiritual Growth Opportunities

Meets the Third Tuesday of Each Month (During the School Year)

Afternoon Special Fellowship & Presentation: 1:00-2:30pm, Parlors

Opportunity for good Trinity fellowship with refreshments provided. Invitation open to all ages—bring a friend or neighbor! For more information or questions, please contact Pastor Pegorsch at 715-675-4074. Please also share any ideas for future programming.

Tuesday, December 15th, 1:00pm in the Parlors

Special Video Presentation: "The Quest for Noah's Ark"

A look at Biblical history...Did the Biblical story of Noah's Ark actually happen? In a special DVD presentation today, "The Quest for Noah's Ark," credence is given to the fact that God's action in history...a very godless world at that time...gives us insight—there's no doubt that there was a Noah's Ark and worldwide flood. The presentation shows that the historical incident actually happened. It answers the question, "How could a wooden ship possibly survive when cities made of stone crumbled?" "How could a man in a seemingly primitive society build a great vessel able to withstand a cataclysmic worldwide flood?" Scientific expeditions using satellites, computers, and scientific investigations provide amazing answers to these questions. The discoveries will challenge your deepest beliefs...or make you a witness to a miracle.

Join us, and bring a neighbor or friend! You are asked to wear a mask, and the seating will be set up for social distancing. If there are any further questions, please contact Pastor Pegorsch at 715-675-4074.



JOY GROUP

BLIND OUTREACH ARTICLE



Author Unknown

Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house Not a creature was praying, not one in the house. Their Bibles were laid on the shelf without care; In hopes that Jesus would not come there.

The children were dressing to crawl into bed, Not once ever kneeling or bowing a head. And Mom in her rocker with the baby on her lap VVas watching the Late Show while I took a nap.

When out of the East there arose such a clatter, I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter. A way to the window I flew like a flash Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash!



VV hen what to my wondering eyes should appear But angels proclaiming that Jesus was here. VV ith a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray I knew in a moment this must be THE DAY!

The light of His face made me cover my head It was Jesus! Returning just like He said. And thou I possessed world wisdom and wealth, I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself.

In the Book of Life which He held in His hand Was written the name of every saved man. He spoke not a word as He searched for my name; "When He said, "It's not here," my head hung in shame.

The people whose names had been written with love He gathered to take to His Father above. With those who were ready He rose without a sound While all of the rest were left standing around.

I fell to my knees, but it was too late; I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate. I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight; Oh, if only we had been ready tonight.

In the words of this poem the meaning is clear; The coming of Jesus is drawing near. There's only one life and when comes the last call We'll find that the Bible was true after all!



The Wausau Outreach Center for the Blind and Visually-Impaired

Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ...members and friends of the Blind Outreach Group:

Once again, I come with sad news. We will have to postpone the December 5th Gathering and Fellowship due to the increase of CoVID-19 cases in our area and throughout the United States. No doubt, you along with me are disappointed! It is necessary to do so because of the rapid increase of CoVID-19 cases in our area and the country. Hopefully and prayerfully, we will be able to meet on Saturday, February 27, 2021. We all need to do a lot of praying to God that CoVID-19 will become non-existent with the discoveries now of two hopeful vaccines to control and stop the CoVID-19 spread.

As we will shortly celebrate Thanksgiving, we still have so many blessings for which we thank and praise our Heavenly Father especially for His caring presence. Daily, we need to remind ourselves of 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." We are called also to focus on our God-given blessings. The best thing is to turn Thanksgiving into Thanks-living.

God's special blessings to you! I pray that you and your family and friends have a blessed Thanksgiving! My prayers go out to you and your family and friends!

Your Brother in Christ, Pastor Dennis Pegorsch

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL—LCMS

December 2020

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, TINA DICKENS

Facilities/Properties

Due to the current state of CoVID in our community, we have experienced another delay in the Stewart Avenue steps repair project. The steps will not be completed by Christmas as previously reported. Stay tuned for updates on this project. **We have been blessed by the generosity of the congregation, and this project is fully funded.** If you are passionate about restoration of our beautiful facility, you may donate to "Building Restoration." We have set this up to fund future capital projects, including brick restoration, painting exterior molding, and repairing the ceiling in the Sanctuary.

We continue to carry out disinfection protocols every day after school and church to insure the safety of our staff, students and visitors. Extra measures have also been implemented in childcare. We are using non-toxic cleaning materials when possible to reduce exposure to potentially harmful chemicals. All cleaning materials that we are using have been researched and are on record with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to kill human coronavirus according to Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines.

October Financial Summary

The new Chart of Accounts is finally completed, and we are confident that there are little to no errors. It looks dramatically different, and this has simplified the financials for the congregation, the administrative staff, and the auditors. We will make every effort to continue to be transparent, but **for one year there will be no comparison data from year over year**. This is because the accounts are so different, it would be immensely difficult to show true comparisons.

Highlights for October financials include the following:

- We are falling about 8% short of budget for tithes and offerings. This is pretty typical for this time of year, and not a huge concern, but we are watching this over the next 2 months. We did increase budget for tithes and offerings this year to accommodate all of the increased costs of salaries and benefits to expand ministry.
- Childcare is operating at 55% of budgeted income due to CoVID. This has a big impact on the bottom line and is in process of being evaluated.
- We are under budget for expenses...we continue to be good stewards of the resources we are given.
- The new budget accounts for some additional income with respect to additional students. However, some of this additional income is offset by the loss of 2 WPCP students that we budgeted who moved away before the school year.
- We continue to pay down debt ahead of schedule. Debt is currently:
 - Endowment Loan: \$150,875
 - Thrivent Loan: \$665,376 (We budgeted to pay additional principal this year, but since our income is lower than expected, we will start paying only the required principal/interest.)
 - o TOTAL Debt: \$816,251

Overall we should be in a good financial position to budget, but we will have a better picture of this after Christmas. Our finances are a reflection of the overall health and generosity of our congregation.

Financial Audit for Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (School Choice):

We passed another successful audit without violations for the School Choice Program. This annual audit ensures that we are meeting all requirements to participate in the School Choice program, and that we are consistently applying Generally Applied Accounting Principles (GAAP) to our financial management at Trinity.

PPP Loan Update:

In April, we applied for and received a Payroll Protection Program loan from the Small Business Association in the amount of \$227,600. The purpose of that "forgivable" loan was to provide relief during the Stay-At-Home period, when continued income was unpredictable. Because of the loan, we were able to continue providing income and benefits for all of our staff during that 8-week period.

We were able to apply for loan forgiveness in September. The SBA had 90 days to review our application and determine if any of our loan could be forgiven. We are so blessed! We found out in early November that **100% of our PPP Loan was forgiven, which means that we don't have to pay any of it back!** Some of that money is covering the loss that we are experiencing in child-care as a result of families staying home due to lost jobs, working from home, etc. Some of the money has been spent on salaries and benefits that fell outside of the 8-week eligible expense period. We are in process of evaluating what portion of that money remains and how it is best served in ministry.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL-LCMS

| IANCIALS | 5 | | | | | ARTICLE |
|----------|--|--|---|--|---|--|
| Oct 20 | Budget | % of Budget | Jul - Oct 20 | YTD Budget | % of Budget | Annual Budget |
| | | | | | | |
| 23,383 | 43,265 | 54% | 95,509 | 172,456 | 55% | 516,776 |
| 86,415 | 102,925 | 84% | 355,900 | 386,689 | 92% | 1,205,596 |
| 73 | 50 | 146% | 643 | 200 | 322% | 600 |
| 28,479 | 28,505 | 100% | 279,903 | 286,090 | 98% | 1,232,807 |
| 138,350 | 174,745 | 79% | 731,955 | 845,435 | 87% | 2,955,779 |
| 138,350 | 174,745 | 79% | 731,955 | 845,435 | 87% | 2,955,779 |
| | | | | | | |
| 28,639 | 44,817 | 64% | 130,546 | 179,294 | 73% | 577,207 |
| 16,412 | 18,918 | 87% | 68,301 | 68,643 | 100% | 584,609 |
| 38,489 | 38,795 | 99% | 160,413 | 151,169 | 106% | 490,042 |
| 101,244 | 104,352 | 97% | 397,707 | 419,508 | 95% | 1,303,921 |
| 184,784 | 206,882 | 89% | 756,967 | 818,614 | 92% | 2,955,779 |
| -46,434 | -32,137 | 144% | -25,012 | 26,821 | -9 3% | 0 |
| | Oct 20 23,383 86,415 73 28,479 138,350 138,350 28,639 16,412 38,489 101,244 184,784 | 23,383 43,265 86,415 102,925 73 50 28,479 28,505 138,350 174,745 138,350 174,745 28,639 44,817 16,412 18,918 38,489 38,795 101,244 104,352 184,784 206,882 | Oct 20 Budget % of Budget 23,383 43,265 54% 86,415 102,925 84% 73 50 146% 28,479 28,505 100% 138,350 174,745 79% 138,350 174,745 79% 28,639 44,817 64% 16,412 18,918 87% 38,489 38,795 99% 101,244 104,352 97% 184,784 206,882 89% | Oct 20Budget% of BudgetJul - Oct 2023,38343,26554%95,50986,415102,92584%355,9007350146%64328,47928,505100%279,903138,350174,74579%731,955138,350174,74579%731,95528,63944,81764%130,54616,41218,91887%68,30138,48938,79599%160,413101,244104,35297%397,707184,784206,88289%756,967 | Oct 20Budget% of BudgetJul - Oct 20YTD Budget23,38343,26554%95,509172,45686,415102,92584%355,900386,6897350146%64320028,47928,505100%279,903286,090138,350174,74579%731,955845,435138,350174,74579%731,955845,435138,350174,74579%731,955845,435138,350174,74579%731,955845,43516,41218,91887%68,30168,64338,48938,79599%160,413151,169101,244104,35297%397,707419,508184,784206,88289%756,967818,614 | Oct 20Budget% of BudgetJul - Oct 20YTD Budget% of Budget23,38343,26554%95,509172,45655%86,415102,92584%355,900386,68992%7350146%643200322%28,47928,505100%279,903286,09098%138,350174,74579%731,955845,43587%138,350174,74579%731,955845,43587%28,63944,81764%130,546179,29473%16,41218,91887%68,30168,643100%38,48938,79599%160,413151,169106%101,244104,35297%397,707419,50895%184,784206,88289%756,967818,61492% |

ABOVE THE CHALLENGES

He came during a time of significant tension. This was true in both the political and spiritual realm. The church was being challenged. Satan was on the offensive against this new, itinerant Rabbi and His mission.

His "staff" were weak spiritually. They had very little religious training. They had a hard time grasping the "big picture" when it came to their Master's mission. At least one challenged that ministry. Some struggled with arrogance —pushing for top slots in the coming kingdom. They presumed Jesus to be a different kind of leader.

And we dare not overlook the threats that came from the competing "church." It reached a point where they plotted to take out this popular Rabbi who had a new idea of how to structure church.

So who was this mystery man. His name was Jesus. His life story is revealed in the Gospels.

We know the "rest of the story." When it looked like all was lost, He gave all—His very life, and proved Himself to be Savior and Lord. He lived radical love.

His church was a remarkable success. And the "staff" fulfilled their roles remarkably well. Indeed they led Christ's church, though viewed by those opposing leaders as "uneducated and common." What could not be overlooked was that these disciples had been with Jesus (Acts 4:13).

We can draw parallels with the church today. The challenges are no less real—both internal and external.

And we have this comparable advantage—Jesus makes it all possible. Indeed He is at the center of it all. And He full understands the challenges—He lived through them.

Oh, and one more advantage. Jesus left a Counselor behind to guide the church to fulfilled success. This Spirit brings out the full potential of its members. Their greatest calling is to love just as Jesus did!

Yes, we as a church are above the challenges. We have a Savior and a Spirit to follow!



—Pastor Dan Kohn

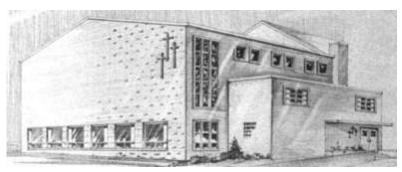
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL—LCMS

December 2020

TRINITY HISTORY: DID YOU KNOW?

Recently we have been publishing a history tidbit each Friday on our Facebook page. We are going to put a couple in the newsletter each month for those who don't have Facebook or may have missed the postings. The history of our congregation is so rich and valuable. Through it we are able to see how faithful God has been to his people. It serves as a reminder that if he has been faithful to us in the past he will certainly be faithful to us in the future. Enjoy! God bless, Rick Stengl, DCE

Did you know... In 1958 the nave of our sanctuary was expanded 49.5 feet south which added 240 more seats (more on that at another time). With that expansion a number of stained glass windows were added, the most prominent being our "Holy Trinity" window. The east side triple window shines forth the early morning sun light upon the altar, but sun diffusers extend from the window to keep the sun's rays from disturbing those who are worshiping. Each year the church sets aside a Sunday to celebrate The Feast of the Holy Trinity. That day, and any day, is a good day to once again gaze upon this window and recall how our God has graciously revealed Himself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. ...now you know!



The Holy Trinity is often depicted as a triangle with the hand representing God the Father, the lamb representing God the Son and the dove representing God the Holy Spirit.



On April 1957, the congregation unanimously voted to erect the pictured addition extending 49 feet and 6 inches designed to increase the seating capacity of the church by 240, or by 40%. Included in the addition was the "Holy Trinity" stained glass window which is seen here as the three vertical panes in the center of the picture.

Did you know... The first day of school on Monday, November 2, 1908, saw 85 children enrolled in two classrooms of the church basement. Pastor J. Th. Destinon taught the lower-level grades and Teacher Edward Ritzmann taught the upper-level grades. In 1915 the schoolrooms in the church became too crowded with 155 students and it was decided to build a one-room building on 5th Avenue to the south of the church. The building was finished in two months' time at a cost of \$1,508.08. There was space for seventy children and Teacher William A. Meyer moved his class into the new building once it was completed. Teacher Meyer would go on to teach at Trinity from 1910 to 1958. The building was soon known as "Meyer's School" and at that time, his 70 student class was not considered too large for a competent teacher. The building was later sold in 1925, moved to 317 S 7th Avenue and renovated into a home. In 1948, the building was repurchased by Trinity as a teacherage for Teacher Paul H.

Grotelueschen. ... now you know!



This one room school house, built in 1915 to the south of the church on 5th Avenue, came to be known as "Meyer's School."

Our first pastor Rev. J. Th. Destinon (1908-1916) and our first teacher Mr. Edward Ritzmann (1908-1911)





Teacher Mr. William A. Meyer (1910-1958)



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL—LCMS

CHURCH OFFICERS & BOARD CONTACTS

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Congregational Officers

| Bryon Graff <i>, Chairman</i> <u>Chairman@trinitynet.org</u> | 715-571-8340 |
|---|------------------------------|
| Jim Erdman, Vice-Chairman ViceChairman@trinitynet.org | 715-849-3415 |
| Lisa Knoll, Secretary Secretary@trinitynet.org | 715-359-2816 |
| Chad Oelke, <i>Treasurer</i> <u>Treasurer@trinitynet.org</u> | 715-675-9264 |
| Board of Elders | <u>Elders@trinitynet.org</u> |
| Davia Fanar Daard of Eldora C | |

Raun Egner, Board of Elders ChairmanCraig Singkofer, Board of Elders Vice-ChairmanSeth Sneider, Board of Elders SecretaryDoug BeisnerTerry KnollTed GruhnSkyler LynnMike HaseTroy PagelTodd HauerChad Schwantes

School BoardSchoolBoard@trinitynet.orgJohn Schult, School Board ChairmanBrian Seehafer, School Board Vice-ChairmanStephanie Lynn, School Board SecretaryKatie ClaxtonLeanne Matz

Barb Emerson James Kramer

Marie Traska

Church Council

ChurchCouncil@trinitynet.org

Dave Christian
Darryl Neumann
Jamie Schlei
Bryon Graff, Congregational Chairman
Jim Erdman, Congregational Vice Chairman
Lisa Knoll, Congregational Secretary
Chad Oelke, Congregational Treasurer
Raun Egner, Chairman of Board of Elders
John Schult, Chairman of School Board
Rev. Zach Holdorf, Senior Pastor
Rev. Timothy Smith, Associate Pastor
Bill Zuelsdorff, Principal
Tina Dickens, Church Administrator

A S * A D C A B T + S * A D C A B T + S *

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

ADVENT LESSONS Four weeks of Advent lessons, (November 22nd-December 12th), for the family are available. Anyone, even those not registered for Sunday School At-Home can email Kimberly, Sunday School Director, <u>kimberlyattrinityss@gmail.com</u>, and she can put together a packet for them.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION CoVID restrictions permitting, there is a Sunday School Christmas Celebration scheduled for Sunday, December 20th. Sunday School families should watch their emails for more details.

STAY-AT-HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL—SPRING SEMESTER will continue through May 2021. If families registered in the fall, they will continue to receive materials through the spring. They will receive an email when their next bag of craft and supplemental supplies are ready for pick-up before the first lesson of the new year—January 17th. If families did not register this fall, it's not too late to start. Registration for the spring is happening now. ... Please visit www.trinitywausau.org > Ministries > Children > Sunday School to fill out a registration form. Paper copies of the forms are also available outside the church office.

LWML Mission GRANT #16 for the 2019-2021 biennium is "Preparing Leaders for Tomorrow" (\$80,000). This project seeks to strengthen and revitalize Lutheran schools by training school leaders to serve as vital and effective administrators. It is our prayer that through this mission grant God's children will be well served so His kingdom can expand. For more information, go to *www.lwml.org/2019-2021-mission-grant-16*.

NO ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT THIS YEAR Sadly, gathering with nearly 100 women for a candlelit night of song, Bible verses, and delicious treats *cannot* be safely done this December. LWML Women's Fellowship prays that a Lenten/Spring Mother/daughter event may be possible.

Let's try a Facebook virtual Advent Calendar

1. Take a photo of a beautiful Thanksgiving or Christmas table setting or centerpiece.

2. Forward the photo to Sharon Hanke by email or text message. 715-581-8259 or srhanke@gmail.com

3. Beginning December 1st, check Sharon Hanke's Facebook page for a daily photo and an Advent calendar Bible verse.

**If you are crafty or need a children's project, make a paper chain link for each day's Bible verse all the way to Christmas.



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2:00, 3:30, 5:00 (Blended Worship) & 10:00pm (Candlelight Worship) Upper Sanctuary



9:00am, Upper Sanctuary

