

Trinity Tidings - January 2018

Trinity Lutheran Church



203 N. Harth Ave.

**Sharing God's Word.
Doing God's Work.**





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YOUTUBE

You can now view all Sunday worship services on our YouTube channel! Just search for *Trinity Lutheran Church ELCA* or click on the link on our website!



FOOD PANTRY

The Lake County Food Pantry mission of the month is Boxed Meals. Donations can be brought to Trinity. "Helpers" & Mac & Cheese.



EMAIL ADDRESS



If you are currently receiving the Trinity Tidings in the mail and would like to receive it electronically, please contact the church office. Also, we send out "e-news"

that will be delivered to your inbox weekly! If you have not received this and would like to, please let the office know your email address.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



**IS YOUR
INFO UP
TO DATE?**

Have you moved? Did you disconnect your land line? Did you change your email address? Did you get married? Did you have a baby? Did you get a divorce? Do you wonder why the church has not been connecting with you? Please let us know when you have an address change, email change, marital status change, etc. If you are on Facebook or Twitter, or look under "Forms" on our website, you can find a new information change form on our page. Check it out!

CARE TEAM

If you or someone you know is hospitalized, please contact the church office to let us know. Thank you from Trinity's Care Team.

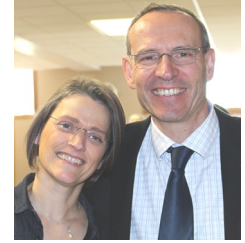




PASTOR'S NOTES

Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit! – On behalf of Pastor Dirk and myself I would like to extend God's blessings to you for 2018. May you know under all circumstances that you are loved and known by name.



As we set out for a new year of mission and ministry together I would like you to mark your calendars for a few things that shape our faith journey here at Trinity:

Annual Meeting: This will be your opportunity to review 2017 ministries, hear updates on the Visioning Process through KAIROS and from the trustees about the building inspection through MSH Architects from Sioux Falls. The meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 21st, 2018 immediately following the 11:00 am worship.

Bingo Bash: This annual mid-winter faith family get together will be held on Sunday, January 28th, 2018 immediately following the 11:00 am worship. Please come and share in a delightful time of homemade soups, a good game or two of Bingo and sweet prizes. This event is free of any charge.

Family Camp: Our family would like to invite your family to vacation with us for one week in the beautiful Black Hills. Pastor Dirk and I are planning on taking Emma to family camp at Outlaw Ranch in Custer, SD. Lutherans Outdoors offers week long camps to family that are filled with meaningful activities throughout the day. We would love for YOUR family, and you may define family as you wish, to join ours from Sunday, August 5th through Friday August 10th. Please talk to either Pastor Dirk or me if you would like to know more or if you would like to join us. Scholarships are available through a generous grant from the Trinity Foundation.

Rummage Sale: You know what they say; "One man's junk is another man's treasure." With that in mind we would like to resurrect the beloved Trinity tradition of an annual rummage sale. Especially in the time of minimizing, downsizing, recycling and re-purposing, rummage sales are a wonder-filled opportunity to give your things a new lease on life. Please talk to Lisa Gale if you have questions or would like to get involved. Dates are at this time pending, but all proceeds will benefit Trinity's General Fund.

Blessings & peace,

Pastor Constanze



STAFF		
Rev. Dirk Hagmaier	Co-Pastor	256-2771
Rev. Constanze Hagmaier	Co-Pastor	256-2771
Sandy Rhode, AIM	Youth & Education Director	256-2771
Kate Shaw	Office Manager	256-2771
Lisa Gale	Interim Office Assistant	256-2771
Alex Eykamp	Music & Worship Ministries	256-2771
Preschool Staff		
Summer DuRandt	Preschool Director	256-2771
Kim Bruns	Preschool Assistant	256-2771

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS		
David Rossing	President	256-3851
Jennifer Briggs	Vice-President	480-1870
Joan Merager	Secretary	256-2296
Katie Nelson	Treasurer	556-0051

BOARD OF DEACONS		
Nancy Sabbe (19)	Chr./Worship and Music	256-3664
Ann Marie Rossing (18)	Mission Momentum	256-3851
Linda Brick (20)	Sacraments & Services	256-2375
Patti Weber (20)	Life & Growth	480-3231
Chase Hanson (20)	Evangelical Outreach	480-2259

BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION		
Amy Townsend (18)	Chr./Elementary Education	256-5733
Carolyn Feige (19)	Continuing Education/Library	270-1320
Dana Hoff	Youth Ministry	480-0047
Julie Jones (19)	Preschool & Early Childhood	256-2771
Adam Shaw (19)	Confirmation Education	270-4302
Sandy Rhode, AIM	Youth & Education Director	256-2771

BOARD OF TRUSTEES		
Keith Knutson (19)	Chr./Stewardship	256-3006
Randy VanRosendale	Church/Sanctuary Property	256-9669
Wayne Halma (20)	Education Wing	291-2174
Peggy Hoff (18)	Development & Planning	480-4157
Elizabeth Molstad (20)	Insurance	482-8254

Church Council meets at 8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship hall the second Tuesday of each month. All members are welcome to attend a council meeting, or contact any of the above leaders with any concerns, suggestions, or questions. We are here to serve you!

If you would like to participate in any of these opportunities, please feel free to contact the contact person listed. If you have an interest in an activity not listed, please contact the church office (256-2771).

FOUNDATION COMMISSION		
Jennifer Briggs (18)	Vice-President	480-1870
Tom Farrell (17)	Treasurer	256-6777
Rob Thuringer (18)	Commission Member	480-0917
Nancy Kasuske (21)	Secretary	483-3199
Valerie Kuhl (20)	Chr./Commission Member	256-6882
Marc Molskness (19)	Commission Member	483-3561

CHOIRS		
Vocal Directors:		
Adult	Sandy Cole	256-3222
Chapel (Grades 9-12)	Virginia Lemme	483-3125
Chancel (Grades 5-8)	Emily Knuths	270-6269
Covenant (Grades 1-4)	Mary Hunter	256-3280
Sunday School Choir Directors:		
Preschool 1-Kindergarten	Tami Christiansen	480-0727
Grade 1-4	Stacey Riedel	256-3665
Handbell Directors:		
Epiphany	Diane Plack	256-3665
Jubliant	Sandy Cole	256-3222
Celebration Team Director	Virginia Lemme	483-3125

NOMINATING COMMITTEE		
Nancy Presuhn (18)	Congregational Delegate	256-3419
Mike Brooke (18)	Council Delegate	256-0245
Becky Brown (18)	Council Delegate	256-2509
Randy VanRosendale (19)	Congregational Delegate	256-9669
Karen Kalvig (20)	Congregational Delegate	256-2347
Tim Walburg (20)	Congregational Delegate	556-0103

FUNERAL COMMITTEE		
Sandy Cole		256-3222
Mary Hutchinson		256-0281
Nancy Miller		256-2145
Kay Johnson		256-4798
Sharol Bargmann		256-3865
Mary Cole		256-1543

MISCELLANEOUS		
Newsletter	Kate Shaw	256-2771
Mission of the Month	Ann Marie Rossing	256-3851
Prayer Chain	Pastor Constanze	256-2771
Video Communication	Roger Hillestad	256-4087
Trinity Women	Nancy Miller	256-2145
Wedding Coordinator	Robin Boldt	256-2771



FROM THE YOUTH DIRECTOR SANDY



I want to thank everyone who gave donations during the month of November and December! Our Sunday School Mission of the Month gave to the "SS Charity Christmas Fund" and the "Lake County Angel Tree". We gave gifts to the Valiant Living residents, thanks to each of you that bought a gift from the gift tags on the "Valiant Living" Christmas tree. Thank you to the Middle School youth and parents for helping make the Christmas gift and cookies that we delivered to our shut-ins on Sunday, December 10, 2017. Thank you for your wonderful response for these missions! I want to thank everyone who helped with the Celebration Worship/Sunday School Christmas Program!

On behalf of the 14 high school youth and 3 adults going to the NYG in June 2018, I want to thank you for your support with our past fundraisers, recent "Theme Basket Raffle" and buying our 2018 Calendars in 2017!

On **Wednesday, January 3, 2018 at 8:00 p.m.**, the High School LYO Committee will meet in the Youth Room for their monthly meeting. On **Sunday, January 7, 2018 at 10:45 a.m.**, the Middle School LYO Committee will meet in the Youth Room for their monthly meeting.

The Acolyte Schedule for this month is as follows: **1/7/18-8:45 a.m.**-Breanna Coomes/Zach Ryan; **11:00 a.m.**-Colby Vostad/Braxton Bender; **1/14/18-8:45 a.m.**-Christopher Driscoll/Renae Hass; **11:00 a.m.**-Colby Vostad/Braxton Bender; **1/21/18-8:45 a.m.**-Keygan Cruz/Landon Olesen; **11:00 a.m.**-Kylie Krusemark/Raena Rost; **1/28/18-8:45 a.m.**-Renae Hass/Megan Schouwenburg; **11:00 a.m.**-Colby Vostad/Ali Vacanti.

I want to thank all of the parents who have volunteered to serve a Wednesday night supper for the confirmands/congregation members. The following parents have volunteered to provide supper for this month: **1/3/18**-Brenda Strom/_____, **1/10/18**-Dana Hoff/_____, **1/17/18**-Erin Allen/Kellie Bender, **1/24/18**-Christy Leighton/Brenda Strom, **1/31/17-NO Confirmation-Guide Huddle**. Confirmation Parents: Please let me know if you can help with one of the blanks listed above. Please email me at sandy@tlcmadison.com or call me at 270-9510 if you can help!

On **Sunday, January 7, 2018**, we will be celebrating the anniversary of all of the children who were baptized in 2017 on this "Baptism of our Lord Sunday" at both the **8:45 a.m.** and **11:00 a.m.** Worship Services. The children will be receiving a Faith Chest as a gift from the Milestone Ministry Committee. At **10:00 a.m.**, Pastor Constanze will meet with the parents to have a time to do a learning activity together in the **Fireside Room**.

8th grade Confirmation students and Parents: We will begin our Mentor Program by having the eighth grade confirmands come to the Church Office to sign up for their Mentor from **Sunday, January 7, 2018- and ending Tuesday, January 9, 2018**. It will be a "first come first serve" rule in signing up for Mentors.

The Milestone Ministry Committee will meet on **Tuesday, January 9, 2018 at 5:15 p.m.** in the Church Office.

On **Sunday, January 21, 2018 at the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m.** Worship Services, the Sixth Grade students will receive their "Milestone Ministry" gift and blessing from the Milestone Ministry Committee. During the Sunday School hour at **10:00 a.m.**, all Sixth grade students, their parents, and teachers will meet in the Fireside Room to have a time to do a learning activity together with Pastor Constanze.

Seniors 2018! Please call the church office if you are considering attending Augustana University for the fall 2018 term, so we can put your name on the PACT form.

Seniors 2018! Please turn in a **senior picture and a short resume** of your future plans to me for a special display that we are planning for you. Your promptness will be greatly appreciated!

Sandy Rhode



JANUARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Sunday Schedule: 8:00 am—Coffee Hour (Narthex) 8:45 am—Worship Traditional (S) 9:45 am—Coffee Hour (FH) 10:00 am—Sunday School 11:00 am—Worship Celebration (S) <i>Communion on the 1st and</i>	1 New Years Day Office Closed 	2 8:00 am NO Sonshine 8:30 am Staff meeting 9:15 am Preschool Christmas Program Practice 1:00 pm Quilting-(FH) 6:00 pm MRT-LSS- (Room 18) 6:30 pm Tiger Den 4 Meeting Mtg-(YR)	3 8:00 am Sonshine Resumes 5:30 pm Wed. Night Supper-(FH) 6:30 pm 7 & 8th Gr. Confirmation 6:45 pm HS Bible Study- (YR)
7 **See Sunday Schedule 8:45 am Traditional Service & Anniversary of 2016 Baptisms 10:00 am Anniversary of 2016 Baptisms- (FS) 11:00 am Celebration Service & Anniversary of 2016 Baptisms 6:30 pm Webelos 1- (YR)	8 8:00 am Sonshine 4:00 pm Cancer Support Group- (OS) 5:00 pm– 8:00 pm HSLYO Pizza Ranch Fundraiser 7:00 pm Troop 5 Boy Scouts- (FH)	9 8:00 am Sonshine 8:30 am Staff meeting 1:00 pm Quilting-(FH) 6:00 pm MRT-LSS- (Room 18) **See Council Schedule	10 8:00 am Sonshine 5:30 pm Wed. Night Supper-(FH) 6:30 pm 7 & 8th Gr. Confirmation 6:45 pm HS Bible Study- (YR) **See Wednesday Schedule
14 **See Sunday Schedule 2:00 pm MS & HSLYO– Great Bear Tubing 6:30 am Webelos 1Mtg -(YR)	15 8:00 am Sonshine 7:00 pm Troop 5 Boy Scouts- (FH)	16 8:00 am Sonshine 8:30 am Staff meeting 9:00 am Mary Circle- (OS) 1:00 pm Quilting-(FH) 7:00 pm Martha/Naomi Circle- (off-site)	17 8:00 am Sonshine 9:00 am Ruth Circle (off-site) 5:30 pm Wed. Night Supper- (FH) 6:30 pm 7-8th Grade Confirmation 6:45 pm HS Bible Study- (YR) **See Wednesday Schedule
21 **Jingle Change **See Sunday Schedule 8:45 am Traditional Service & 6th Grade Milestone 10:00 am 6th Grade Milestone 11:00 am Celebration Service & 6th Grade Milestone 12:00 pm Annual Meeting-(FH)(FH)	22 8:00 am Sonshine 7:00 pm Troop 5 Boy Scouts- (FH)	23 8:00 am Sonshine 8:30 am Staff meeting 1:00 pm Quilting-(FH) 6:00 pm MRT-LSS- (Room 18) 6:00 pm Boy Scout Pack 5 Mtg -(FH)	24 8:00 am Sonshine 5:30 pm Wed. Night Supper-(FH) 6:30 pm 7 & 8th Gr. Confirmation 6:45 pm HS Bible Study- (YR) **See Wednesday Schedule
28 **See Sunday Schedule 12:00 pm Blizzard Bingo Bash- (FH)	29 8:00 am Sonshine 7:00 pm Troop 5 Boy Scouts- (FH)	30 8:00 am Sonshine 8:30 am Staff meeting 1:00 pm Quilting-(FH) 6:00 pm MRT-LSS- (Room 18)	31 8:00 am Sonshine 5:30 pm Wed. Night Supper-(FH) 6:30 pm 7 & 8th Gr. Confirmation 6:45 pm HS Bible Study- (YR) **See Wednesday Schedule



JANUARY CALENDAR

Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 8:00 am Sonshine</p>	<p>5 6:45 am Men's Group- (FH) 8:00 am Sonshine</p>	<p>6 6:00 pm Worship -(FH)</p>
<p>11 8:00 am Sonshine 8:30 am Worship Committee Mtg- (CR)</p>	<p>12 6:45 am Men's Group- (FH) 8:00 am Sonshine</p>	<p>13 6:00 pm Worship -(FH)</p>
<p>18 8:00 am Sonshine</p>	<p>19 6:45 am Men's Group- (FH) 8:00 am Sonshine</p>	<p>20 5:00 pm Potluck 6:00 pm Worship - (FH)</p> <div data-bbox="906 1180 1109 1333" data-label="Image"> </div>
<p>25 8:00 am Sonshine 7:00 pm Prairie Piecemakers Quilt Guild -(FH)</p>	<p>26 6:45 am Men's Group- (FH) 8:00 am Sonshine</p>	<p>27 6:00 pm Worship - (FH)</p>
<p>Wednesday Schedule: 4:30 pm—Youth Jubilant Bell Choir (SB) 5:15 pm—Epiphany Bell Choir (SB) Covenant Choir (FS) Chancel Choir (YR) 6:00 pm—Chapel Choir (FS) 6:45 pm—Adult Choir (FS) 6:45pm—Celebration Practice (S)</p>	<p>Council Schedule: <i>(2nd Tuesday of the month)</i> 1:00 pm—Finance Com .(CR) 5:15 pm—Precouncil (CR) 5:15 pm—Milestone Ministry Committee Mtg (CO) 5:45 pm—Executive Council(CR) 6:30 pm—Board of Trustee(FH) 6:30 pm—Board of Deacons(CR) 6:30 pm—Board of Ed (CO) 8:00 pm—Council Meeting</p>	<p>Room Codes: CO=Church Office CR=Conference Room FS=Fireside Room FH= Fellowship Hall S=Sanctuary SB=Sanctuary Balcony SR= Sonshine Room YR=Youth Room</p>



TRINITY YOUTH NEWS

MIDDLE SCHOOL LUTHERAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION (MSLYO-GRADE 6-8):

January 14, 2018-2:00-10:00 p.m.-Skiing/tubing at Great Bear Resort by Sioux Falls. Turn in your Great Bear form/payment that was mailed to you in December by **Tuesday, January 9, 2018 to the Church Office!**

HIGH SCHOOL LUTHERAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION (HSLYO-GRADE 9-12):

January 8, 2018-5:00-8:00 p.m. Pizza Ranch Fundraiser. We will receive a percentage of the dine-in and carry-out orders. Please plan to join us for supper with your family! This is a fundraiser for the NYG trip to Houston, TX.

January 14, 2018-2:00-10:00 p.m.- Skiing/tubing at Great Bear Resort by Sioux Falls. Turn in your Great Bear form/payment that was mailed to you in December by **Tuesday, January 9, 2018 to the Church Office!**

January 21, 2018-5:00 NYG Group Supper/Meeting at Bethany Lutheran Church, Howard, SD. We will carpool together to Howard.





HOME COMMUNION MINISTRY

If you or a family member are no longer able to get to worship or if you desire to share the gifts of the communion, with those no longer able to worship at “church”, please contact the church office. Thank you for considering this ministry as a way to serve or a way to receive His love through those who bring the communion elements to you.
- Board of Deacons



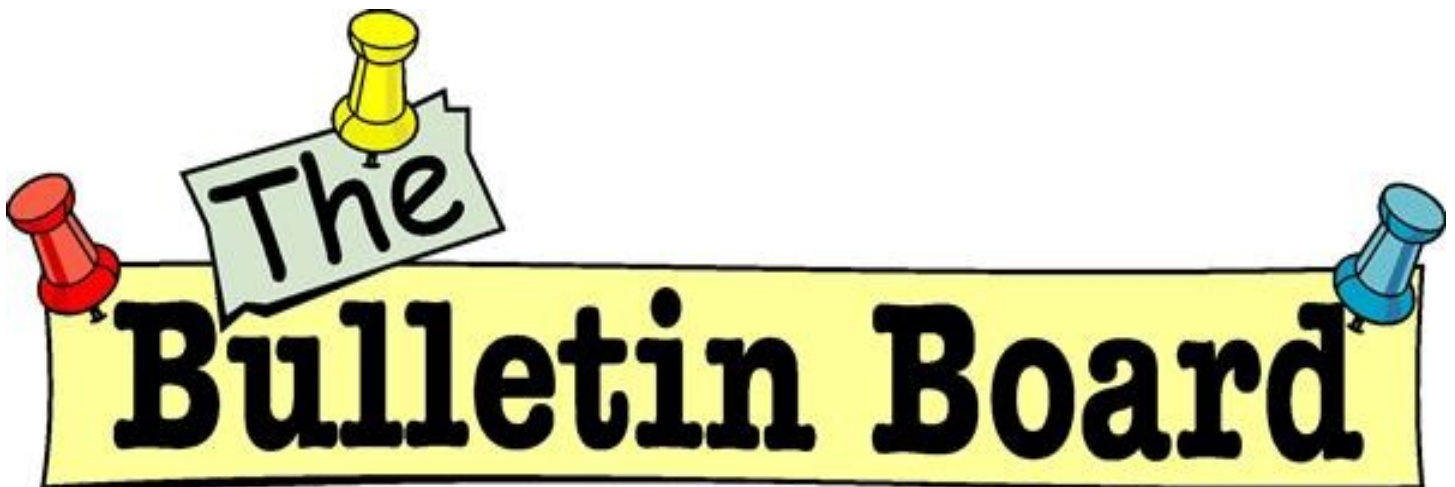
Homebound Holy Communion

Thank you to the following people that helped with Home Communion this past weekend! Ron and Bobbi Janke, Doug and Cindy Nielsen, Roger Moose, Dawn Bessman, and Linda Brick.



BULLETIN BOARD NEWS

Check out the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for the latest Missionary updates, thank-you's, and other bits of information!





DO YOU KNOW?

If **you** are in this picture or know someone that is, please stop by the church office!!

Confirmation Class of 1975



FALL/WINTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Fall/ Winter Services

Saturday Evening Service— In the Fellowship Hall

6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Sunday Worship Services— In the Sanctuary

8:45 am - Traditional Service

11:00 am - Celebration Service





JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH

UNION GOSPEL MISSION



Feeding hope. Changing lives.

During some of the coldest months of the year, many homeless and needy individuals are seeking help with food, spiritual and physical support services. Please consider a gift to The Mission of the Month for January, Union Gospel Mission. This ministry provides supportive services, food and lodging for those who are homeless and in need in the Sioux Falls and surrounding counties. Many may not be aware of this ministry in central Sioux Falls (located at 8th and Weber). Individuals in need who come through the Madison area often benefit from the services at the Union Gospel Mission since there are no homeless facilities in this region that can accommodate those who are traveling through.

Last year some of the needs that were met in our communities included approximately:

Lodging.	21,000
Meals.	96,300
Chapel.	24,300
Showers.	20,900

The stewardship of funds is well managed. According to information provided from Union Gospel Mission, “a gift of \$32.10 feeds 15 and \$215 will provide for 100 guests”.

To quote Fran Stenberg, the Executive Director for over 20 years:

“You are the hands that give so others may receive food, shelter, showers and clothing. We receive many handshakes and hugs as our guests are grateful. Your hands reach out serving love 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. “

The scriptural underpinning of the Union Gospel Mission during the holiday season and in the New Year is:

“As each has received a gift, be good stewards, use it to serve one another. . .” 1 Peter 4:10

Consider how you may serve and share your gift with those in need who are “among the least of these” (Matthew 25:34). Your donations this month are appreciated since the numbers of those needing services increases during the cold winter months. For questions, other information or interest in volunteering (605)334-6732.



TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Trinity Lutheran Preschool

Happy New Year! I hope your holidays were filled with magic, love, family, and our Lord Jesus. What a wonderful time of year to be embraced by His love!

December was an especially magical time of year at Trinity Preschool. We made Christmas crafts, sang all kinds of Christmas songs, had a holiday shopping/ wrapping center, and learned all about baby Jesus and his birthday. All of our classes went to Dairy Queen to make our own ice cream cones! Our MWF friends also sang Christmas songs at both Wells Fargo Bank and First Bank and Trust. We are so fortunate to live in such a generous community that provides such neat opportunities for our children. We closed out 2017 with our Christmas programs at the church and the children did an AMAZING job! Miss Kim and I were so very proud of them!

The preschool is starting the registration process for the 2018-19 school year. We will open registration to Trinity Church members on January 15th. Our open house will be held in the preschool room on Thursday, February 1st from 5:00-7:00 pm. Please take this time to come visit our classroom! As a reminder, your child must be 3 years old by September 1st, 2018, and he/she must be toilet trained. Registration forms may be downloaded from the church website (www.tlcmadison.com) or picked up in the church office. A \$25 registration fee is required to hold your child's spot. If you have any questions, please contact me at 256-2771 or preschool@tlcmadison.com.

Miss Summer



TRINITY LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

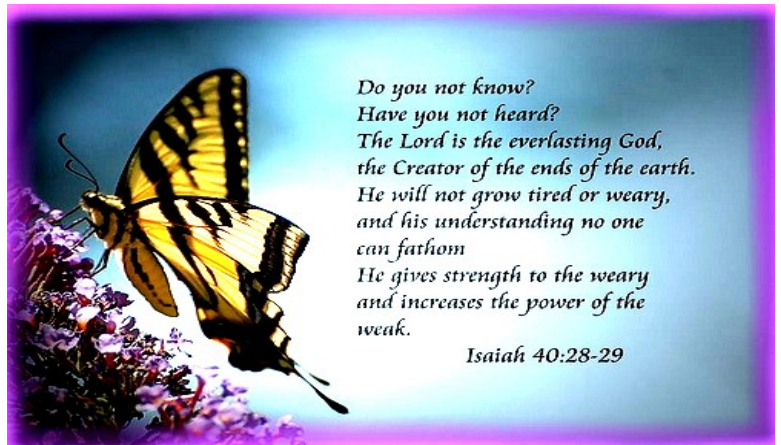




CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION

Deaths: Pearl Albertson

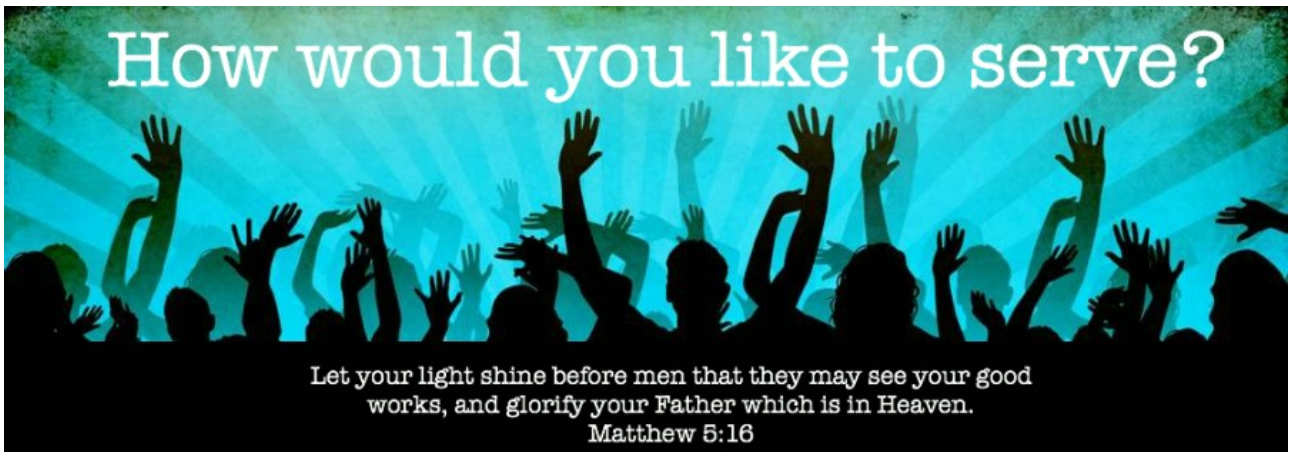
Baptisms: Greyson William Nordin



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are in need of your time and talents as a Worship Assistant! Greeters, Lectors, Communion Assistants, and Ushers are needed.

**** Sign ups are available in the Narthex or by contacting Kate in the church office at 256-2771 or by email: officemanager@tlcmadison.com. ****





FOUNDATION NEWS

Memorials For November

In Memory of Bob Walker

Doris Walker – To the organ fund



BLIZZARD BINGO BASH

The Blizzard Bingo Bash will be Sunday, January 28 after the Celebration Service. Sign-up sheets are available in the Narthex! Come join us for fun and fellowship!



HELPING HEATHER FUNDRAISER

Mustang Seeds is Teaming up with The Brookings Blizzard Hockey Team for a fundraiser for Heather Feige to help defray medical expenses. A \$15 donation per ticket will be available for games on December 29, January 10, and February 14. Game time is 7:05 pm at the Larson Ice Center in Brookings. Tickets may be purchased at any Mustang Seed location or by contacting the following people: Lori Schultz 270-1079; Corey Strom 480-1401; Kasey Gehrels 480-1566; or Brian Draeger. There is also an account set up at First Bank and Trust that will accept monetary donations. Please see the fundraiser poster on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for further details!





DECEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES

Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
December 12, 2017
8:00 P.M.

Trinity's mission statement was recited by the church council:
"Sharing God's Word, Doing God's Work."

President David Rossing called the December council meeting to order at 8:00 P.M.
Council members absent and excused were: Adam Shaw, Pastor Dirk, Wayne Halma, and Amy Townsend.

Jennifer Briggs led in devotions.

President Rossing presented the agenda and with permission would change our order as Tim Tucker will be here to present the report from the TLC Constitution Review Committee. Mission plan review and approval. Discuss Kairos preliminary report and the MSH Architects on our facility needs.

The council minutes from November 14th will be voted on next meeting as council did not receive them by e-mail.

The financial report was presented and Keith Knutson reported our deficit has increased a small amount and the offering is higher than last year at this time. We hope people will be generous and we will be able to finish the year in the black. A motion to approve this report was made by Jennifer Briggs and seconded by Peggy Hoff. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORTS WERE PRESENTED BY:

Pastor Constanze reported:

Mission plan will need to be approved tonight in order to be included in the 2017 Annual Report.

Written reports for the annual meeting are due by Friday

January 21, 2018 will be Trinity Lutheran Church annual meeting and she would encourage council members to be in attendance. January 28th is a snow date. A short meeting will be held after the annual meeting for the newly elected members and board members leaving to get acquainted and decide chairman of committees.

When you receive Trinity's Christmas card you are encouraged to give an extra gift. A star will be placed on the tree in the narthex.

KJAM will broadcast our 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve service at 7:00 P.M. on December 24th.

Discuss Kairos and MSH

Pastor Dirk is excused tonight as he is attending an Active Shooter Training in Sioux Falls at Our Savior Lutheran.

Tim Tucker reported work has been completed on reviewing the constitution. Our constitution follows the model of the ELCA and the model requires adopting the new changes to stay current. He reported the biggest changes were for Pastors, lay people, and members with clarified procedures and routine changes. His committee consisted of Karen Feige, Nancy Moose, and Nancy Presuhn. A sheet with the changes will be mailed to every active household no later than 12/20 and will also be included in the 2017 Annual Report. A draft copy of the constitution with the proposed changes is available through the church office.

Ann Marie Rossing made a motion to accept the proposed draft constitution that the congregation council notifies members of proposed changes and the council recommends an adoption. Keith Knutson seconded. Motion passed.

President Rossing thanked Tim and his committee for their work in updating our constitution.

Sandy Rhode, Parish Education coordinator reported:

December has been busy for the Parish Education department.

Students at the lock in made Christmas pillows for the shut ins and they delivered the pillows to 35 people on Sunday, December 10th.

Two Milestone Ministries were presented to the 4th graders who received a "Spark Story Bible Devotion for Kids" and 1st grade receiving a Christmas Arch Book "O Holy Night" and an angel figurine.

Valiant Living gifts are being wrapped and delivered to the resident homes.

She is working on mailings for confirmation mentors.

Faith chests will be presented on January 7th to honor all babies that were baptized in 2017.

Sunday, December 17th will be the drawing for the baskets that the youth prepared and sold raffle tickets for chances to win.

Meetings coming will be: Communion class, mentor meeting and parent meeting, and Sunday school teachers.

Bingo Bash will be January 28th.

December 17th at 11:00 am worship and Sunday School Program



DECEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES CONT.

President David Rossing reported:

We have a very full agenda this evening. Tim Tucker will be here at 8:30 to present the report from the Constitution Review Committee. Then we will have the review and approval of the 2018 Mission Plan. The Trustees will report on the findings of the MSH firm on our facility needs. Finally, we need to discuss the preliminarily Kairos report. Thank you for your participation.

Keith Knutson Chairman of the Trustees reported:

- Thrivent funds will be distributed to the Christmas Appeal.
- Christmas Appeal encourages consideration of all members.
- Approved paying the bills
- Annual Report include inventory, insurance received, increased coverage on contents, congregational breakfast, MSH inspection, Chimney repair, Potential Capital Campaign
- MSH report:
 1. Prioritize repairs
 2. Present alternatives

Nancy Sabbe Chairman of the Deacons reported:

- Worship & Music: Discussion was held about making small adjustments to the continuous communion distribution at the 11 am service.
- Mission Momentum: November was Center of Hope and \$300.00 was sent of which \$188.00 of this amount was jingle change.
- December mission of the month is Wayoton Lutheran Church.
- Life & Growth: Letters are being sent for the January coffee hour
- Services & Sacraments: Home communion is December 17th
- Evangelical outreach: Ads will be in the Madison Daily Leader for our Christmas services February 14, 2018 Lent begins

Dana Hoff member of Parish Education Board reported:

- 10 gift tags are left on the tree to get gifts for Valiant Living members.
- Mentor Program 2018 and they will be chosen on January 7, 2018
- Parent/Mentor/Confirmation student meeting on February 7, 2018
- Sunday school teacher meeting on January 7, 2018 from 9:00 – 10:45 am.
- December 17, 2017 is Sunday school program
- Blizzard Bingo Bash is January 28, 2018

Old Business: President Rossing reported that everyone had time to review the Mission Plan and he would like a motion to approve as presented. Ann Marie Rossing made the motion to approve as presented and Jennifer Briggs seconded. Motion passed.

Kairos report was given:

- Reactions were given to the report
- Electronic cards are temporarily removed to be redesigned.
- Short term goals were discussed such as improving communication between members, staff and lay leaders.
- May be essential to form a Visioning Committee of about 5 to 7 members and take all the pieces of data to listening team and work to make ministry happen.

New Business: Keith Knutson presented a sheet on the summary of project budgets. There was much discussion. Randy Van Rosendale made a motion to contact the ELCA Mission Investment Fund and First Bank & Trust with a proposal for a capital campaign and funding. Jennifer Briggs seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned and the council members all stood and joined hands and prayed The Lord's Prayer together.

Next council meeting will be on January 9, 2018.

December treats were provided by the Officers.

January treats will be provided by the Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Merager, Council Secretary



SPONSORED MISSIONARY IN CAMEROON

Dear Friends,

Greetings from your sponsored ELCA missionary in Cameroon! It is time for another update...

Our academic year at the Lutheran Institute of Theology in Meiganga began the first week in October, and the first semester is already nearing the end. Now in my fifth year of teaching here, I continue to enjoy my work very much.



Student body and families after the opening

worship service of the academic year.

In addition to my work teaching Greek and New Testament classes, I also serve as “Secrétaire académique,” which means essentially being assistant to the Dean. In November, the Dean of the Institute and I were in Yaoundé for a week-long seminar for academic administrators sponsored by the Council of Theological Institutions in Francophone Africa. It was a fruitful time of learning and making connections with colleagues from other theological schools in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Congo and Gabon. Below is a photo of the participants in the seminar.



In terms of family news, we are still waiting for my husband Eric’s work transfer from Yaoundé to Ngaoundéré so that we can be closer together. Meanwhile, since early November, our sons David and Etienne have settled in with me in Meiganga. Their arrival in Meiganga was delayed a bit by David’s illness in late October. He had the flu, pneumonia, and cerebral malaria all at the same time and was hospitalized for almost two weeks in Yaoundé. The cerebral malaria was the scariest part; that is when the parasite attacks the brain, and it can cause disability or even death. Fortunately, David was diagnosed on time, received the treatment he needed, and made a full recovery. Thanks be to God!



Etienne (left) and David (Right)



SPONSORED MISSIONARY IN CAMEROON CONT.

So now I am adjusting to being the mother of two 2-year-olds, who are at turns sweet and adorable, or throwing tantrums, or fighting with each other, and quite often getting into things they should not be getting into. It is truly exhausting, but I love them immensely and am very grateful for how quickly they seem to have accepted me as their mother.

This coming Christmas will be the sixth that I will have spent in Cameroon. I still have to remind myself that Christmas is coming, because the indicators to which I am accustomed – snow, Christmas lights, holiday displays – are rare here (and in the case of snow, of course, non-existent!). But one indicator I have become accustomed to here is the sound of children's voices in the neighborhood singing Christmas songs as they practice for their Sunday School Christmas programs. Their voices ring out every night around the time I am trying to get David and Etienne to sleep, and the music seems to calm them – and me as well. The signs of the season are simple here, but profound.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers for my work and my family. I pray that your Advent and Christmas seasons are blessed with the joy and peace of Christ, who comes to us in profound simplicity, humility, and love.

+ Grace and peace +

Elisabeth

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CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 21, 2018** in the Fellowship Hall following the Celebration Service. Please make plans to attend!

