

THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

~Welcome to Trinity Lutheran...Warm Hearts and Willing Hands~



Dear Family and Friends of Trinity,

On the off chance that you have been asleep for the last 3 months and missed the hot news item for the fall, let me fill you

in. “There is going to be a shortage of gifts to purchase for Christmas. Store shelves are expected to be nearly bare and demand will far exceed supply for items purchased on line. Even if you are able to order them, they may not be delivered before your Christmas tree starts to shed its needles”.

This news has been reported steadily and with the emotional equivalent of the reports that the Titanic had sunk. The underlying message is “No Packages-No Christmas” “Christmas cannot come without the tinsel, and glitter, and packages wrapped up in paper and bows.”

I have good news for you! Christmas came, and Christmas will come even if all of the Christmas packages and trappings are still sitting in ships off shore, in ocean type traffic jams.

We have been trapped into thinking that we make Christmas, with all of our preparations and decorations and in believing that Christmas is about what we do, and can do for one another. We find ourselves saying “Christmas is about family”. Those things can, and do, enhance our celebration of Christmas, but they are not Christmas.

Christmas is not our doing—it was, and is, and always will be God’s doing, God’s gift to us. In Christmas God came to earth as a child. His name was “Emmanuel-God With Us”. He came not because we ordered Him but because He wanted to, and because He needed to if we were to be

reconciled to Him. We did not purchase Him; He came to purchase us from the bounds of sin and death. Jesus Christ is our gift from God. He did not come wrapped in ribbons and bows, but wrapped in the warmth of a baby blanket. He was not placed under an ornately decorated Christmas tree but in a manger in a stable. He was not delivered by FedEx, UPS or the US Postal Service, but “delivered” by a probably frightened young woman named Mary and her equally frightened young husband Joseph. That is the true “family” of Christmas. There were no aunts and uncles, cousins, and grandparents joining the celebration; there were a few confused but excited shepherds who came, none bearing gifts or even a box of fancy cookies as far as we know. Some time later, men from another country showed up with some gifts—none of them from Amazon, nor were they toys to be tossed away from lack of interest a day after the event, but gold, and frankincense and myrrh—highly symbolic gifts for a very special gift—The Savior of the World. That is Christmas.

Please understand, I am not saying we should not deck the halls and trim the tree. I am not saying we should not bake fancy cookies, or give gifts to those we love. I am simply saying let us remember what Christmas was, and is, and will be—it’s true meaning, ‘For God so loved the world, that He gave His Son.’ If we really grasp that remarkable truth, then it won’t matter much at all if the things on our gift list are still at sea on Christmas day.

Merry Christmas.

Pastor Penny

COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Yvonne Noorlun
Vice President: N/A
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening
Treasurer: N/A
Christian Ed: Nikki Smith
Ch Properties: Dallas Wegner
Stewardship: Rhonda Bonk
Lay Ministry: Eloise Miller
Worship: Jan Ringeisen
Youth: Teresa Zaharia



Trinity Lutheran Church

Council Meeting 7:00
 Wed- November 10, 2021

Call to order-

Members Present: Kathy Wilkening Yvonne Noorlun Nikki Smith Eloise Miller Dan Klasson Dallas Wegner Jan Ringeisen

Pastor's Report- Spoke with a Congregational member on the phone and prayed with him by phone. Wrote the newsletter article and pre-recorded sermon for October 24 service. Went to the Good News Bookstore and picked up Communion supplies.

Secretary's Report-

Motioned accepted for the report as read.

Treasure's Report- Yvonne Noorlun The government P.P.E. loan has been forgiven. Jan motioned to accept report as presented and Dan second.

Stewardship-Pony Express is in progress.

Lay Ministry/Evangelism
 Eloise Miller None

Church Properties- Big Thank You to all the people who helped with the lawn mowing, trimming, weed control, and snow removal. It is greatly appreciated. Dallas and Craig (Organ specialist) looked at and cleaned all the amplifiers and speakers and replaced light bulbs. Will order new lettering and numbers for the outside sign.

Christian Education-Nikki Smith and Dan Klasson said that GIFT is still needing help with the home work time about 3:30 to 4:15. It was Good turn out and the kids love it. Next GIFT will be December 1.

Youth-The soup supper on November 2nd was good.

We have signed up for the youth gathering in July with 9 kids and 3 chaperones.

NEW BUSINESS:

Matthew Sullivan donated a beautiful piano to Trinity. December council meeting will be budget for 2022 and the annual reports for all committees will be due soon.

Submitted by Secretary
 Kathy Wilkening



Treasurer's Summary Report

As of October 31, 2021

Checking Account Bal.	\$26,949
Savings Account Bal.	\$53,137
OCTOBER:	
General Fund Income	\$ 5,309
General Fund Expenses	\$ 6,295
Net Short	\$ -986
NOVEMBER:	
Cash Available	\$ 28,203
Bills to pay	\$ 4,576
Cash long	\$23,627

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
Dec 5th—2nd Advent	Mal 3:1-4	Phil 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
Dec 12—3rd Advent	Zeph 3:14-20	Phil 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
Dec 19—4th Advent	Micah 5:2-5a	Heb 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45
Dec 26—First Christmas	1 Sam 2:18-20, 26	Col 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52

Thank you to all those who helped with the Youth Soup Supper and those who came. The proceeds will go to the Youth Gathering—July 2022





WELCA News

Did those that have a child to pray for remember to send them a Thanksgiving Card? If not, be sure to send them a Christmas card, without signing it of course.

The letter you received about the Bakeless Bake Sale asked that you

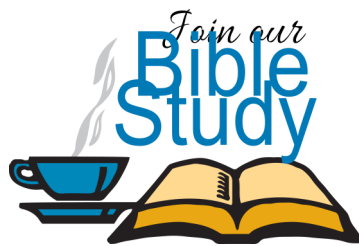
Bakeless Bake Sale



get your donation to Marlene B. by December 4. However, if you miss the deadline we will still willingly take your donation even if it is late! We thank you all for your participation in this event.

I also want to thank those of you who gave money for the Thankoffering. Also thanks for the items brought for the food shelf. These were given to Heaven's Table.

There will be a Bible Study on



Thursday, December 2, at 9 o'clock. We will be doing the devotionals on the Women of Advent in the Gather magazine. After the Bible Study, probably about 10, there will be a short WELCA meeting to make a few decisions. Even if you do not make it to the Bible Study, we would like to see you at the meeting.

Barb Shoen



UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



Fareway-\$52,955.45

Hy-Vee-\$81,581.44

Keep those receipts coming!!

***Please make sure the receipts are not getting cut off-- this makes them useless.*



December

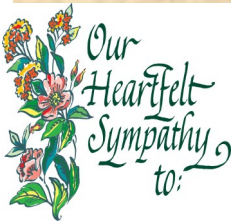
January 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>In-person Service at 10:30 am on Sunday's & live on FB</p>	<p><u>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</u></p> <p>Mon-8:00-11:00 Wed-8-11, 1-4 Fri-8:00-11:00</p>		<p>1</p> <p>GIFT PROGRAM 2:15-5:15</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 am Open Bible Study</p> <p>10 am WELCA Meeting</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bakeless Bake Sale Deadline</p>
<p>5 <u>Communion</u></p> <p>— SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT —</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Confirmation class 4:30-6</p> <p>7 pm Church Council mtg.</p> <p>Brenda not in the office</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>— THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT —</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Brenda not in the office</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Newsletter</p> <p>DEADLINE!</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 <u>Communion</u></p> <p>— FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT —</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Confirmation class 4:30-6</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 6:00 pm</p> <p>Christmas Eve CANDLELIGHT SERVICE</p>	<p>25</p> <p>The TRUE meaning of christmas</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us.</p> <p>Titus 3:4-5, NIV</p>					

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH

Congratulations to Josh & Heather Tonkin on the baptism of their daughter, Ruby Lou Tonkin who was baptized on November 21, 2021. She was born May 10, 2021 at Fairmont MCHS. Ruby's sponsor is Kati Tuttle. She has a big sister, Olivia who is 2 yrs old.



Our heartfelt sympathy to the Sandy Meyer family at the death of her father, Harm Dammer from

Worthington, MN. He passed away on November 8 at his home. The funeral was held at Westminster Presbyterian church in Worthington.



"I decided to give everyone on my list a 3-D printer and let them make their own gifts."

Trinity's President Report



Thank you to Matthew Sullivan for the gift of a piano.

Thanks to Duane Heckman and his pickup, Grant Hartmann, Jason Nickerson, Mike Weiderhoeft, Ron Kelley, and Lowell Noorlun for the muscle.

The Old upright piano in gathering room is FREE. It can no longer be tuned. Would make great desk, bar, or wood project. You haul. Call the office.

The Estate of Pastor Robert A. Onkka willed a gift of \$5000 to Trinity. We will do our best to do something special with the gift. Thank you to his family.

The organ speakers have been repaired. The technician said we have a quality organ and it was worth the repair. Should last us for a long time to come.

Lots of excitement with the "gift" program and many baptisms. Keep them all in your prayers.



Congratulations to Aaron & Molly Brudelic on the baptism of Aubrey Erin Brudelic who was baptized on November 6th, 2021 at Trinity. Her sponsors are Carter Brudelic and Phil & Nikki Mooney. She has two big sisters-Sydney (7 yrs) and Peyton (3 yrs). Welcome to Trinity, Aubrey!



We remember in our prayers...all who face catastrophic illness, surgery, and bindings of all kinds as well as the homebound:

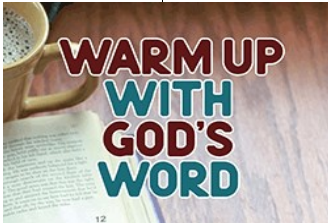





Prayers
Ardene Miller, Larry Miller, Rosalie Heckman, Doris Fedder, Linnea Huss, the Sandy Meyer family and Jason Reinke(son of Sandy Fisk).

Be present with your Spirit, Lord, and lead us to be your presence to all. Amen.

DECEMBER



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES		1	2	3	4
12/1– Kent & Christ Hydman—48 years 12/1-Ryan & Julie Bruderie —20 years 12/2-Wayne & Becky Maloney—49 yrs 12/2-Larry & Amy Mohwinkel—32 years		Jonah Carlson Jordan Carlson	Keegan Hastad	Arlene Wegner	
5 Oakley Selnes	6	7 Marilyn Anderson	8 Geri Pederson	9	10 Cheryl Culbertson Kaela Kelley
12 	13	14 Doris Fedder (84 years) 	15	16 Lori Anderson Rosalie Heckman (82 years)	17 Ella Fadness
19	20	21 Becky Maloney 	22	23	24  Candlelight Service
26	27 Norman Anderson (82 years)	28	29	30 Laurie Wille Heidi Selnes	31 Mike Wiederhoeft 
					25 

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THE MESSENGER

December 2021



Trinity Lutheran Church CONTACT


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 www.trinity-truman.org

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MON 8-11, WED 8-11 & 1-4, FRI 8-11
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Council Pres. - Yvonne Noorlun

 [Pres. Email-Whittlers@frontiernet.net](mailto:Pres.Email-Whittlers@frontiernet.net)

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SOCIAL

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