

THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

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



Happy New Year!

We begin the New Year in the season of Epiphany. I share portions of this definition of “Epiphany” from the resource “Sundays and Seasons”:

“Epiphany means ‘manifestation.’ On this day (January 6th), we celebrate the

revelation of Christ to the Gentiles—that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi’s adoration of the Christ child, Jesus’ baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle, in which he changes water into wine. At Trinity, this year, we will celebrate the Epiphany on Sunday, January 7th. We will gather for worship and celebrate with the Word and Sacrament of Holy Communion. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God’s grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.”

I would like to propose that you enter this year and see it as a “Happy Re-new Year!”

Make this a year that, as individuals and a congregation, is focused on two marks of our life of discipleship and our life together as faithful people of God. **WORSHIP AND PRAYER.**

We are called to be *worshiping people*. We are people meant to worship and gather in God’s name to say thank you God for all that God has done and continues to do for us. At the core of God’s will for us is worship and prayer.

We are called to be *praying people*. We have a prayer chain within the congregation; weekly receiving requests for prayers. We are to “pray without ceasing”. Prayer strengthens our relationship with God; it is more listening than asking; it is empowering and healing- it is for all of us to participate in. Prayer in your personal life, your family life, your church life- be it worship, committee meetings or coffee fellowship. Pray without ceasing. Really we can’t be, do or respond in this life without it. It connects us to who we are and to whom

we are called and serve.

As we move into 2024, may worship and prayer be a priority for you and your family. For it is in these two practices we are given the sustaining gift of the Word and Sacraments, and the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, in order to go out, be the people of God to each other, as a congregation and in the greater world we live in.

*“Clap your hands, all you peoples;
shout to God with loud songs of joy,
For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome,
A great king over all the earth.”*
Psalm 47:1-2

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” I Thessalonians 4: 16-18

Pastor Carol

PASTOR’S NOTES....

ADULT EDUCATION: Sunday, January 14th. 9:00 a.m. Pastor Grethen and we will also plan dates for meeting in February- May.

One special guest we will have is a representative from Green Lake Bible Camp. On Sunday, January 14th Pastor Gretchen Bachman, who lives in St. Peter and serves on staff will visit with us about the ongoing ministry programs and activities at the camp. Green Lake is one of several ELCA camps that serve the Southwestern Synod ELCA. Pastor Grethen, may also be visiting us on a Wednesday when our GIFT program meets to talk with the children and younger youth.

Trinity Lutheran’s annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21st. The life of the congregation is important for you and the community as a whole. Please make sure you mark your calendar and attend. The meeting will follow a shortened worship that begins as usual at 10:00 a.m.

The following Sunday, January 28th, the church leadership will be blessed and welcomed in the worship service. Again an important day to celebrate.

COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Dan Klassen

Vice President: Josh Tonkin

Secretary: Kathy Wilkening

Financial Admin: Brenda H.

Christian Ed: Nikki Smith

Ch Properties: Mark Durkee

Stewardship: Margaret Durkee

Lay Ministry: Judy Doble

Worship: Cathy Sorenson

Youth: Caitlyn Carlson



Council Notes

Trinity Lutheran Church

Council Meeting 7:00

Wednesday- December 13, 2023

Members Present: Kathy Wilkening Dan Klassen Josh Tonkin Cathy Sorenson Nikki Smith Ashley Parrish Caitlyn Carlson Margaret Durkee Mark Durkee

Secretary report- was accepted as read.

Treasures Report-Dan Klassen - The month of November income was down again.

Stewardship- Pony Express time and talent as well as pledges are in and totaled. 47 families replied with 16 no pledge with a total of 63 families. The year of 2023, 54 families pledged \$81,540 in giving. Down \$5,535 from 2022.

LayMinistry/Evangelism-None

Church Properties-Mark Durkee - Wayne Wiederhoeft and Clayton Duncanson agreed to do snow removal and again this year.

Christian Education/GIFT Nikki Smith and Ashley Parrish - Christmas Program will be December 20 with spaghetti supper to follow. GIFT kids shopped at Dollar General for Sioux Falls and Rochester Ronald McDonald house. The gifts were delivered on November 26 and December 12. Five youth and five adults toured the Rochester Ronald McDonald house and had pizza.

Youth- Caitlyn Carlson - New Years plan to ice skate and also bake cookies for the shut-ins and deliver them. Making plans for future events.

Worship-Cathy Sorenson - Christmas Eve services will be 10:00 am and 6:30 pm Christmas Eve candlelight service. The new directories are in your mailbox at church.

Pastor Carol - Continue outreach program at assisted living/memory care, hospital, cards, email, phone calls. Preparing for Ramona Burns

funeral, Advent, adult bible study, and looking at Lent themes. Pastor Carol will be on vacation December 25 to January 1 as it is the 5th Sunday of the month.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussed the budget and will gather more information to finalize the budget for 2024. Cathy motioned to accept the membership of Gary Wessling to Trinity from Redeemer Lutheran in Fridley, MN. Nikki second.

Cathy motioned to adjourn at 9 pm and Nikki second.

Submitted by Secretary

Kathy Wilkening



Treasurer's Summary Report As of November 30, 2023

Checking Account Bal.	\$65,958
Savings Account Bal.	\$54,437

NOVEMBER:

General Fund Income	\$ 16,913
General Fund Expenses	\$ 17,312
Net short	\$ -399

DECEMBER:

Cash Available	\$ 65,958
Bills to pay	\$ 9,269
Cash long	\$56,689

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	1st READING	PSALM	2ND READING	GOSPEL
Jan 7—Epiphany/Baptism	Gen 1:1-5	29	Acs 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
Jan 14-2nd Epiphany	1 Sam 3:1-10	139:1-6, 13-18	1 Cor 6:12-20	John 1:43-41
Jan 21-3rd Epiphany	Jonah 3:1-5,10	62:5-12	1 Cor 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20
Jan 28-4th Epiphany	Deut 18:15-20	111	1 Cor 8:1-13	Mark 1:21-28



Youth Director Summary for January

I hope everyone had a happy holiday season! Our Christmases have changed over the years, but we still try to keep some of our traditions the same. One of my favorite things that we do on Christmas Eve is joining hands as we all go around the table and say what we are thankful for. Over the years we have used that time to announce engagements, pregnancies, and new jobs. It is also a good time to reflect on the past year. I have always found that to be interesting timing as we are all about to rip into a bunch of presents, we are still reminded of all our blessings that are with us all year round. I would like to thank everyone who made it possible to donate gifts to the Ronald McDonald Houses in Rochester and in Sioux Falls. In total we delivered over 75 gifts!! Since we had so many gifts, we decided to drop some gifts off at the Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls as well! I know that the gifts were appreciated and that we helped bring hope and joy to many families this holiday season! Thank you to everyone who helped with the GIFT Christmas program and the spaghetti supper. I am so proud of all the kids who participated! We had a great turn out!

Ashley Parish

Events: January 3rd GIFT at 2:15pm-5:30pm

January 17th GIFT at 2:15pm-5:30pm

January 28th Youth Group Decorates and Delivers Cookies 3pm-5pm





WELCA News

There are so many good “elves” working in our church! There are those who served pie and coffee Thanksgiving Eve, those who decorated the church so beautifully for Christmas, all who helped make the annual cookie walk a success, those who served the lunch for Ramona’s funeral, those who delivered Christmas gifts to our shut ins, and then there is the mitten tree with all the cops and mittens. This is just some of the many things that are done.

Over the years most of the profit from the cookie walk is used for our benevolent budget. This year we decided to make these contributions:

Salvation Army	\$150
Beyond the Yellow ribbon	\$100
Hospice	\$200
Lutheran World Relief	\$150
Lutheran Social Service	\$50
St. Peter Treatment Center	\$50
ARC Southwest	\$100
Options Pregnancy Center	\$75
Steven Ose Ministry	\$75
Kids Against Hunger	\$150
Heaven’s Table	\$150
CREST	\$150
Caring Bridge	\$100
Public School Food Shelf	<u>\$250</u>
	\$1,750

Since all Trinity Women are members of WELCA, whether or not you are able to attend the meetings, you all received the handbook. Please make sure your phone number is correct.

We will start working on quilts at the end of January. All are welcome to help, even if your name is not listed in the handbook. All you need is to be able to tie a knot!

Barb Shoen

2023 Cookie Walk



UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



Fareway-\$77,574.29

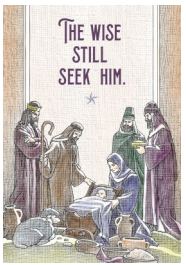





Hy-Vee-\$33,478.48

Keep those receipts coming!!

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



February 2024						
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		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WORSHIP SCHEDULE 10 am Worship Live stream on FB	1 Church office closed for New Years	2	3 GIFT class 2:15-5:15 Special Council mtg. at 7 pm	4	5 Deadline for committee reports for the annual mtg.	6 Epiphany 
7 Communion 	8	9 9:45 am Open Bible Study	10 Confirmation 2:15-3:15 7 pm Church Council Mtg.	11	12	13
14 Communion Green Lake Ministries	15 	16	17 GIFT class 2:15-5:15	18 	19	20
21 A short worship service will be held before the mtg. 	22	23	24 Confirmation 2:15-3:15	25	26	27
28 Installation of new officers and committee members	29 9 am Quilting 	30 Days →	31	CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Mon-800-11:00 Wed-8-11, 1-4 Fri-8:00-11:00	Pastor's Office Hours Mon 10-12 Wed 10-12 Call her after office hours	

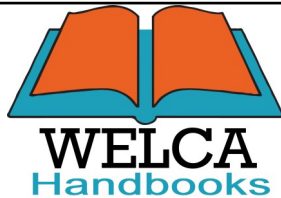
NEWS FROM OUR PARISH



Your offering envelopes for next year are in your mailboxes at

the church. If you would like them mailed to you, or if you would like more or less or did not receive any, please contact the church office.

The 2024 WELCA Handbooks are here and in your mailbox at the church. If you haven't received a handbook, please contact the church office.



Trinity's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 21st right after a short worship service.



In case of inclement weather, announcements about Trinity's worship service cancellations will be found on the KEYC TV...

The announcements will also be text messaged to you if your signed up to receive them and on Trinity's website and Facebook page.

(if you would like to sign up for text messages contact the church office 507-776-4781)

Inclement Weather Policy



CREATED TO BE
Summer 2024

JOIN US THIS SUMMER!

"We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to do the good things God created us to do from the beginning." -Ephesians 2:10

SUMMER CAMP **RETREATS** **FAMILY CAMP**

Activities

- ✓ Rock Wall
- ✓ Outdoor Games
- ✓ Crafts
- ✓ Swimming & Water Olympics
- ✓ Trails & More

GREEN LAKE LUTHERAN ministries

For more information and to register, visit GLLM.org or call 320-796-2181.



We welcome our newest member to Trinity, **Gary Wessling**. He has recently moved here from Anoka, MN. Gary is retired from working at the Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels. He is a cousin to Yvonne N. Gary now lives here in Truman at the Lutheran Manor.



Prayers

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

Jerry Teig, Linnea Huss, Norm & Marilyn Anderson, Pastor Penny Ritter, Lois Llyod's daughter, Amy, Marlene Breitbarth, and The Mammenga family.

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



JANUARY

Birthdays and Anniversaries



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3 Ron & Kaela Kelley (8 years) Marlene Breitbarth (75 years) Heather Maloney	4 Emilee Mosloski Kathy Wilkening	5	6 EPIPHANY Christopher Forbrook
7 	8	9 	10	11 Austin Maloney Brad Nickerson Brian Nickerson Gracie Zaharia Johnnie Zaharia	12 Peyton Franzen	13 Kaden Moon
14	15 Caitlyn Carlson 	16 Marlene Ratike (91 years) 	17	18	19	20
21	22 Denise Janssen	23	24	25 Peyton Bruderie	26 Doug & Vicky Schwanz (50 years) 	27
28 Cardae Moon	29	30	31 Art Stough (87 years)			

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**Annual mtg.
on Jan 21st**








THE MESSENGER

January 2024





On a cold winter morning, Holy Spirit,
enfold me in the warmth of your love.

CONTACT

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- CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**
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SOCIAL

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