

Trinity's Weekly Connection

Today at Trinity: Sunday, November 24, 2019

Sunday, November 24

Christ the King Sunday

Traditional Worship Services, 8 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Rejoice Worship Service, 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Deck the Halls of Trinity, noon

Alleluia Bells, noon

Lectio Divina, noon

Richard Hysell Memorial Luncheon, 3 p.m.

High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Worship Notes

Welcome! We're pleased you joined us in worship today. First-time visitors, long-time members – all are welcome!

Are You Visiting Today? Help us welcome you by introducing yourself to one of our pastors. Please also consider filling out a Trinity "Let's Connect" card that you can place in the offering plate or hand to an usher or pastor.

Communion: All are welcome to participate in Holy Communion at Trinity Lutheran Church. Cups on the inner ring of the trays are filled with white grape juice; cups on the outer rings are filled with red wine. Gluten-free wafers are available in the narthex, and at the Welcome Center in The Courtyard. Those who wish to receive by the common cup are invited to receive the sacrament from the assisting minister offering the chalice on the right side of the congregation's seating.

Nametags Help Us Connect: Please fill out a nametag today. It is good to be together in worship!

Worship Flowers: Today's Rejoice worship flowers are given by Jim and Janet Genow in loving memory of their daughter Meg Genow.

Eternal Light: The Eternal Light reminds us of God's presence among us. The Eternal Light for today was given by Brian and Gail Mazurek in loving memory of Donald Ryan.

Members in Our Prayers

We pray for Trinity members Wendy Burns-Ardolino, Emily Ashby, George and Julia Bauer, Fran Bolthuis, Amy Bonjour, Dixie Brinks, Kate Christenson, Captain Karl Crist, Jack Danielson, Samantha DeBoer, John Dicky, Beth Engstrom, Mike Franz, Phyllis Gehl, Mark Hahn, Joan Hansen, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Susan Knoll, Susan Kwast, Logan Landon, Larson family, Marilyn Leese, Bob & Cathy Luders, Carolyn McCready, Marilyn Mellema, Jim Miller and Family, Shirley Pearson, Roger Perham, Randy Preston, Jacqueline Riegling, Frank Rothfuss, Thiago Saliba, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Schuen Family, Ilene Seadal, Karen Selle, Esther Sellman, Jim Searfoss, Michael Smith, Lauren Sytsma, Shirley Tedford, Jeremiah (JD) Thamban, Ronnie VanderVen, John Walls, Peyton Wollen, Kathy Young, Susan Youngren, Kay Zeaman and Kathryn Zielinski.

We also lift up in prayer this morning the pastor and people of Bethany Lutheran Church in Kaleva, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

This Week's Calendar Highlights

Monday, November 25

Fitness Class (Functional Movement), 10 a.m.

Art Class, 5 p.m.

NAMI Family to Family Class, 6 p.m.

Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

20th Annual Community Interfaith Thanksgiving at the Cathedral of St. Andrew, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, November 26

Council on Aging, 8 a.m.

Stroller Strides, 9 a.m.

Fitness Class (Yoga), 11 a.m.

Hospitality Committee, 5:30 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Committee Meeting, 5:45 p.m.

Stephen Ministry Peer Support, 6 p.m.

Women's Book Club, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 27

Fitness Class (Tai Chi), 9 a.m.

Cub Scouts, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 28

Thanksgiving—Office Closed

Thanksgiving Day Gathering, 12:30 p.m.

Friday, November 29

Thanksgiving Holiday—Office Closed

Saturday, November 30

Fitness Class (Tai Chi), 8:30 a.m.

Fitness Class (Yoga), 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 1

Traditional Worship Services, 8 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Rejoice Worship Service, 9:15 a.m.

Sr High Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.

Alleluia Bells, noon

Lectio Divina, noon

LWR Quilting, noon

Advent by Candlelight, 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Wreath Pick Up Underway!

If you ordered a Christmas Wreath, it is available for pick up in the Youth Room **today**. Cash or check payment is due at pick up. Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and put 'wreaths' in the memo line. Thank you very much for supporting our High School Youth!



Lessons for Next Sunday, December 1

Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14

Psalms 122

Matthew 24:36-44



"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:21

October 2019

Dear Partners in Ministry,

Six months ago, we celebrated the substantial completion of a yearlong building project. In the weeks ahead we come to the official conclusion of the three-year Capital Campaign which provided the resources to move forward with this significant expansion, renovation and upgrading of our facilities to serve this congregation's ministry. With courage and deep generosity, the people of Trinity have supported amazing improvements to our old house.

As we come to yearend 2019, we would urge your consideration of a special gift to care for our future together. Please consider:

a gift to our Capital Campaign – This fall we are beginning to service the \$2 million construction loan that allowed us to complete our \$5.8 million building project. Your yearend gift to our Capital Campaign will help us reduce the overall mortgage that will be part of our operating budget in the years ahead. Help us reduce our debt and dedicate more of our operating budget to mission and ministry!

a gift to the Building Endowment Fund – Gifts to the Building Endowment Fund, a new "Forever Gift" fund that makes distributions annually to support maintenance of and improvements to our facilities, are gifts to the future care of our church home. A new fund at Trinity in the last three years, the Building Endowment Fund has grown to more than \$200,000, allowing for a distribution of \$6500 in the fall of 2019.

a gift to the Mission Endowment Fund – Gifts to the Mission Endowment Fund are "Forever Gifts" to ministries beyond our doors. A long-standing investment in our life together, at the end of the third quarter of 2019 the Mission Endowment Fund was valued at \$555,000, allowing for a \$19,250 distribution to organizations serving in our community and to other benevolent partners in the fall of 2019.

The people of Trinity are an amazingly generous community of believers. With courage and vision, we embraced a massive building project that will benefit those who will care for this congregation's ministry for the next fifty years. And during the three years of our Capital Campaign, we increased our benevolent giving from \$218,262 to \$263,520, providing nearly 25% of our annual offering giving to ministries beyond our doors. With your support, we hope to continue to grow in our benevolence ministries.

At yearend 2019, please consider a gift to one of the funds described in this letter. And continue to help us meet our annual budget with your regular offering giving. We are grateful for your support and partnership as the people of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Grateful for the ministry we share,

Pastor Bob Linstrom, Senior Pastor
Brad and Sherry Blair and John and Kris Fox, Capital Campaign Co-Chairs
Chris Engle, Treasurer

Some Ideas for Year End Giving from our Endowment Fund Committee

Gifts of appreciated investments:

Gifts of appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares could save capital gains taxes and allow for the deduction of the current value of the shares. Make sure that the shares themselves are donated. Do not sell the shares first.

Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA:

Who should consider a QCD? Traditional IRA owners or beneficiaries who are at least 70 ½ in age should consider a QCD. If this describes you, talk to your financial advisor or tax professional to discuss your specific situation.

Be aware that the distribution from the IRA must be made payable directly to the charity for it to qualify. Also, you will want to keep records of your distributions to provide to your tax preparer. Most IRA custodians will not report this information automatically.

Please consult with a tax professional for the most up-to-date advice. The information contained here is not intended as tax advice and it is not a substitute for tax advice.

"Deck the Halls" of Trinity TODAY beginning at noon



At noon **today**, we will gather in the Courtyard for a potluck-style lunch and then divide into teams to decorate the church. Trinity will provide the entrée and beverages. If possible, please bring: a salad (last name A – L) or a dessert (last name M – Z). All are welcome!

Trinity Choir Rehearsals for Advent Lessons and Carols



You are welcome to participate in the December 8 Lessons and Carols service with the Women's or the Men's Chorus. Rehearsals will be on Sunday at 9:45 a.m. **today** (Men's Chorus) and on Sunday, December 1 (Women's Chorus). Combined Choruses will rehearse at 9:30 a.m. on December 8.

To participate in the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service, choir rehearsal will be on December 19 at 7:30 p.m. and on December 24 at 6:15 p.m. Contact Sid Hoeksema at sidhoeks@aol.com for more information.

20th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration on Monday



You are invited to the Cathedral of St. Andrew tomorrow evening, Monday, November 25 at 7 p.m., for a community celebration of coming together and giving thanks for one another. Light refreshments featuring foods from various traditions will follow the annual interfaith Thanksgiving celebration. Childcare will also be provided. A freewill offering will be taken for the work of God's Kitchen, which serves the Heartside community. For more info, check InterfaithUnderstanding.org or call 616-331-5702.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner Gathering on November 28



No place to go for Thanksgiving Day? Good news! You are invited to gather in the Trinity Courtyard for a Thanksgiving meal, and to play games and watch football with others. All are welcome! Sign up by Monday, November 25 via Signup Genius or contact Carrie Wygmans at cwygs@comcast.net or at 616.648.5254.

Advent Baked Potato Bar, beginning December 4



Our Advent Suppers will once again offer a Baked Potato Bar. On each of the three Advent Wednesdays, December 4, 11 and 18 at 5:15 p.m., Trinity will provide the baked potatoes, butter, cheese and sour cream along with beverages. Sign up today to bring additional toppings for the Potato Bar. Come and have a baked potato or two, load it up with your favorite toppings and enjoy good fellowship.

Advent by Candlelight Signup for Women and Teen Girls



There is still room for you at the table. Today is the last day to sign up to be a part of this year's Advent by Candlelight. Our speaker for this year will be Sister Diane Zerfas from the Dominican Center. The signup board is located in the Courtyard fellowship area. If you have questions about this event on the evening of Sunday, December 1, please contact Angela Davis.

Christmas Eve Youth Instrumentalists

We are seeking youth instrumentalists to play for the 3 p.m. Christmas Eve Service. If any youth musicians are interested in playing, please contact Larry Biser at larry.biser@tlcgr.org for more information.

Worship Participants

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Robert Linstrom, Senior Pastor
Rev. Dan Schewe, Associate Pastor
Rev. Karen Niemeyer, Assisting Pastor

Music Staff

Larry Biser, Organist & Director of Bell Choirs
Sid Hoeksema, Director of Trinity Choir
Deb DeWitt, Trinity Choir Accompanist
Kim Owens, Rejoice Music Coordinator

Traditional Services

Acolytes

8 a.m.: Tessa Grooters, Brendan Cargill
10:45 a.m.: James Gingras, Lyndon Turnage

Cantor:

10:45 a.m.: Brad Blair

Bread Baker: Shelley Mishler

Sacristans

8 a.m.: Kathy & David Young
10:45 a.m.: Jo Murphy, Joyce Bonbrake

Communion Assistants

8 a.m.: Fred & Kathy Wilcox
10:45 a.m.: Brad Kessel, Don Kishman

Lectors

8 a.m.: Sue Coates
10:45 a.m.: Gale Volkerding

Greeters

8 a.m.: Bill & Meri Leidel
10:45 a.m.: John Fox, Lynn Getzin

Ushers

8 a.m.: Gloria Von der Heide, Vince Schumacher
10:45 a.m.: David Kuecherer, Jerry Hendricks,
Bob Crossman, Chris Kutschinski

Rejoice Service at 9:15 a.m.

Band: Beyond Belief

Sound Board Operator: Brooks Alder

ProPresenter Operator: Randy Kuntzman

Bread Baker: Shelley Mishler

Acolytes

Peter Larson, Mollie Brandstadt

Sacristans

Bruce & Joyce Schlanderer

Communion Assistants

Morrie & Cindy Fongers

Lector

Bonnie Brandstadt

Greeters

Todd & Bonnie Brandstadt

Ushers

Dan & Carol Butler

For the Record:

Thank you for supporting Trinity's ministry.
The total offering for Sunday, November 17, was \$33,016. Sunday worship attendance was 427.

YTD through 11/17/2019 Budgeted	\$ 905,688
YTD through 11/17/2019 Actual	\$ 854,262
YTD Variance	\$ (51,426)
YTD % Variance	-5.7%