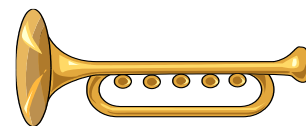




TRINITY TRUMPET

January 2022



Notice of Annual Congregational Meeting

On **Sunday, February 6, 2022**, Trinity will hold its annual congregational meeting. The meeting will be held after worship in the sanctuary. In the interest of Covid safety, there will unfortunately be no potluck before the meeting. The purpose of this meeting will be to review the annual reports of the previous year and to select voting members to attend the synod assembly in May. I think the date of synod assembly is either May 12-14 or 15-17 and will be in Mt. Pleasant. We are invited to send one male and one female voting member, along with Pastor Kjersten. Please consider if you would like to be nominated to attend the assembly.

PASTOR'S LETTER

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." —John 1:14

If you watched Bible chat this week (which as I sit down to write this newsletter article is still not loading, and it is TBD if Mark Zuckerberg or I will win this battle), I spent a lot of time on this verse. This verse introduces the central premise of John's Gospel, that God, the same God who created the universe and all that is in it, even humans, that God slipped into skin and moved into our world.

This concept of the incarnation, of the Word becoming flesh, gets me every year. But it especially got me this year as we were once again able to worship together on Christmas Eve. Over the past nearly two years now of living in a time of pandemic, I have learned more and more about the importance of shared physical space. Being together in worship, visiting with our shut in members in their homes, hearing the bustle of the Co-op around the building during the week, these are things I do not take for granted anymore. The feel of the chalice, the taste of the Eucharist, the way the organ vibrates the floor when I stand in the back of the sanctuary waiting for the service to begin, these were things I missed when we were apart.

But as much as I've realized the value of shared physical space, the pandemic has also taught me the way physical space has a way of transcending time and space. When we were worshiping in my living room, reading the comments popping up on my iPhone during the service felt like holy conversation. And though they are not physically there, I can Maxine, Pam, Sonya, and others with us in worship through the camera mounted in the back. The camera has a face in my mind and heart, many faces really, some faces I don't even recognize, but I know are there.

There's also a way this building holds presence. Fifty years of people have worshiped in this sanctuary, and I can feel the weight of those years of prayers and praise when we pray and praise. When we moved back from my living room to the sanctuary, even when there were only six of us in it, at times it felt full to the gills with those who wouldn't have been there physically even if we'd been worshiping physically, but who are always there, that great communion of saints.

All of this is the miracle of the incarnation. The Word became flesh and lived among us. And even though He is not among us physically in the same way now as He was in the time of the Gospels, we still encounter Him every day, in the community of our sisters and brothers in Christ, in the wonders of the natural world, in the bread and wine and water of the sacraments, in the very air we breathe. God is here. With us. What a wonderful God who loves us so much to live among us.

Peace,
Pastor Kjersten

THE NEW YEAR

I must give credit to Karen Wise for coming up with this clever musical journey into a new year — in this case, 2022 — is that possible? Am I getting THAT old?

The new year is much like a new arrangement of a familiar tune. We will know the melody line but will discover variations in tempo, mood and harmony.

There will be times when we are comfortable with the chord structures — times when passages will seem dissonant. Moments when we will feel in total unison with those around us —and moments when we might be chosen to go through measures off time, alone.

The year will be splattered with brief times to rest and breathe, but there will also be times when we must carry over — holding the same note with support, energy and driven intensity.

There will be long sections that are in our range — easy to handle — easy to face. But there will be times when the expectations of God will seem too high to reach and the disappointments of mankind too low to sing at all.

Our back-up, at times, will be strong and exciting, making us sound better than we are. Other times, everything will be a cappella, leaving bare our abilities and our mistakes.

Life will seldom be even but will be dotted with uneven circumstances, new experiences and a crisis or two. The accidentals will keep us alert to spiritual things and the bar lines of God's Word will always let us know where we are.

The optional endings will be fun and exciting — providing exhilaration and incentive.

The repeat signs will help us learn again what God tried to teach us before.

Some of the lines will seem difficult at first. We will have to work harder on some sections than others. But through the help of those on either side of us and the powerful direction of the Author and Arranger, the Almighty God, the notes will result in sounds of victory and praise.

For no matter how well we write the notes of our life — only God can add the tenderness, the excitement, the warmth and the concentration that makes our life sing to those around us.

Wishing you a wonderful 2022!

David Lipps
Director of Music



Choir Rehearsal Schedule

After a brief holiday break, the choir will be back singing on Sunday, January 9. Choir is continuing the schedule of rehearsing on Sundays after worship to take advantage of the warm sanctuary. The Sunday choir schedule is 10 am warm-up for worship, 10:30 worship, 11:45 rehearsal. Questions, talk to David or any of the choir members. They'll all certainly tell you, no one has more fun than the choir.

Candle Fund

As of Christmas Eve we now have our regular Sanctuary Candles back. Council has established a Candle Fund to be funded by donations from the congregation. You can donate directly to the fund or in Honor or in Memory of a loved one or for an anniversary or a Special Occasion you would like to commemorate. The cost per candle is \$10.50. These will be posted in the following month in the Trumpet. We change the candles twice a year, Easter and Christmas Eve.

Wayne Walentowski

Memorial Candles

Two of the candles burning now are burning in memory of Joseph Michael McAlpine, Linda Grubaugh-Buckner's son, and Joe Bill Grubaugh, Linda's brother.

Walking with Jesus and Martin Luther Indoor Walking and Prayer Group Tuesdays, January 11 and 25 at 1 pm

Are you someone for whom walking is the best form of exercise? Have you always wanted to study the bible while reflecting on the beautiful and unique qualities of our Lutheran faith? If you answered yes to either question, please join Tresa Tulley for a new walking group, Walking with Jesus and Martin Luther.

The purpose of the group is simply to maintain or increase or physical mobility by walking or rolling inside the church. We will meet together at 1 pm to walk inside the social hall at your own pace and distance. At the start of our time together, we will read a Psalm. The hope is that meditating on the Psalm will strengthen our hearts in the same way that walking/rolling through the church will strengthen our muscles. I hope you will join Jesus, Martin Luther, and me (Tresa) as we meditate on the Psalms and maneuver through the church.



What fun we had this advent! Here are some photos of all we did.

Advent Bags

During the season of Advent, it's been our tradition at Trinity to put a food item aside each day to be donated to The Franklin Pantry. Here are just a few of the bags we gathered. Thanks Connie for organizing and recruiting a crew to decorate the bags.



December Caroling

Covid meant we weren't able to carol, but that did not stop us from spreading Christmas cheer to our shut-ins. Thank you Connie and Dick for hosting a fun evening of food, fellowship, and decorating cards for our shut-ins. Here are some photos of the evening.



Tree of Wishes

Thank you to everyone who supported the Tree of Wishes this year. Thanks to your generosity 21 people from 4 families received gifts and food for a merry Christmas.



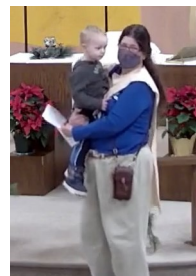


Celebrating the birth of our Savior

Here are some pictures from our Christmas worship opportunities. Both the Christmas Eve service and the Christmas Pageant are available on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/trinity.church.581>) if you would like to watch the whole service.



Christmas Pageant





Chalking the Doors for Epiphany 2022

The tradition of blessing houses by chalking the door is part of Epiphany celebrations around the world. The C + M + B stands for the traditional names of the three wise men along with the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*: “May Christ bless the house.” Trinity has had the practice of blessing our church home on Epiphany for several years now. Pastor Kjersten had so much fun blessing houses last year, she wants to take it on the road again in 2022. In January, she is hoping to visit as many houses as she can to bless and chalk your home. Call or email Pastor Kjersten (pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org) to let her know if you would like your house blessed and when.

Note: Sorry Arizona, Texas, and Florida Trinitarians, as much as Pastor Kjersten would LOVE to bless your home, this is a Michigan only offer. The transportation budget doesn't account for cross-state travel.

Wednesday Bible Chats

Throughout Epiphany we will be settling into the beginning of Jesus' ministry in the Gospel of Luke. We will start with the Baptism of Jesus on January 9th. Then on the 16th we will hear of Jesus' first miracle of water turned to wine at the wedding at Cana. From there, on the 23rd, we will start with Luke 4:14, appropriately titled “The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry,” and go from there. This gives us the opportunity to really settle into Luke for several weeks before we get into Lent, learn some of the characteristics of Luke's understanding of Jesus. There are two opportunities every Wednesday to connect with the Gospel lesson. At 10:30 am, Pastor Kjersten goes on Facebook Facebook Live to share some of the things the texts have her pondering. Then at 5:30 pm, we meet in the lounge at Trinity for conversation on the text. Both of these are great chances to bring your questions and hear what others are thinking. You might even hear your ideas in the next Sunday sermon.

There will be no evening Bible chat on Wednesday, January 12th.

Epiphany (e-piph-a-ny)

(n) A moment of sudden revelation; a poignant, sudden, profound understanding of something.

Thank You

Dear Folks at Trinity,

I'm always extremely grateful at the beyond-generous Christmas gifts that Trinity gives each year. A small, tightly-budgeted church is not the image of the prolific donor you would expect. But, like so many examples I could name, Trinity once again proves that it is "The Little Engine That Could." Thank you so much for your kindest generosity!

David Lipps

Dear Trinity,

I echo David's words above. The generosity you all show over and over again is amazing. I am so grateful to be with you all in this journey of discovering God's work for us.

Peace,
Pastor Kjersten

Dear members and friends of Trinity,

We thank everyone for your generous support of the Special Building Fund, which totals \$8,476.00 as of December 2021. A portion of the funds have been used for roof facia repair and front window replacement. The balance of the remaining fund is \$4319.91. Other projects will include exterior doors and kitchen upgrade.

Thanking God for your continued support,
Trinity Finance Team

Dear Trinity,

Thank you for the warm welcome you showed my friends when they joined us for worship on Christmas Eve. They very much enjoyed the service and felt very welcome and included. I am glad to be part of such a great community.

Tresa Tulley

Also check the table in the entryway for a collection of Christmas cards Trinity has been sent.

Roadrunners Back on the Road
11:30 am, Thursday, January 20
Coney Island Cafe
962 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, MI 49017



Roadrunners are Trinity friends and members on the road checking out local restaurants. On the third Thursday of each month we meet at a different restaurant for fun and fellowship. Everyone is invited and you can bring a friend (or more) to have good food and great conversation.

2022 Tentative Roadrunners Schedule

January 20-Coney Island
February 17-Cracker Barrel
March 17-The Griffin
April 21-TLC (Mediterranean)
May 19-R&R
June 16- Bob Evans
July 21- Lucky Rooster
August 18- J B Whiskey
September 22-TBA
October 20- Turkeyville
November 17-TBA
December 15- Clara's on the River (6:00pm)

Wayne Walentowski

Annual Reports Due

Reports to be included are due to Pastor Kjersten by Monday, January 17. The Annual Report will then be released via email and regular mail the week before the annual meeting.

Offering Envelopes in Hallway Boxes

Offering envelopes for 2022 are in member boxes in the hallway. New members who don't have boxes yet, we're working on those. But for the time being, check with Pastor Kjersten or Doug Martens. One of them has your envelopes.

Offering can also be made via Paypal if that is easier. There is a link to Trinity's Paypal site on our website: www.tlcbattlecreek.org.



St. Thomas Breakfast Program Saturday, February 12

Next Dates: April 9



Trinity and St. Peter are once again partnering up to serve our neighbors by helping out at the St. Thomas Breakfast Program. In the winter, breakfast is served on Saturday mornings. Meals continue to be served “to go” style, which means we need 6-7 volunteers each day. We will need 3 volunteers starting at 7 am, and 4 starting at 8 am. Breakfast is served until 10 am, with some clean up after. Linn Kracht from St. Peter is organizing the effort. Contact Linn at ldkracht@gmail.com to volunteer.

Post/Franklin Food Pantry

One of the ways Trinity supports our neighbors is by volunteering at the Post/Franklin Food Pantry hosted by First UMC. Trinity volunteers help stock the food pantry and distribute food bags twice a month on Tuesdays. We also have a wagon in the entryway for donations to the pantry. For more information on this ongoing ministry, talk to Eileen Martens.

Collecting Family Fare Receipts

As of November 28th we are up to \$107,000. Only \$43,000 to go. When we get to \$150,000 Trinity will receive \$1,000 from Spartan Foods. Thank You to all who are bringing their receipts to Church.

— Wayne Walentowski

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Worship Assistants

January 2—Jeff Andert
January 9—
January 16—Ellis Cutler
January 23— Doug Martens
January 30—Laurie Swanson

Sound Volunteers

January 2—Don Boulton
January 9—Ellis Cutler
January 16—
January 23— Ellis Cutler
January 30—Ellis Cutler

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

Back inside for worship means we once again need volunteers to help prepare communion. Altar Guild volunteers set up for communion and clean up after. Benefits include a fun-filled lesson from Pastor Kjersten on what all the things are called and getting to take part in the sacramental ministry of the congregation. See Wayne Walentowski or Pastor Kjersten to be added to the schedule.

Readings for January

Sunday, January 2

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 144:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:1-18

Sunday, January 9

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Sunday, January 16

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Sunday, January 23

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
Luke 4:14-21

Sunday, January 30

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13
Luke 4:21-30

January Birthdays

1/16 – Millie Sullivan
1/19 – Maxine Hammond
1/19 - Kathleen Millard
1/29 - Travis Sullivan
1/30 - Dick Everson
1/31 - Linda Hermann



January Anniversaries

1/8 - Bill & Millie Sullivan
1/11 - Pamela Geleff

2022 Lay Assistant Schedule

January

2 – Jeff Andert
9 – Tish Gancer
16 – Ellis Cutler
23 – Doug Martens
30 – Laurie Swanson

February

6 – Teresa Momenee-Young
13 – Kendra Witkowski-Lehman
20 – Mary Conklin
27 – Tish Gancer

March

6 – Jeff Andert
13 – Ellis Cutler
20 – Laurie Swanson
27 – Tresa Tulley

April

3 – Teresa Momenee-Young
10 – Doug Martens
17 – Kendra Witkowski-Lehman
24 – Chase Lehman

May

1 – Mary Conklin
8 – Ellis Cutler
15 – Tresa Tulley
22 – Teresa Momenee-Young
29 – Jeff Andert

June

5 – Doug Martens
12 – Ellis Cutler
19 – Gloria Kolodizieizyck
26 – Kendra Witkowski-Lehman

July

3 – Gloria Kolodizieizyck
10 – Mary Conklin
17 – Chase Lehman
24 – Tish Gancer
31 – Teresa Momenee-Young

August

7 – Gloria Kolodizieizyck
14 – Doug Martens
21 – Tresa Tulley
28 – Laurie Swanson

September

4 – Ellis Cutler
11 – Jeff Andert
18 – Mary Conklin
25 – Gloria Kolodizieizyck

October

2 – Chase Lehman
9 – Doug Martens
16 – Ellis Cutler
23 – Gloria Kolodizieizyck
30 – Kendra Witkowski-Lehman

November

6 – Tish Gancer
13 – Laurie Swanson
20 – Teresa Momenee-Young
27 – Jeff Andert

December

4 – Chase Lehman
11 – Ellis Cutler
18 – Tresa Tulley
25 – Doug Martens

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT WITH TRINITY

FACEBOOK

Trinity's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/trinity.church.581>

"Like" the Trinity Facebook page to follow events and activities.

WEBSITE

Trinity website: <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org>

Check out the **What's New** tab to see the latest events going on at Trinity. You can also find transcripts of Pastor Kjersten's sermons under the **Worship** tab.

TRUMPET

To update your newsletter email/mail preferences, contact the church office at office@tlcbattlecreek.org or 963-5356.

Let us know if you would like to be added our quarterly mailing list to receive a color brochure of what's new at Trinity.

ONLINE GIVING

Trinity now has online giving. Simply go to Trinity's website, <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org> and click on the yellow button that says "Donate" on the bottom left corner of the page. Or go to Trinity's Facebook page and click on the blue button that says "Donate" on the right side of the page.

CHURCH STAFF

Kjersten Sullivan, Pastor
pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org
(805) 458-6074

David Lipps, Director of Music
lippsdr@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

Kendra Witkowski, President	967-3474	Kathy Chapman	660-8548
Teresa Momenee-Young, Vice President	753-2411	Tish Gancer	832-4719
Laurie Swanson, Secretary	729-5464	Wayne Walentowski	830-5094
Jeff Andert			

COMMUNITY

Sharon Cutler
Pam Ellison-Krings
Maxine Hammond
Linda Hermann
Rose Walentowski

IN OUR HEARTS/ON OUR MINDS

Family and friends of Don Herdman
Family and friends of Joyce Shaffer
Family and friends of Michael Alpine
Family and friends of Joe Grubaugh
Family and friends of Bill Sullivan
Lanny Johnston, Jr. (Sharon's son)
Jim Himes (Maxine's nephew)
Mary (Tish's friend)
Karen Rambadt (Ellis's niece-in-law)



JANUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 10:30 am Worship	3 2 pm Funeral service for Don Herdman	4	5 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat 5:30 pm Bible Chat	6 1 pm Audit	7	8
9 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	10	11	12 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat No 5:30 pm Bible Chat	13	14	15
16 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	17 Martin Luther King Day—Office Closed	18	19 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat 5:30 pm Bible Chat	20 11:30 am Roadrunners @ Coney Island Cafe	21	22 Pastor Gone
23 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	24 Pastor Gone	25 7 pm Council Meeting	26 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat 5:30 pm Bible Chat	27	28	29
30 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	31 Trumpet articles due					