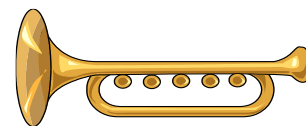




TRINITY TRUMPET

December 2022



Notice of Special Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, December 11, 2022, we will be holding a special congregational meeting following worship for the purpose of approving the budget for 2023. The budget will be available in advance of the meeting. This meeting will also be broadcast on Facebook Live. A budget is a missional document, it guides direction for the coming year. A draft of the bulletin will be available in the December Trumpet for you to look over in advance. Please plan on staying after worship for this important opportunity to discern how the Spirit is calling us in 2023.

God's Word is Our Great Heritage

The historical Bibles displayed beneath the Communion Table were found in the former Church library when books were moved to make space for groups working for the community. They make clear Trinity's heritage from before 1903 when our congregation was organized. We don't know the whole story, but these Bibles give us some interesting clues. Perhaps someone reading this will have more information.

One Bible was printed in 1888. It lists the name of Lizetta Speaker, and in German writing tells that the Bible was presented to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. (St. Paul was the original name of this congregation, as can be seen on the cornerstone in the Welcome Center of Trinity's current building. The name was changed to Trinity when having two Lutheran churches in Battle Creek with the same name became too confusing.) The Bible contains references to Mrs. Catherine Hill Forning Fellows and tells of how Catherine Turvey who lived from 1800-1877 and married a Mr. Joseph Hill.

The second large Bible was printed in 1891, and shows the name of Lizetta Speaker. Some of the handwriting is in German.

The small Bible on display belonged to Alfild Christensen who was born in Oslo, Norway, in 1886. It is printed in Norwegian. Alfild is Bob Swanson's grandmother (Laurie Swanson's great-grandmother fled Prussia in 1880.)

These Bibles give us a hint onto the background of this church and its members. Unless we have Native American heritage, all of us are immigrants or children of immigrants. Our families fled in order to find work or to escape constant war. Some of us may be offspring of people brought here against their will. Trinity was founded by people with similar experiences. That their faith was important to them is evidenced by these Bibles that bring their stories to new generations. God's Word was and is our great heritage.

- Laurie Swanson

Trinity's Bible Old Bible

This church's big old Bible now lives on the top shelf...
Out of reach; too heavy to use; but not forgotten.

Purchased 120 years ago, it brought the Word of God
to immigrants who have braved a dangerous journey
across a treacherous sea.

All were sick, some died; and yes, some were born in route.

They came to escape hunger and wars waged for land and power.
They came for work; they'd heard of cereal... an new idea for breakfast.
The owner of the cereal plant, that's still just down the street,
gave the land on which to build a church...
the forerunner of this church.

Slowly, they put their lives together.
In spite of World Wars, pandemics, and a depression
their fortunes grew.

First they built a small, Lutheran church... then a larger one.
The Bible and the faith that taught that ALL are accepted ad loved by
God, sustained them.

The Bible was in English, a language many could not read...
But they knew their children would.
Indeed, their children came to prosper in this new world.
We are their children.

Today, more come... some fleeing poverty and discrimination
in our own country.

Others come to escape hunger and fear of death.
Some come by clawing their way through unmapped jungle.
They walk... some die; some survive.
They come to escape wars now waged for drugs.

The old Bible still holds the same message of faith for new people.
This message tells us we are to love and serve our neighbors
and all who come in search of peace.

By faith, still grounded in that old Bible, we will.

Christmas Worship Opportunities



Special Christmas Worship Opportunities

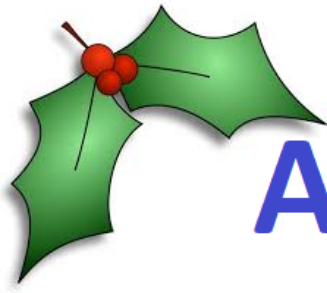
Christmas Eve Service - Saturday, December 24 at 7:00pm

We welcome the birth of our Savior with the traditional service filled with readings and carols and ending with the singing of Silent Night by candlelight. Bring your Advent Bags to place under the Christmas tree.

Sunday, December 25 at 10:30am - Pop-up Christmas Pageant

What better way to celebrate the birth of Jesus than the one, the only, Trinity Lutheran Church Pop-Up Christmas Pageant. This is the Children's Christmas Pageant you remember as a child, but without the long, boring rehearsal and you never have to age out of participating! There will be singing, costumes, laughter and more! Come a few minutes before worship to choose a part, pick up a script and a costume, and join in the fun. There will be parts of all sizes, from starring roles to, well, stars. Want to just sit and watch? There's a part for you too! The Heavenly Host help sing all the songs. The Christmas pageant is a great event to bring friends or family.





Advent Events



Trinity Christmas Party at the Eversons December 16, 6:30



The Annual TLC Party will be held on Friday, December 16, starting at 6:30. We will again be making cards for our adopted families and shut-ins since nursing homes have returned to COVID protocols. Last year's cards were beautiful, one-of-a-kind creations that were perfect additions to the Christmas baskets and shut-in bags! The Eversons will be providing a light meal of Sloppy Joes, etc, along with rum balls (talk to Wayne if you're unfamiliar with these), Rice Krispy Treat trees and Dark Chocolate Salted Caramel Oreo Pie. The best part of the evening is sharing laughs, fellowship and maybe a little wine or coffee with our Trinity friends!

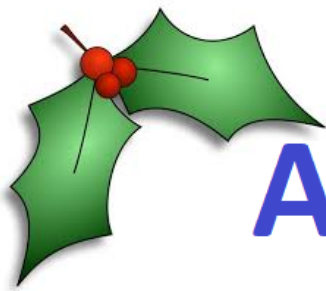
Advent Bags

It has become a tradition at Trinity to fill an "Advent Bag" with items for the Franklin Food Pantry during advent. Bags are available at the rear of the sanctuary for you to take home and fill during the advent season and return when it's full. If you need ideas, there is a list of possible items to put in the bag on the reverse side. Bags are due back by Sunday, January 1, but any time before then is perfect. We'll be loading them into our cars then and taking them to the pantry the following Tuesday. Thanks for helping with one the ways we minister to our neighborhood!

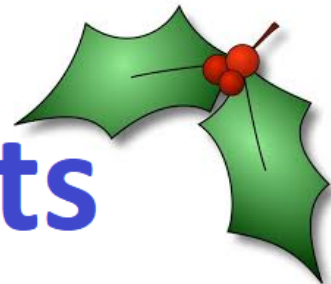
Christmas Gifts for the Church

'Tis the season for giving. The cost of just about everything has gone up, including basic needs like hand soap, dish soap, bleach, cleaning cloths, and paper towels. All those items are needed for the kitchen and the sacristy...the area where Communion vessels and cups are prepared and cleaned.

You don't have to wrap these items in Christmas paper, but by dropping one or two into your grocery cart and dropping them under our tree, you can provide a much needed item... a gift really... for the church, its members, and visitors. A few dollars can make a visit to Trinity much healthier and pleasant. Santa will be pleased.



Advent Events



Tree of Wishes

It's time for the Tree of Wishes to support the Santa's Helper community program. This year we are supporting 22 individuals from four families with gifts and food for their holiday celebration. Names and gift suggestions are on the tree in the narthex. A few names are already claimed, but there is still lots of opportunities. We are still looking for gifts for:

From Family A

17 year old boy—wears size XL, size 11 shoes, likes gift cards

From Family B

12 year old boy—wears men's size 38-40, sized 10 1/2 shoe

9 year old boy—wears size 10-12, size 3 shoe

5 year old girl—wears size 4+, size 11 shoe

From Family D

15 year old boy—wears size L, size 9 shoes, likes sweat pants

11 year old girl—wears size small in tops, size 7 in pants, size 2 shoes, likes craft supplies, babies, and makeup

3 year old boy—wears size 5T, size 10 in shoes, likes Spiderman and racecars

Gifts should be \$20-\$25 each, and a gift card is a great option. Please wrap your gift or card with the Christmas tag attached to help identify it. Please return gifts to church by Friday, December 16, 2022, for distribution on Sunday December 18, 2022. For question or to sign up for a gift, call Eileen Martens 269-275-0352. Thanks everyone for your support!

Poinsettia Care

Pastor Kjersten jokes about killing poinsettias, but you don't have to follow her lead. With a little help, your Christmas Eve poinsettia can bring color to your home for several months! Here are some helpful tips:

- 1) Protect it on the trip home—It will likely be under 40 degrees when you leave worship, so cover it with a plastic sleeve or bag. And take it straight home, don't leave it in a chilly car.
- 2) Let it hang out in a sunny window. Poinsettias are tropical plants, so they'll be happy with all the sun you can give them. They're apparently quite forgiving and will tolerate low light, but they'll stretch and become leggy.
- 3) Keep it well watered, a cup or so every 2-3 days, don't let them dry out.

One final note: the plants have a reputation of being dangerous to pets, but they're really not. They could irritate your pet's stomach if eaten, but they are not severely toxic.

December Kindness 2022

MONDAY



5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely

TUESDAY



6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find

WEDNESDAY



7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today

THURSDAY

1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others

FRIDAY

2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are

SATURDAY

3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment

SUNDAY

4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about

12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today

19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated

26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature

13 See how many different people you can smile at today

20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need

27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat

14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one

21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you

28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy

15 Contact an elderly neighbour and brighten up their day

22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed

29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people

16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to

23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness

30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why

17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you

24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh

31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2023

18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving

25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!

11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank

17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you

24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Roadrunners On the Road to Clara's

SPECIAL EVENING EDITION

6 pm, Thursday, December 15

44 McCamly St, Battle Creek, MI 49017



Join the Roadrunners for a special evening edition of the monthly meal out. We will be meeting at Clara's on the River at 6 pm so we can enjoy the beauty of Battle Creek all lit up for Christmas. Please sign up on the sign up sheet in the entryway so we can get reservations in advance. Roadrunners, remember, are members and friends of Trinity who enjoy food and fellowship. So if you enjoy sharing a meal and conversation with your Trinity friends, you are a member of the Roadrunners.

— Wayne Walentowski

Wednesday Bible Chats

10:30 am and 5:30 pm in the Lounge at Trinity

On Facebook Live Tuesdays at 1 pm.

What is Bible chat? Exactly what it sounds like, it's a chat about the Bible text for the coming Sunday. When I moved to Michigan from California, I left behind a text study group that I loved, so I turned you into my new text study group. The format of these chats is simple, we start by reading the text aloud together, and then we talk about what we heard, insights we noticed, questions the text raised. I bring some introductory background information and research, but the conversation really goes wherever the group takes it. There are two opportunities to join the conversation, a morning conversation at 10:30 am on Wednesdays and an evening one at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays. There is also an overview of the texts on Facebook Live on Tuesdays at 1 pm.



Free Learning Opportunity through the Synod

Beginning in winter 2023, our Synod (the North/West Lower Michigan Synod) of the ELCA will offer a series of six-week Zoom courses lead by seminary professors. These courses are open to everyone and are free of charge. The first class has, in Pastor Kjersten's opinion, a very seminary professor title, "Corinthian Correspondence: Conflict, Case Studies, Contemporary Congregations, and Christ," taught by the Rev. Dr. Walther F. Taylor, Jr., the Ernest W. and Edith S. Ogram Professor Emeritus of New Testament Studies, Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University. Don't let the title scare you, the class looks excellent! The goal of the study is to learn from Paul and his house churches in the ancient Greek city of Corinth—both how they fell into conflict and how Paul sought to move them to reconciliation and ministry. The class sessions will also focus on problems facing believers today, such as how to deal with divisions, how to live together positive ways, how to live as physical bodies, how to live in intimate relationships, who should lead congregations, including the roles of women and men, how believers can look beyond themselves, and what really is the resurrection and how does it affect life today?

Each session will be self-contained so even if you have to miss a week, you can still take part in later sessions. The class will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings: January 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14, 2023 from 7:00 – 8:15pm ET.

For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.mittensynod.org/events/adult-theological-education/>

Trinity Lutheran Church
2023 Proposed Budget

10-21-2022

	2022 Budget	Proposed 2023 Budget
<u>BENEVOLENCE</u>		
111 N/W LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD, ELCA other	6000.00	6000.00
TOTAL BENEVOLENCE	6000.00	6000.00
<u>WORSHIP</u>		
1212 Director of Music Salary	16626.00	
1212 B Director of music Salary Will Canfield		12600.00
1213 Substitute Organist		
1215 FICA Taxes	1272.00	
1215 B FICA Taxes Will Canfield		964.00
1220 Choir Music & Instruments		
Pipe Organ Maintenance	300.00	500.00
Piano Maintenece	300.00	300.00
Copyright Licenses	300.00	185.00
1230 Worship Supplies	600.00	600.00
1232 Communion Supplies		100.00
1233 Candles		350.00
TOTAL WORSHIP	19398.00	15599.00
<u>EDUCATION</u>		
1316 Family Camp	150.00	150.00
TOTAL EDUCATION	150	150
<u>WELCOMING & INVITING</u>		
1410 Evangelism		
1412 Advertising	200.00	200.00
1415 Fellowship		
1450 Stewardship Speaker/meal		
1460 Offering Envelopes	170.00	
TOTAL WELCOMING & INVITING	370.00	200.00

Trinity Lutheran Church
2023 Proposed Budget

10-21-2022

-2-

	2022 Budget	Proposed 2023 Budget
<u>SOCIAL JUSTICE/YOUTH</u>		
TOTAL SOCIAL JUSTICE/YOUTH		
<u>PASTORAL MINISTRY</u>		
1610 Salary	41208.00	42032.00
1611 Housing Allowance	12000.00	12000.00
1612 FICA Allowance	4070.00	4133.00
1613 Pension & Insurance	14920.00	15316.00
1614 HSA		
1615 Transportation Reimbursement Pastor	500.00	500.00
1616 Cont. Education 403 B Contribution	700.00	700.00
TOTAL PASTORAL MINISTRY	73398	74681
<u>CHURCH ADMINISTRATION</u>		
1720 Office Supplies/Ink/ computer Paper	600.00	600.00
Filing fees/safe deposit box/checks	150.00	150.00
1730 Postage	200.00	200.00
1733 Web service Domain	215.00	200.00
1740 Telephone/ Internet service	1605.00	1600.00
1750 Convention Expense		
TOTAL CHURCH ADMINISTRATION	2770	2750
<u>CHURCH PROPERTY</u>		
1811 Church Gas	2800.00	4500.00
1812 Church Electric	3400.00	4000.00
1813 Church Water	800.00	900.00
1820 Cleaning Services (Carpet)	500.00	500.00
1830 Insurance Ins. Workers Comp	4500.00	4800.00
		400.00
1840 Maintenance & Supplies/garbage Church Repairs	1500.00	1000.00
1842 Parking Lot		
1850 Snow Removal	700.00	500.00
1862 Roof MIF Payments	5952.00	5952.00
TOTAL CHURCH PROPERTY	20152	22552
TOTAL BUDGET	\$122,238.00	\$121,932.00

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Worship Assistants

December 4— Chase Lehman
December 11—Ellis Cutler
December 18—Tresa Tulley / Teresa Momenee-Young
December 14—Doug Martens
December 25—Doug Martens

Sound Volunteers

December 4—Ellis Cutler
December 11—Don Boulton
December 18—Ellis Cutler
December 24—Ellis Cutler
December 25—Don Boulton

Streaming Volunteers

December 4—Travis Sullivan
December 11—Chase Lehman
December 18—Travis Sullivan
December 24—Travis Sullivan
December 25—Chase Lehman

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

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 Diane Andert to learn more.

Readings for December

Sunday, December 4

Story of Rahab: Joshua 2:1-15, 22-24; 6:1-5, 15-17, 20-25
Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 11

Story of Ruth: Ruth 1:8-11, 14-18, 22; 2:2-3, 17-22; 3:1-10; 4:13
Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday, December 18

Story of Bathsheba: 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 14-27; 1 Kings 1:11-17, 29-31
Matthew 1:18-25

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day Pageant

December Birthdays

12/12 – John Kolodzieizyck
12/24 – Sharon Cutler
12/27 – Melody Mason



December Anniversaries

12/27 – Barry & Kathy Chapman

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 Pastor Kjersten at pastor@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

Will Canfield, Organist/Choir Director
wilcanfield@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

Jeff Andert, President	968-3712	Kathy Chapman	660-8548
Laurie Swanson, Vice President	729-5464	Tish Gancer	832-4719
Connie Everson, Secretary	963-6608	Teresa Momenee-Young	753-2411
		Wayne Walentowski	830-5094

COMMUNITY

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

IN OUR HEARTS/ON OUR MINDS

Family and friends of Michael
Wallace
Family and Friends of Mary
(Tish's friend)
Lanny Johnston, Jr. (Sharon's son)
Jim Himes (Maxine's nephew)
Margo (Tish's sister)
Family and friends of Gary Hubbard
(Maxine's grandson)



DECEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 10:30 am Worship Advent Cookie Tea Following	5 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	6 1 pm Facebook Live Bible Chat	7 10:30 am and 5:30 pm Bible Chat in the lounge 7pm Choir Practice	8	9	10
11 10:30 am Worship Special Budget Mtg. following	12 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	13 10:30 am Worship and Music Mtg. 1pm Facebook Live Bible Chat	14 10:30 am Bible Chat in the lounge NO 5:30 pm Bible Chat 7pm Choir Practice	15 6 pm Roadrunners @ Clara's On the River	16 Tree of Wishes Gifts due 6:30 pm Christmas Party and Card Making @ the Eversons	17
18 10:30 am Worship Tree of Wishes gift distribution	19 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer	20 1pm Facebook Live Bible Chat 7 pm Council Meeting	21 10:30 am and 5:30 pm Bible Chat in the lounge 7pm Choir Practice	22	23	24 7pm Christmas Eve Worship
25 10:30 am Christmas Pageant Worship	26 8:30am-4pm Woman's Co-op Monday Mixer Trumpet articles due	27	28 No Bible Chat 7pm Choir Practice	29	30	31