

TRINITY TIMES

December 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Brooks Trinity Lutheran Church - YouTube



Pastor's Note

My dear Faith Family,

I invite you to (honestly) say the first things that come into your mind when I say a word. Ready, set, (no cheating) go - the word is **HOME**. What words or images came to your mind? I tried this on a few people and their answers varied from their current home (and the longing to be there more) all the way back to the home they grew up in as a child. Some shared that home is not a place but rather the people around them who make up their sense of being 'home'. Others shared that they are on a journey and don't know where home is yet.

The youngest replied, 'Mama'. The oldest replied, 'Heaven'. Interesting, right?

Let me share some of my answers. I have been humming the "Sloop John B" by the Beach Boys, "Homeward Bound" by Simon and Garfunkel, and from camp days, "Gee, Mom, I want to go Home." Since I am married to a rowdy CCR fan I am also singing, "Put a Candle in the Window, cause I feel I've got to move. Though I'm going, going, I'll be **coming home** soon, long as I can see the **Light**." Of course, The Wizard of Oz springs to mind as Dorothy clicks her red ruby slippers and says, '**There's No Place Like Home**'. I also remember the scene in the movie Homeward Bound where an aged Golden Retriever named Shadow comes up over the knoll consumed with concern for his boy Peter. I always cry at the joy of their embrace as Shadow, too old and frail to do it, makes it **HOME at last**.

Have you ever had to leave a home you loved? Have you ever longed to have all your loved ones under one roof? To be home together? Don't we all at some point? **HOME** is a word that carries more emotion, conflict, joy, and longing than any other word I can name. This is not surprising since we have within us, planted by God, a longing for eternity, to be safely **home**. In Eccles. 3:11 we hear, "He (God) has made everything beautiful for its time: moreover, He has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end." We remember what has been and we long for what is yet to be. Each of us began in a '**home**' and we will each experience a variety of what constitutes home for us during our lifetime. We long for the fullness of 'being home'.

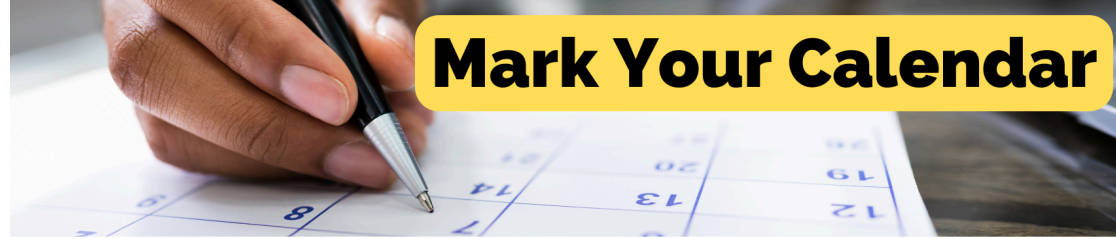
In the beginning God created a glorious Garden for our first parents to call **HOME**, the Garden of Eden, with the best thing of all being His presence with them in the Garden. Sin saw them cast out of that perfect **HOME**, yet they received God's gracious promise to bring them **HOME** one day through the Messiah He would send. (Gen.3:15). Jesus, that Messiah, whose birth we shall celebrate this month, clearly promises in John 14:2b-3a, "I go to prepare a place for you... I will come again and take you to myself." Jesus IS our **HOME**. We sing a hymn called, "Journey's End" which ends with these beautiful words of welcome, "You journeyed long and hard, Now everlasting joy is yours, My child, you're **home at last!**" This Advent and Christmas season we will be journeying through a series entitled, '**Coming HOME for Christmas – Advent in Isaiah**. Our weekly themes are "**Far from HOME; There's NO Place like HOME; A HOME Unbroken; A Light that Leads us HOME; and HOME at Last**".

Please make this beautiful journey of Advent & Christmas Worship with me, Pastor Maggie



out of office

Please note
the extra
office closures
this month:
Dec. 24-Jan 5



Mark Your Calendar

November 29

10:00am

Join us as we prepare our hearts for the season of Advent exploring the names of Jesus in "O Come, O Come Emmanuel".

There will be a brunch to follow of quiche and fruit as well as beverages and a chance of fellowship. The Trinity quilters will also have quilted items for sale to raise money for supplies for their ministry. There will also be 2nd hand Christmas items for sale.



Join us on **THURSDAYS** as the Confirmation class assist in Worship.

Midweek Advent Services

December 4 & 11 at 6:30pm

December 7

4:00pm

This special family service is open to all. We will be making Christingle oranges and joining in Worship with our children. There will be a shared meal to follow.



December 18

6:30pm

Is there someone missing from your celebration this year? Whatever the reason they are not here you are not alone.

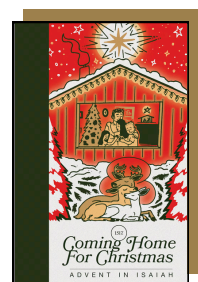
Join us for a service of hope and promise.



CHRISTMAS EVE • 5:30pm Family candlelight

CHRISTMAS DAY • 10:00am with Communion

There are **advent devotionals** that go with our Sunday series "Coming Home for Christmas" available on the table outside the office.



Ladies

The next Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) meeting
January 14 at 1:00pm
All women are invited

AGAPE (Ladies Bible Study)

Wednesdays at 9:30am

Meet in the chapel and join us for tea and study.

Ladies of all stages of life are welcome.

Quilters

The quilters are breaking for Advent and will resume January 6.

The quilters will be selling quilted items at the ladies Advent service as well as after Worship on November 30 and December 7. The proceeds go to purchasing more supplies for their ministry.

Ladies & Mens Study

Here are a few options to dig deeper into the word:

Ladies : Wednesdays at 9:30am

Men: Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Youth

Sunday at 9:00am

Join us for study for grade 5+. Come and bring your friends and dig into God's Word. Please note there will be no Education Hour on December 21, 28 or January 4.

Confirmation

Confirmation will change in December. On December 4th & 11th we will gather at 5:30pm to prepare to

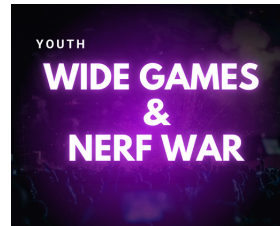


serve in Worship. Then we will break for the holidays.

Classes will resume Janury 7 at our regular time of 4:30pm

**December 6
6:00pm-9:30pm**

Come to the church for an evening of fun games with Liam & Maddy! Bring a snack to share. Text Liam if you have any questions.



**Youth Gingerbread House
Decorating & Crazy Sock Exchange
December 14 at 1-3pm**

Grab a quick lunch after Worship and come back to the church to build a gingerbread house with your friends. There will also be a crazy sock exchange so find a unique pair and wrap them up.



DECEMBER
birthdays & anniversaries

Garnet Altwasser	Dec 10
Stan Zahn	Dec 29
Carter Curran	Dec 31

Dennis & Dina Boyd	Dec. 01
Michael & Jenaye Reid	Dec 12
Greg & Leona Skriver	Dec 16
Thian & Rozelle Muller	Dec 21
Lindsey & Sharon Reid	Dec. 27
Bill & Rhea Lynne Anderson	Dec. 30

Did you know that nearly half of the Champion's Centre funding to enable men in need for safe, stable, supportive and permanent housing comes from caring individual donors and churches?

YOU ARE INVITED TO

**THE
CHAMPION CENTRE'S APPRECIATION NIGHT**

Please join us for a special appreciation evening to celebrate our supporting community together! Refreshments will be provided. No RSVP needed. Hope to see you there!

**FRIDAY
12
DECEMBER
07:30 PM**

**AT
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
811 CASSILS ROAD WEST**





Dear friends,

Trinity has enjoyed and made use of the The Skit Guys ministry resources for many years. We hold a yearly subscription with them, and have been blessed by the work of Tommy Woodward and Eddie James et al. Therefore, I am very sad to share with you that they are ending their 30 year ministry partnership. As a ministry they hold their leaders to a biblical standard of morality and Christ-honouring choices. The news release of Nov. 24th shared that "Eddie James has had to step away from our ministry after he revealed choices he had made leading to a violation of our ministry's standards and God's requirements for marriage and ministry".

I invite your prayers for Eddie and his family; Tommy and his family; for their life-long friendship and for all who serve in The Skit Guys ministry. This is a very hard time for all of them. Tommy Woodward will be moving forward with a new ministry entitled 231 Collective, and most of their materials will be transferred, along with all church and personal subscriptions. The ways in which Eddie & Tommy have shared the Gospel and hope of Christ throughout the years in skits, videos, movies, etc. will continue to share the Good News of our Saviour Who forgives sinners and restores them.

As your Pastor I wanted to share this news with you. We can be very hurt when a person in leadership or the public sphere behaves in ways God's Word does not condone. It often comes as a feeling of betrayal, and our young people especially struggle to understand. I encourage conversation if this happens to you or your family. Let us remember that our faith and trust is in the Lord alone, who will not fail us. Pray humbly remembering that each of us are sinners and capable of hurting and disappointing even those we love dearly. You can read more about this on the Skit Guys website if desired. May the Lord give repentance, forgiveness and restoration according to His will. Amen.



Offering

Responding in trust and faith please remember the following ways of supporting your church.

- E-Transfer: tlcoffering@gmail.com (no password required)
- Auto Debit: Contact the church office to receive a form.
- Snail Mail: Mail your cheque to 811 Cassils Road W, Brooks, AB, T1R 0E4



MISSION MINISTRY Giving Tree

Throughout the season of Advent, we will be collecting items for Cantara House, Champion's Centre & Crossroads. If you are able to donate, please pick up a donation ornament from the "Giving Tree" in the narthex. Feel free to pick as many as you want. Our goal is to completely undecorate the tree. Items will be collected at Trinity and then delivered before Christmas.

For a list of items you can check the website or come into the church.

Please have all items in by December 18.

MEN'S VIDEO STUDY Christ in the Old Testament

Join us as we do this study led by Chad Bird at 1517



WEDNESDAYS
7:00 - 8:30 PM



TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH

- Jan. 7 - Appearances of Christ
- Jan 14 - Christological Pencil Sketches
- Jan 21 - Thematic Layering of Creation & Exodus
- Jan 28 - The Holy Skin of God in the Tabernacle, Altar & Priesthood
- Feb 4 - Christ as the Key of David
- Feb 11- Wing Night at BP's for Discussion Fellowship

brookstrinity.ca

1517.

Scan the QR for more
info on the study



WORSHIP SERVICES SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEER DUTIES

December 4 6:30pm
Acolyte/Lector: Confirmands
Sound: Dennis
Video: Joey
Worship Assistant: Brenda
Ushers:

December 7 10:00 am with Communion
Acolyte: Lucie B
Lector: Cole A
Storyteller: Pastor
Sound: Dennis
Video: Joey
Worship Assistant: Doug
Ushers: Thian & Rozelle Muller

December 7 4:00pm Christingle Family Service
Acolyte/Lector: Confirmands
Sound: Ryan ?
Worship Assistant: Dennis

December 11 6:30pm
Acolyte/Lector: Confirmands
Sound: Vince
Video: Hazel
Worship Assistant: Dennis
Ushers:

December 14 10:00 am
Acolyte: Azrael
Lector: Kristen N
Storyteller: Pastor
Sound: Vince
Video: Hazel
Worship Assistant: Brenda
Ushers: Brad & Kristen Niznik
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 66:18-23

December 18 6:30pm Blue Christmas
Acolyte: Lidia S
Lector: Anne M
Sound: Doug
Video: Ryan
Worship Assistant: Brenda
Ushers: Anne M/ Leona F





December 21 10:00 am with Communion
Acolyte: Jack D
Lector: Rebecca K
Storyteller: Pastor
Sound:
Video: Ryan
Worship Assistant: Brenda
Ushers: Brent Altwasser Family
Scripture Readings:

December 24 5:30pm
Acolyte: Brooke
Lector: Brooke
Storyteller: Pastor
Sound: Hofer
Video: Joey
Worship Assistant: Dennis
Ushers: Mark & Melanie Altwasser
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:6-7 1 John 4:7-19

December 25 10:00 am with Communion
Acolyte: Dax
Lector: Val D
Storyteller: Brianna
Sound: Randy
Video: Hazel
Worship Assistant:
Ushers: Elgersma Family
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6(7-12)

December 28 10:00 am Worship
Acolyte: Cody H
Lector: Hush R
Storyteller: Julie
Sound: Vince
Video: Ryan
Worship Assistant:
Ushers: Doug & Mona Erlandson
Scripture Readings: Isaiah 63:7-14 Galatians 4:4-7



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>30</div> <div> 9:00am Ed Hour gr 5+ 10:00am Worship Quilt Sale 11:30am Nominating 1:30pm Church of God Worship </div> <div>  </div>	<div>1</div> <div> Office Closed Pastor Maggie off </div>	<div>2</div> <div> 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Quilting 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>3</div> <div> 9:30pm AGAPE 7:00pm Mens Study </div>	<div>4</div> <div> 5:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Midweek Service 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>5</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off 6:00pm Youth Wide Games & Nerf </div>	
<div>7</div> <div> 9:00am Ed Hour gr 5+ 10:00am Worship with Communion Quilt Sale 1:30pm Church of God Worship 4:00pm Christingle Service </div>	<div>8</div> <div> Office Closed 5:00pm Deacon Meeting </div>	<div>9</div> <div> 10:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Commune at Newbrook 11:00am Commune at Orchard 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>10</div> <div> 9:30pm AGAPE 7:00pm Mens Study </div>	<div>11</div> <div> 5:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Midweek Service 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>12</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off 7:30pm Champion Centre Appreciation </div>	<div>13</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>
<div>14</div> <div> 9:00am Ed Hour gr 5+ 10:00am Worship 1:00pm Youth Gingerbread & Socks 1:30pm Church of God Worship </div>	<div>15</div> <div> Office Closed </div>	<div>16</div> <div> 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Council Meet 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>17</div> <div> 9:30pm AGAPE 7:00pm Mens Study </div>	<div>18</div> <div> 6:30pm Blue Christmas 8:00pm AA </div> <div>  </div>	<div>19</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>	<div>20</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>
<div>21</div> <div> 10:00am Worship with Communion 1:30pm Church of God Worship </div>	<div>22</div> <div> 10:00am Staff Meeting </div>	<div>23</div> <div> 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>24</div> <div> 5:30pm Christmas Eve Family Candlelight </div>	<div>25</div> <div> 10:00am Worship with Communion </div> <div>  </div>	<div>26</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>	<div>27</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>
<div>28</div> <div> 10:00am Worship 1:30pm Church of God Worship </div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div> 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>31</div>	<div>1</div> <div>  </div> <div> 8:00pm AA </div>	<div>2</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>	<div>3</div> <div> Pastor Maggie off </div>
Office Closed						