

# Trinity Lutheran Church & School

# CONNECTED



Volume 18, Issue 1 • January 2020

619 Main Street • St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Church Office: 269-983-5000 • School Office: 269-983-3056

## Yesterday and Today and Forever *by Michael J. Roth*

With the start of a New Year, 2020 no less, it is natural to wonder about the future, even as one may reflect on the past. How were things in 2019? Was it a good year for your stocks or pension plan? Did you change careers or homes? Were there any major family events such as new babies, marriages or funerals? Has your health improved or have you had some set-backs? Are you better off than a year ago or has it been a challenging year? The only thing I could say for certain with everyone is that we are all a year older.

But what about the future? Are you expecting any major changes in your life this year coming? Are you anticipating a move or a new job or a new baby? Will you be getting engaged or married? Will you be graduating or entering an educational program? Are you planning to get in better shape--walk more and eat less? Are there any interesting trips or vacations in your near future?

If you are like most you don't think too much about the past or the future. You live your life day to day, hand to mouth, as it were. Maybe looking back is too depressing or confusing. What did happen this past year and why? What is the meaning of it all? Planning for the future may also seem hard. Who knows what is ahead? It doesn't seem like we have much control. Maybe the future is too scary to think about? Many people fear the future. We live in uncertain times. Change is always happening, at such a rapid pace. Who knows what will happen this coming year with the economy, the elections, crime, our health, our jobs, our families. For some the future seems bleak.

Time is going to pass us by whether we think about it or not. We will be sitting in

this same spot a year from now, five years from now, ten years from now, doing the same type of analysis, wondering how did the last year go and what lies ahead? Yet, despite the challenges and troubles of our past and the uncertainty and concerns we have for the future, we know that our God remains the same. Hebrews 13:8 says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Our Savior is the eternal God who was and is and is to come, the Alpha and Omega. Jesus was here before we were, before the foundation of the world and He will be here long after we are gone. Significantly, He is here with us now. He who was faithful to us in the past and promises to be with us in the future, is at our side today. He hears our prayers and knows our every anxious thought.

Jesus' saving work on the cross demonstrates to us how He feels about us. He clearly loves us with a sacrificial love. He forgives all our sins and He will remain with us until He welcomes us home to heaven. There is no need for us to regret the past that is forgiven or fear the future that is unknown. Jesus is our God in ages past and our hope for years to come.

*O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home*

**TRINITY'S  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Sunday  
8:00 am - Worship Service  
9:15 am (Gym)  
Contemporary Worship Service  
9:15 am  
Sunday School/Bible Classes  
10:30 am - Worship Service

Wednesday  
6:30 pm - Worship Service  
2nd Wednesday each Month  
11:00 am  
Monthly Senior Worship

**FEATURED INSIDE:**

Homebound ..... 3  
Bible Studies..... 4  
School/Children ..... 6  
Youth..... 7  
Women's/Ladies Aid ..... 8  
Stewardship ..... 10  
Financial ..... 12  
Lectionary/Bdays ..... 13  
Calendar ..... 14

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

619 Main Street  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Church Office: 269-983-5000  
Church Fax: 269-983-8933  
School Office: 269-983-3056  
School Fax: 269-983-0037  
Early Childhood Center: 269-983-0040  
[www.trinitystjoe.org](http://www.trinitystjoe.org)

### STAFF DIRECTORY

**Pastor Michael Roth**, Senior Pastor  
269-983-5000 x412 • Cell: 269-932-8456  
[michael.roth@discovertrinity.org](mailto:michael.roth@discovertrinity.org)

**Deacon Scott Kizer**  
269-983-5000, x 402  
[scott.kizer@discovertrinity.org](mailto:scott.kizer@discovertrinity.org)

**Melissa Graham**, Dir. of Youth & Family  
Ministries  
269-983-5000, ext. 410  
[melissa.graham@discovertrinity.org](mailto:melissa.graham@discovertrinity.org)

**Paula Steuernagel**, Dir. Of Music Ministry  
269-983-3056, ext. 113  
[paula.steuernagel@discovertrinity.org](mailto:paula.steuernagel@discovertrinity.org)

**Vicar Timothy Schmeisser**  
269-983-5000, x415  
[timothy.schmeisser@discovertrinity.org](mailto:timothy.schmeisser@discovertrinity.org)

**Chelsie Schmeisser**, Deconess Intern  
269-983-500, x405  
[chelsie.schmeisser@discovertrinity.org](mailto:chelsie.schmeisser@discovertrinity.org)

**Terry Bird**, Principal  
269-983-3056 x101  
[terry.bird@discovertrinity.org](mailto:terry.bird@discovertrinity.org)

**Robyn Adams**, ECC Director  
269-983-0040, x201  
[robyn.adams@discovertrinity.org](mailto:robyn.adams@discovertrinity.org)

**Susan Moore**, Financial Coordinator  
269-983-5000, x403  
[sue.moore@discovertrinity.org](mailto:sue.moore@discovertrinity.org)

**Betty Perrone**, Church Secretary  
269-983-5000, ext. 401,  
[betty.perrone@discovertrinity.org](mailto:betty.perrone@discovertrinity.org)

**Nathan Chaffee**, Technology  
269-983-5000 x430  
[nathan.chaffee@discovertrinity.org](mailto:nathan.chaffee@discovertrinity.org)

## January Anniversaries

Chris & Elka Wyse	1/9/1993	
Jim & Judy DeLapa	1/10/1959	60th
Josh & Cassie Frazee	1/16/2016	
Rich & JoAnne Hackbarth	1/27/1968	

*If you do not see your anniversary listed, please call the Church Office at 983-5000 to update your records.*

---

## OFFICIAL ACTS

### MEMBERSHIP Gains

*Confirmation*

Son Phung

### *Transfers*

Jeffrey & Jill Kauffman – from Peace Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor, MI

### *Affirmation / Reaffirmation of Faith*

Deborah (Deb) Oleneack – from Grace Lutheran, St Joseph

Chuck Wells

Margo Witt

### MEMBERSHIP Losses

#### *Deaths*

Arnold Arndt – died 11/5/19, buried 11/11/19

Loraine Frobel – died 11/13/19, buried 11/19/19

### *Transfers*

James Siek – to Zion Lutheran Church, Kalamazoo, MI

## Homebound Members

Linda Bischoff, Portage;  
Steve Cayo;  
Gerhardt Doroh, WL;  
Dorothy Duschek;  
Dianne Fernan;  
Gladys Grieger;  
Ellie Grimm, WT;  
Bob Humberg, CT;  
Joan Jasper;  
Elsie Jasper;  
David Karsten;  
Catherine Klug;  
Marian Krieger, RM;  
Shirley Krumrie, WT  
Judy Lambrecht;  
Reinhardt Lippert; CT;  
Dallas Miltibarger;  
Dorothy Mutz; CT;  
Linda Pedde;  
Anna Pesko, WL;  
Deanna Reschke; WL  
Jean Roberts, WT;  
Fern Schmaltz;  
Elizabeth Schults, RM  
Adele Schultz;

Lydia Sharpe;  
Sharon Tescallo;  
Martha Tilly  
Edna Volkers, WT;  
Jack & Marian Wagner; CP  
Lillian Wendt, WT;  
Dorothy Winters; Florida;  
Diane Woodford, Georgia;  
Henry & Lydia Zacha;  
Tom & Joan Zonka

**Please encourage our homebound members and others you may know to watch Worship for Shut-Ins, Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. on WHME-channel 46.**

***If you or someone you know has become homebound & would like a Pastoral visit, please call the Church Office at (269) 983-5000.***

*BG-Berrien General, CM-Country Manor Bridgman, CP-Crown Point, CT-Caretel,  
GA-Golden Age, J-Jordan's, OG-Orchard Grove, PR-Pine Ridge; RM-Royalton Manor,  
WL-Willows, WRR-Wild River Rest Buchanan, WT-Whitcomb Towers,  
WTB-Woodland Terrace Bridgman, WW-West Woods Niles*

## THANK YOU

God gives us comfort in the form of family and friends. Trinity is our church family. Thank you to all that expressed your love to us through your words, cards, memorials, song, food and prayers. May HIS peace be with you and HIS love never end.

*The family of Loraine Frobel*

## Community Outreach Statistics

**November 2019**

*Soup Kitchen – 4th Tuesday each month  
130 served – 8 volunteers*

*Benevolent Fund  
6 Appointments – 3 pledges*

*Food Truck – usually 4th Thursday – but occasionally 3rd Thursday(ie. Nov 21)  
120 registered – 289 household members –  
114 children – 78 senior citizens –  
15 veterans – 16 adult volunteers –  
1 student – Michigan Lutheran High School  
7031 pounds of food*

*Community Dinner- usually 4th Saturday  
70 served – 12 adult volunteers – 3 students*

*Sort-N-Share – Tuesday and Wednesday mornings  
43 families served – 7 volunteers*

### *Sleeping Mat Ministry*

We continue to create beautiful mats for the homeless or those with out adequate bedding. Join us on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month – no skills necessary – we will train.

**A huge thank you for the generous donations received during our "In Gathering" during the month of November. We collected a variety of food and over \$4400 in cash and gift card donations. These items will be used to feed God's children at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen and at our monthly Community Dinner. Our outreach ministries are made possible through your generosity and God's goodness.**

## Trinity Lutheran Church & School Life Development Classes for Winter 2020

**Newcomers Always Welcome!**

### SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

8:00am Worship (Sanctuary)  
9:15am Contemporary Worship (Gym)  
10:30am Worship (Sanctuary)

### MONTHLY SENIOR COMMUNION WORSHIP

11:00am Second Wed Each Month (Ministry Center)

### WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK WORSHIP

6:30pm Worship (Sanctuary)

### ADULT MINISTRY / BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

#### SUNDAY

##### ADULT BIBLE STUDY — 'Paul's Letter To Titus'

Tom Bird is leading an in depth study of Paul's Letter to Titus. The letter to Titus is a little known Pastoral letter in the New Testament; but it is a treasure trove of rich teachings to discover Martin Luther says of Titus: "This is a short epistle, but a model of Christian doctrine, in which is comprehended in a meaningful way all that is necessary for a Christian to know and to live." Our goal is 1) to picture the actual situation and issues of the church on the Island of Crete where Titus served as pastor; 2) to understand the inspired teaching of the Apostle Paul relating to the situation and issues; and 3) to apply those very teachings to our individual spiritual development and to our congregation as a whole in our very day in age.

Again Luther says of the letter to Titus; "Paul teaches various estates—the older, the younger, wives, husbands, masters, slaves—how they are to act, as those whom Christ, by his death, has won for his own." All are welcome to the class held in the fellowship hall. Coffee in one hand, Bible in the other, you are ready get started.

LEADER: Tom Bird  
LOCATION: Fellowship Hall  
TIME: 9:15 – 10:15 a.m.

#### MONDAY

##### LIFE LIGHT BIBLE STUDY — 'Isaiah' 2, Beginning January 6th

This study is part of the LifeLight Bible study series of in-depth studies of Bible books. The goal of LifeLight is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ. Isaiah Part 2:  
Lesson 1—God's Judgement and Grace Validated in History (Isaiah 34-39); Lesson 2—Comfort, Comfort My People (Isaiah 40:1-44:23); Lesson 3—God, the Maker of History - A Powerful Appeal and Witness to All Nations (Isaiah 44:24-48:22); Lesson 4—The Lord's Assurance - His Salvation Is for All (Isaiah 49:1-52:12); Lesson 5—God So Loved the World (Isaiah 52:13-54:17); Lesson 6—The Great Gospel Call and Its Implications (Isaiah 55-57); Lesson 7—Evidence of the New Life in Christ (Isaiah 58-60); Lesson 8—The Church as the Bride of Christ (Isaiah 61:1-63:6); Lesson 9—Look to the New Heavens and New Earth (Isaiah 63:7-66:24)

LEADER: Pastor Michael Roth  
LOCATION: Lighthouse Café, Ministry Center  
TIME: 9:30-11:00 a.m.

##### "AFRAID: DEMON POSSESSION AND SPIRITUAL WARFARE IN AMERICA"; 13 - 14 week session, beginning January 6th

Living in a world of science and rationalization, it's easy to think that the devil is no longer active. Sadly, this is not the case. He continues to seduce people with his lies and harass them with his power. As we study "Afraid" by Robert H. Bennett, we will learn to recognize the devil's influence in society. Most importantly, we will be reminded that Christ has already conquered him; we need not be afraid. Table of Contents:

Introduction; Chapter 1: I Am Afraid: Asking the Devil into Your Home; Chapter 2: Voodoo and American Spirituality Chapter 3: Three Competing Worldviews; Chapter 4: American Indian Religions; Chapter 5: The Problems of Video Gaming and the Internet; Chapter 6: Spending the Day with Spiritualists; Chapter 7: Don't Worry, Pastor, They Are Nice Ghosts; Chapter 8: There is Something Wrong with the Children; Chapter 9: What Does an Exorcism Look Like?; Chapter 10: An Ongoing Spiritual Battle; Chapter 11: An Improper Response; Conclusion: Answers for a Society in Fear

LEADER: Vicar Timothy Schmeisser  
LOCATION: Ministry Center, 1st floor  
TIME: Mondays 6:30-7:30pm

##### Women's Small Group Study

##### 'FORGIVENESS: RECEIVED FROM GOD, EXTENDED TO OTHERS' 10 week class; beginning January 6th

"Forgiveness is always personal. It's incredibly difficult to do. But it's never optional." - Donna Pyle, author  
We all struggle with forgiving those who have hurt us. Old hurts can be just as painful today as when they happened. In this study, we will read and discuss 'Forgiveness', sharing and learning together as we dig into God's Word of forgiveness. As we learn more about Jesus' forgiveness for each of us, we will be strengthened and encouraged so that we are able to extend that same forgiveness to others.

LEADER: Deaconess Intern Chelsie Schmeisser  
LOCATION: Lighthouse Lower Lounge, Ministry Center  
TIME: Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

#### TUESDAY

##### ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS | Membership Class or Review of Christian Doctrine | (10 week class) | Beginning January 7th

This is a class that is designed for those who would like to learn about the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. It prepares people for membership in the Lutheran Church and Trinity. It is a great way to get your questions answered in an informal and non-threatening atmosphere. Childcare and all the necessary materials are provided. The following topic will be covered: God's Word; God's Grace; The Triune God; Jesus Christ; The Holy Spirit; The Sacrament of Holy Baptism; The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper; Living the New Life of Faith; Fulfilling the Great Commission and Living the Great Commandment; Rejoicing in God's Gift of Community; Integrating into the Life of the Church. All the materials are provided. There will be childcare on the premises for those who need it. Bring a friend and learn together!

LEADER: Pastor Michael Roth  
LOCATION: Ministry Center, 1st Floor  
TIME: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

#### GREEK

Anyone interested in getting their Greek on? A small group of former Vicar McCalley's Greek class is going to continue their Greek education by delving into the book of John. Robert Lawrence will be leading. No previous Greek required. We will be meeting the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 7pm, Ministry Center upstairs. If interested, please contact Nancy Pedde, 269-470-5611 or nancylovescubs@gmail.com

LEADER: Robert Lawrence  
LOCATION: Ministry Center, 2nd Floor  
TIME: 7:00-8:00 p.m. (1st & 3rd Tuesdays)

#### WEDNESDAY

##### SON-RISERS BIBLE STUDY — Lutheran Spirituality — Witness (Sharing our Faith) Beginning Jan. 8th

As Lutherans, we affirm that sharing our faith with others is an integral part of our Christian existence in this world. This activity remains with us even as the Church enlists certain individuals for outreach projects close to home or overseas. In this study, we hope to encourage among Lutherans a broader commitment to share their faith in whatever calling, the Lord has placed them.

LEADER: Pastor Michael Roth  
LOCATION: Lighthouse Café, Ministry Center  
TIME: 6:45-7:45 a.m.

##### "THE WIRED WORD" - Beginning January 8th

The Wired Word class uses questions and Scripture considerations from current events, topics, and happenings in the United States and around the world as a basis for adult, intelligent and provocative discussions. Members of the class are truly thinking about their beliefs and the Biblical applications to their own day-to-day lives.

LEADER: Rich Hackbarth  
LOCATION: Lighthouse Café  
TIME: 6:30-8pm

#### THURSDAY

##### ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Join with a host of other adults for a time of fellowship and study of God's Word.

LEADER: Pastor Tom Batsky  
LOCATION: Lighthouse Café, Ministry Center  
TIME: 9:30am— Coffee and breakfast treats  
10:00-11:00 a.m. — Bible Study

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

#### SUNDAY

##### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday school will meet each Sunday morning at 9:15 to dive into God's Word together! Children will learn all about the Bible while also being equipped with Biblical life application! Sunday School is open to children age 3 years to 4th grade. You

## Trinity Lutheran Church & School Life Development Classes for Winter 2020

**Newcomers Always Welcome!**

may register your child at anytime during the year. The class begins promptly at 9:15am and ends at 10:15am. Sunday School is located in the Children's Ministry Room on the lower level next to the fellowship hall. Contact Melissa Graham in regards to the Children's Sunday School program at 983-5000, ext. 410.

### JR HIGH BIBLE STUDY (5th -6th Grade)

This Bible study will meet in the 4th grade classroom (Room #213) upstairs in the school, at 9:15 on Sunday mornings. They will be diving into The Story where they will walk through the Bible each week and learn all about Jesus's love for us!

LEADERS: Mrs. Terry Bird, room #213  
LOCATION: 2nd floor of School  
TIME: 9:15-10:15 a.m.

### JR HIGH CONFIRMATION (7th & 8th Grade, non-Trinity Students)

7th & 8th grade Public School Confirmation will meet in the Solid Rock at 9:15 every Sunday Morning. We will be going through the Catechism and preparing them to be confirmed!

LEADERS: Melissa Graham & Vicar Schmeisser  
LOCATION: Solid Rock Cafe (700 Church Street)  
TIME: 9:15-10:15 a.m.

### HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY (9th — 12th Grade)

High School Bible Study will meet in the Science Lab upstairs in the school at 9:15 on Sunday mornings. They will be going through various Bible Studies that help them to dive into the Word while also learning life applicable lessons!

LEADERS: Michael Johnson  
LOCATION: Science Lab, room #204  
TIME: 9:15-10:15 a.m.

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Join us for relevant Bible studies, games, and snacks! If you have any questions please contact Melissa Graham. Contact the church office to be added to the email list for this group. Activities will vary throughout the year.

LEADER: Melissa Graham  
LOCATION: Solid Rock Café  
TIME: Sundays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

#### JUNIOR HIGH DROP-INS

Drop Ins happen weekly at the Solid Rock Café to wind down the school day in Christian fellowship by getting a head start on homework, playing with friends, and studying the Word. As Trinity continues to consider its ministry needs, Junior High will have a greater need for parent volunteers to help with chaperoning, and other needs at Drop-Ins. Help is always sincerely appreciated!

Please email Melissa at [melissa.graham@discovertrinity.org](mailto:melissa.graham@discovertrinity.org) or call the church office (ext. 410) if you would like to assist with Drop-Ins.

LEADER: Melissa Graham  
LOCATION: Solid Rock Café  
TIME: Wednesdays, 3:15-5:00 p.m.

### FRIDAY

#### JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Jr High Youth group meets once a month from 5:00-7:00 p.m at the Solid Rock Café, and is available for 5th-8th grade students. We are in need of adult volunteers that are interested in making real life connections with youth in our congregation and community! If you are interested in volunteering or would just like more information please contact Melissa Graham, 269-983-5000, ext. 410. NO Youth Group in October due to Confirmation Retreat.

LEADER: Melissa Graham  
LOCATION: Solid Rock Café  
TIME: Fridays, 5-7 p.m. (Once a month)

### SUPPORT GROUPS and CARING MINISTRIES

#### DIVORCE CARE

DivorceCare is a 13 week seminar / support group that will help you heal from the hurt of divorce.

It offers a warm, caring environment, led by people who understand what you are going through.

Learn practical information and gain hope for your future! Contact Scott Kizer at 983-5000 ext.402 or [scott.kizer@discovertrinity.org](mailto:scott.kizer@discovertrinity.org)

CONTACT: Scott Kizer  
DAYS & TIME: Wednesdays, 10:15a.m.—12:15p.m.  
Thursdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

PLACE: Lighthouse Lower Lounge, Ministry Center

#### STEPHEN MINISTRIES

Stephen Ministries Mission: Christ caring for people through people. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who receive special training to provide one-to-one Christian care to people experiencing challenges in life- such as grief, loneliness, divorce, hospitalization, disability, job loss, and many other life difficulties. God didn't plan for you to have to carry the burdens of life by yourself! Let our Stephen Ministers walk with you! To learn how to receive care from a Stephen Minister, or if you have an interest in becoming a Stephen Minister, contact Pastor Roth, a Stephen Leader, or the church office. STEPHEN LEADERS: Pastor Michael J. Roth, John Kroonblawd, Sheila Kroonblawd, and Betty Perrone.

#### WIDOW'S SMALL GROUP

As widows, we can gain strength from other widows going through a similar walk in life. Whether you are a recent Widow, or you have been a widow for many years, this small group is for you! We will learn from each other as we go. This group meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month, from 10:30a — 12:30p, in the Ministry Center. If you have questions, contact Betty Perrone at 269-983-5000.

#### ALZHEIMER CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Come and join other caregivers, friends, and family members of those with Alzheimer's. You will gain support, be able to ask questions, get advice and share resources. YOU ARE NOT ALONE!  
2020 MEETING DATES:

Mondays: January 13th & 27th  
February 10th & 24th  
March 9th & 23rd  
LEADER: Debby Miskill  
LOCATION: Lighthouse Cafe, Ministry Center  
TIME: 6:00-7:30pm

### ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

#### MUSIC MINISTRY at Trinity Lutheran Church:

The Adult Choir - Have you considered praising God with your voice in a more designed atmosphere? Come join your fellow members and fellow music lovers on Wednesday evening at 7:30pm (right after service) in the music room of the school.

There's an elevator for those who have difficulty with stairs and there's always happy faces and accepting voices to join you. No previous experience required. You only need to want to learn more about God and about music. Please come: it really IS a lot of fun!

- Hand bell Choir Practice — Tuesdays 7-8 p.m. (Music Room)
- Adult Choir — Wednesdays 7:30-9 p.m. (Music Room)
- Contemporary Praise Team — Thursdays 7:00-9:00 p.m. (Gymnasium)
- Want to do something but not sure what? If you sing or play an instrument, talk to Paula Steuernagel or Brad Chaffee to get connected to serve the church with your musical talent.

#### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Join other women for a lively discussion of a book of the Month. Check the Women's Ministry page in the Connected for the current book selection. The Book Club meets on the third Saturday of the month.

LEADER: Nancy Pedde  
TIME: 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
PLACE: Biggy Coffee

### SPECIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE FAMILY

Trinity, through its Family Activity Team offers some very exciting family oriented events during the year. They are designed to bring adults and children together for fellowship, laughter, learning and fun. Watch this newsletter for more information.

**Please don't hesitate to contact the Church Office at 983-5000, if you have any questions.**



## Trinity Lutheran School & Early Childhood Center News

### School Article

Words do not express the gratitude we have daily for the overwhelming generosity you have shown for our students, teachers at Trinity and the school. The quality of education and improvements would not have been possible without you.

I join with St. Paul saying, "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine from you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:3-6

#### January Calendar

- Jan. 6 School Resumes from break
- Jan. 10 End of Second Quarter
- Jan. 17 Report Cards go home
- Jan. 20 Teacher Inservice
- Jan. 21, 23 & 24 Parent Teacher Conference
- Jan. 27-31 National Lutheran Schools Week

For National Lutheran Schools Week we celebrate with nearly 2,000 schools nationwide to give thanks for the gift of Lutheran schools to children, families and communities. Each year, Pastor Roth hosts a pancake breakfast with his church staff that is open to members, students and their families. On Friday, Trinity will host the Berrien County Lutheran School for a chapel service to worship and be reminded that God is a faithful and we celebrate His presence not only throughout this week but every day and always.

Terry L. Bird, Principal

### ECC

Happy New Year!! We are so excited to head into this new decade full of energy and hopefulness. January brings some fun activities for the ECC. We have our annual dad's night as well as all the events surrounding National Lutheran Schools Week. We are looking forward to celebrating the blessings of Lutheran Education. Stay tuned for a list of the things we will be doing. Of course we end the week with all the kids Preschool through 8th grade singing in church. What wonderful way to celebrate together. Thank you all so much for your prayers and support. To God be the Glory!!

Robyn Adams



## ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Come and join other caregivers, friends, and family members of those with Alzheimer's. You will gain support, be able to ask questions, get advice and share resources.

Meetings held in the Lighthouse Cafe, Trinity Ministry Center.

### 2020 MEETING DATES

Mondays:

January 13th & 27th

February 10th & 24th

March 9th & 23rd

TIME: 6:00 - 7:30 pm

**You  
Are Not  
Alone!**



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

### **Sunday School**

We're digging into the Bible and working our way through it throughout the year! Sunday School is open to all children from preschool (3 years old) to fourth grade! If you would like more information or would like to volunteer in Sunday School please contact Melissa Graham!

### **Volunteers**

We are still searching for volunteers for Sunday School and Nursery! If you feel called to do so or would like more information please contact Melissa Graham!

## YOUTH NEWS

**High School Youth Group** meets every Sunday from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Solid Rock Café! Join us for relevant Bible studies, games, and snacks! If you have any questions please contact Melissa Graham.

This year the High School Youth Group will be raising money to go on a mission trip to West Virginia! While there the youth will be repairing homes, building wheel chair ramps, and bettering the community that we will be serving alongside 600 other high school students! If you would like more information on this trip or would like to sponsor a student that is attending the trip please contact Melissa Graham!

### **Fundraisers:**

Thank you for your support of our Sr High Youth at their Advent Dinner! All proceeds will go towards funding our Mission Trip to West Virginia!

This month we will be holding an ongoing fundraiser called The Great Wall of Giving. This will be located in the Welcome Center on the wall outside of the sanctuary. To participate in this fundraiser all you have to do is take a numbered envelope off of the wall and place the amount of money in the envelope that corresponds with the number on it. Then place the envelope in the offering plate during service. You can also drop them off at the Church office or give them to Melissa Graham. This fundraiser will help get us one step closer to our Mission Trip! Keep a lookout for our High School Youth who will be in the Welcome Center to explain why this trip is so important to them!

**Jr High Youth Group** meets once a month from 5:00-7:00 p.m at the Solid Rock Café! Our Jr High Youth Group is open to all 5th-8th grade students. We will not have a Jr High Youth Group in January due to the Confirmation Retreat on January 10th and 11th. We are in need of adult volunteers that are interested in making real life connections with youth in our congregation and community! If you are interested in volunteering or would just like more information please contact Melissa Graham.

## MEMORIALS

*The following have made a gift to Trinity Lutheran or School:*

*In memory of Lois Fox:  
William & Bonnie Nitz*

*In memory of Ken Godfrey:  
Arden Basselman*

*In memory of Viola Vanderbeck:  
Bill & Barbara Bickel  
Wilma Enix*

*In memory of Lon Beatty:  
Ruth Beatty*

*In memory of Sharon Moore:  
Eunice Spurgat*

*In memory of Arnie Arndt:  
Loren, Jean & Mark Wilson | Phil & Sheila Staub  
Tyson Heyn & Mrs. Heyn | Lorraine Taylor  
Heidi Curtis | Glass Shop of LECO Corp.  
Rich & JoAnne Hackbarth | Jim & Sandee Martin  
Darlene Damaske | Eleanor Dorow  
Catherine Emhoff | Linda Steinke  
Donna Bench | Alan & Irene Arndt  
Sava & Pamela Remus | Avila Hulseay  
Richard & Carol Jancy*

*In memory of Loraine Frobel:  
Ron & Mary Patzer | Bill & Shirley Schadler  
Brent & Sharon Parsons  
Rich & JoAnne Hackbarth  
Bob & Nancy Perry  
Tom & Jenifer Milnikel  
Louise Mueller | Bill & Janice Stouffer  
Colette Metzger | Bill & Adele Bluschke  
Amy Semenak | Eleanor Dorow  
Irma Wedde | Sylvia Lieberg  
William & Patricia Johnson  
Marion & Roy Rockensuess  
Brian Berndt | Gordon & Nancy Duke  
Phil & Deanna Signor  
Kevin & Danielle Hildebrand  
Lee Sadler*

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### **Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid**

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid would like to **Thank You** for your continued support of our Christmas Cookies and Bake Sale. We greatly appreciate your help and support! Proceeds from this event is used to gift the Pastors, staff and missions at Christmas time. Also these funds are used for guest speakers and projects during the year!

Ladies Aid will not be meeting the months of January, February, and March. We will see you in the Spring with a "GREAT line up of guest speakers"! Happy New Year!

### **Women's Book Club**

*The Librarian of Auschwitz* by Antonio Iturbe

Based on the experience of real-life Auschwitz prisoner Dita Kraus, this is the incredible story of a girl who risked her life to keep the magic of books alive during the Holocaust. Fourteen-year-old Dita is one of the many imprisoned by the Nazis at Auschwitz. Taken, along with her mother and father, from the Terezín ghetto in Prague, Dita is adjusting to the constant terror that is life in the camp. When Jewish leader Freddy Hirsch asks Dita to take charge of the eight precious volumes the prisoners have managed to sneak past the guards, she agrees. And so Dita becomes the librarian of Auschwitz. Out of one of the darkest chapters of human history comes this extraordinary story of courage and hope.

When: 3rd Saturday    Time: 10:30am  
Place: Bigby Coffee    Leader: Nancy Pedde

### **Sleeping Mat Ministry / PLARN Gathering**

The Sleeping Mat Ministry is looking for volunteers to assist in cutting the plastic bags. Also assembling the bags into Plarn (plastic yarn) and crocheting the Plarn into the mats. Once a mat is completed they will be distributed into our

community to the homeless. This is something that can be done at home or you are invited to come to the Plarn Gathering which meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, from 2:00-4:00pm in the Lighthouse Cafe, Trinity Ministry Center. The most important thing that we all can do is keep those that are homeless in our prayers. For more information please contact the church office.

**TRINITY QUILTERS** meet on Thursdays, from 11a – 2:30p to work on quilts, to date this year, they have completed 24 + quilts to be sent to the less fortunate overseas, through the Lutheran World Relief organization.

They are also providing small quilts for infant baptisms at our church. Work can be done at home making squares and then bringing them back to the group to put together. If you know how to tie knots you can be of great help to this group. If you have questions or are interested in joining this group, call Helen @ 429-8503 or the church office at 983-5000.

Trinity Ministry Center, Lower Lounge  
Thursdays between 11am – 2:30pm

### **WIDOWS SMALL GROUP**

As widows, we can gain strength from other widows going through a similar walk in life. Whether you are a recent Widow, or you have been a widow for many years, this small group is for you! We will learn from each other as we go. Our meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays, at 10:30a.m., in the Ministry Center. If you have questions, contact Betty Perrone at 269-983-5000.

**WOMEN'S SMALL GROUP STUDY, FORGIVENESS: RECEIVED FROM GOD, EXTENDED TO OTHERS**, see information on page 4.

## TRINITY CALENDARS 2020, and looking ahead to 2021!

As we enjoy the sceneries on the 2020 Trinity Calendar we are starting to look towards our 2021 calendar and this is where we need your help! We are looking for pictures of Trinity, without people in them, that correspond to what is happening during that month at Trinity. For instance, in April someone might submit a photo of the Easter Flowers on Easter morning or perhaps the old rugged cross used for the Cross Walk. We are looking for you to submit high definition or high-resolution photos of Trinity to Betty at [betty.perrone@discovertrinity.org](mailto:betty.perrone@discovertrinity.org) or Nathan at [nathan.chaffee@discovertrinity.org](mailto:nathan.chaffee@discovertrinity.org) the last week of each month so that they can be stored and potentially used in next year's calendar. Trinity is a beautiful place and we want to make sure that we can showcase that in our 2021 calendar!





## FROM THE ARCHIVES *By Janet Frazier*

With the cold winter winds and possible inclement weather upon us this month, it just seems logical that we keep handy those recipe books we used while baking during the Christmas season, and keep making those cookies, coffee cakes, breads, and more. The aromas from baking, and the goodness of eating make us think of warmth and home and people of days gone by.

Trinity's Ladies Aid Society had prepared two wonderful recipe books using recipes submitted by our moms, grandmothers, aunts, and friends who were members of the Ladies Aid at the time. In 1967 the recipe book was prepared for the 100th anniversary of our church . . . and the other, "Smet Gut", was compiled for the 125th anniversary in 1993. In this book we find this recipe entitled, "*HOW TO COOK A HUSBAND*".

"A good many husbands are utterly spoiled by mismanagement in cooking, and so are not tender and good. Some women go about it as if their husbands were bladders and blow them up — others keep them constantly in hot water - and others let them freeze by their carelessness and indifference. Some keep them in a stew by irritating ways and words = others waste them. Some keep them in a pickle all their lives.

It cannot be supposed that any husband will be tender and good if managed in this way, but they are really extremely delicious when properly managed.

In selecting your husband you should not be guided by the silvery appearance as in buying mackerel, or by the golden tint as if you wanted salmon. Be sure to select him yourself, as tastes differ. Do not go to the market for him, as the best are always brought to the door. It is far better to have none unless you will patiently learn how to cook him. A preserving kettle of finest porcelain is the best, but if you have nothing better than an earthenware pipkin, it will do, with care.

See that the linen in which you wrap him is nicely washed and mended, and has the required number of buttons and strings neatly sewed on. Tie him into the kettle by a strong silken cord called comfort, as the one called duty, is apt to be weak. They sometimes fly out of the kettle and so become burned and crusty on the edges, since, like crabs and lobsters, you have to cook them while alive.

Make a clear, steady fire out of love, neatness and cheerfulness. Set him as near this as seems to agree with him; if he sputters do not be anxious; some husbands do this until they are quite done. Add a little sugar in the form of what confectioners call kisses, but no vinegar or pepper on any account. A little spice improves them, but it must be used with great judgment.

Do not stick any sharp instrument into him to see if he is becoming tender. Stir him gently; lest he be too flat and close to the kettle and so becomes useless. You cannot fail to know when he is done.

If thus heated you will find him very digestible, agreeing perfectly with you, and he will keep as long as you want, unless you become careless and set him in too cold a place."  
Author Unknown

*Wishing you and your family a blessed new year!*



## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN | May 2017–May 2020

As of November 30, 2019

Pledged \$933,532 | Contributed \$754,145

Debt Retirement \$36,054 | Exterior Facility \$42,676

ECC & School Renovation \$400,000 | Parking Lot Initiative \$200,000 complete

Michigan District Tithe - \$75,414

We are entering the final five months of our Capital Campaign, and while we have made great progress – there is still much to be done if we are going to realize our \$2,000,000 goal. What can you do? If you have made a pledge, please be faithful to it or even consider increasing it. If you haven't made a pledge – it is never too late! One time contributions are welcome as well. Please help us to be good stewards of the tremendous ministry entrusted to us by our good and gracious God. As always, we ask that you keep our Capital Campaign in your prayers. God is working faithfully through you, His people. To God be the glory.

## Stewardship

# God's Blessings From Everlasting to Everlasting

**A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.**

**Psalm 90**

<sup>10</sup> Lord, you have been our dwelling place[a] in all generations.

<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

<sup>3</sup> You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"[b]

<sup>4</sup> For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

<sup>5</sup> You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

<sup>6</sup> in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

<sup>7</sup> For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

<sup>8</sup> You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

<sup>9</sup> For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

<sup>10</sup> The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span[c] is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

<sup>11</sup> Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

<sup>12</sup> So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

<sup>13</sup> Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

<sup>14</sup> Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

<sup>15</sup> Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us, and for as many years as we have seen evil.

<sup>16</sup> Let your work be shown to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

<sup>17</sup> Let the favor[d] of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!

Try this: give a small child a cute teddy bear. The child's eyes will light up and a big smile will appear. Then, try to take it back. The smile turns to a frown, the eyes get dark, and "No, it's mine!!" rings in your ears. No matter what the good gift is, you won't get it back without a fuss.

Sound familiar? God gives us blessings every day. Our smile and eyes light up as our time, talent, and treasures pile up. Then, God asks us to give a little back. Our smile turns to a frown, our eyes get dark, and we say, "No, it's mine!" We think God is being unfair to ask for a small portion back of what entirely belongs to Him. We forget we are stewards, not owners.

Thankfully, God does not change. We receive His grace – His undeserved love and mercy – every day! He brings that grace to us by means of the Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion. For everything God has done for us through the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus to give us eternal life, how can we not be good stewards of the earthly blessings He daily provides and return a portion to Him?! God is faithful and will take care of us.

Father, thank You for Your daily blessings. Help me to be a faithful steward of them. Amen

## Those Serving in the Armed Forces

### U.S. Marines

Gunnery Sgt Andrew C. Wedde, Marines, stationed at Fort Detrick, Frederick, MD; Grandson of Irma Wedde

Sgt. Paul Jersey, stationed in Camp Pendleton, CA; son of Tim and Jill Jersey

### U.S. Army

1st Lt. Aaron Hinkelman, stationed in Afghanistan, grandson of Gus & Judy Hinkelman

PFC Riley Engel, stationed in Italy, grandson of Gus & Judy Hinkelman

### U.S. Navy

Lt. Adam Roth, Naval Aviator, son of Rev. Michael and Amy Roth

Lt. Mark Williams, Navy Pilot, stationed at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Oak Harbor, WA, nephew of Linda Williams

### U.S. Air Force

Airman 1st Class, Evan Pyatt, US Air Force, stationed in Travis AFB, California; Grandson of Bill & Margo Pyatt

Tech Sergeant, John Pyatt, US Air Force, stationed in Minneapolis, son of Bill & Margo Pyatt

2nd Lt, Haleigh Wendzel, US Air Force, stationed in South Korea, daughter of Brad & Joyce Wendzel, granddaughter of Alton & Millie Wendzel

### U.S. Coast Guard

AMT3 Camille and EM3 Kyle Crabtree, stationed in Suffolk, VA, niece & nephew of Jan Dasse

Please keep all of our Servicemen and women in your prayers. May God keep them safe from harm and bring them home to their families soon. If your status has changed, please call the church office.



## Stephen Ministry

How can one of our trained, skilled Stephen Ministers care for you? Stephen Ministry is our congregation's one-to-one caregiving ministry. God works through Stephen Ministers to plant a seed of hope and healing in a person whose life seems barren and forlorn because of some crisis or tragedy.

Are You or Someone You Know Going Through A Difficult Time? A Stephen Minister can help. Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who listen, care, encourage, and provide emotional and spiritual support to people going through a crisis or a difficult time. It's free and it is totally confidential. To be referred to a Stephen Minister please call Betty Perrone at 983-5000.

Please keep our Stephen Minister Trainees in your prayers, as they are getting closer to completing their training and becoming commissioned Stephen Ministers

In January they are learning about: Suicide; Small Group Peer Supervision; Bringing Relationships to a Close; and The First Caring Visit



*Stephen Ministries Mission:  
Christ caring for people through people.*

---

## S.A.G.E.S

**The SAGES group invites you to join them on Tuesday, 1/21 from 11 am to -1 pm?? in the Lighthouse Cafe, Ministry Center for an "ALL WHITE DAY"!**

Since there will be those white flakes floating around us, undoubtedly, we will be celebrating in a "white style". We will begin by playing our annual game of chicken foot, the domino game. Then we will move onward to making snowflakes to put inside our windows. Our meal will be just what you think it should be... white food... homemade potato soup, white rolls/bread/crackers, white deviled eggs, and of course, white texas sheet cake with white ice cream with lots of colored toppings.

So, come in from the cold weather and warm yourselves up with lively friendship and food. However, remember if weather decides to be nasty and there are closings, check with Betty at church office first to see if this event is cancelled.

Sign up with Betty at church office, 983-5000, by Thursday, January 16th. There will be the usual \$5.00 donation payable at the door.



*"Each year the state of Washington gets an average of 430 inches of snow... now look outside, we are blessed"*

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL  
CONGREGATIONAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT—2019 FISCAL YEAR  
July 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019**

GENERAL FUND	2018-2019			2019-2020			
	ANNUAL BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	% OF ANNUAL BUDGET	ANNUAL BUDGET	YTD BUDGET	ACTUAL YTD	% OF ANNUAL BUDGET
TOTAL REVENUE	\$2,294,653.00	\$955,624.93	41.65%	\$2,209,447.51	\$1,001,603.58	\$1,014,401.89	45.91%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,234,367.00	\$965,256.96	43.20%	\$2,253,306.61	\$938,877.97	\$962,518.69	42.72%
REVENUE OVER/(UNDER) EXPENSES	\$60,286.00	-\$9,632.03	-15.98%	-\$43,859.10	\$62,725.61	\$51,883.20	-118.30%

	6/30/2019		11/30/2019
<b>LONG-TERM DEBT</b>			
Church Extension Fund Mortgage	\$726,516.92	(\$63,144.06)	\$663,372.86
<b>TOTAL DEBT</b>	\$726,516.92	(\$63,144.06)	\$663,372.86

WEEKLY ENVELOPE & PLATE	Contributions	Over/(Under) to	YTD Over/
		Meet Budget	(Under) Budget
November 3, 2019	\$14,316.21	\$960.44	-\$2,956.64
November 10, 2019	\$14,137.24	\$781.47	-\$2,175.17
November 17, 2019	\$14,032.46	\$676.69	-\$1,498.47
November 24, 2019	\$13,028.09	-\$327.68	-\$1,826.15
Totals	\$55,514.00	\$2,090.92	
<i>Weekly Envelope &amp; Plate Budget Needed:</i>		\$13,355.77	

A more detailed Treasurer's Report is available for viewing in the Church Office.  
*Respectfully submitted,  
Gus Damaske, Treasurer*

CASH REPORT—NOVEMBER, 2019	
DAILY LOW BALANCE	\$304,620.51
DAILY HIGH BALANCE	\$419,408.69
DAILY AVERAGE FOR THE MONTH	\$368,614.56

**Please join us for a special presentation by:**  
**Rachel Meyer, Serving the Lord in Uganda**

Rachel Meyer serves the Lord through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Uganda. As a missionary teacher at Hope Lutheran Church and School in the village of Bufuula, she is able to share God's Word with the students and teachers and encourage them in their walk of faith. She also assists in the music ministry of local congregations. Rachel is thankful she gets to walk alongside the Lutheran Church of Uganda as she builds Christ-centered relationships and shares God's love with those around her.

Rachel's hometown is Milwaukee, Wis. She received bachelor's degrees in elementary education and music education from Concordia University Chicago, and a master's degree in education with a specialization in elementary reading and literacy from Walden University. Before serving in Uganda, Rachel taught at Lutheran schools in California, Illinois and Taiwan. In her free time, Rachel enjoys reading, music, hiking, and spending time with family and friends.

**Rachel will be back with us at Trinity to speak in the Lighthouse Café on January 15 at 6:30 pm. She will also conduct school chapel on January 16 at 8:00 am. To learn more about Rachel or support her ministry go to <https://www.lcms.org/meyer>**

## Daily Lectionary

- 1/1 Isaiah 61:1-11; Luke 1:57-80  
 1/2 Is. 62:1-12; Luke 2:1-20  
 1/3 Is. 63:1-14; Luke 2:21-40  
 1/4 Is. 63:15-65:7; Luke 2:41-52  
 1/5 Is 65:8-25; Luke 3:1-20

### Epiphany Season

- 1/6 Is. 66:1-20; Luke 3:21-28  
 1/7 Ezekiel 1:1-14, 22-28; Habakkuk 1:1-3:19; Romans 1:1-17  
 1/8 Ezek. 2:1-3:11; Rom. 1:18-32  
 1/9 Ezek. 3:12-27, 4:1-11:25; Rom. 2:16  
 1/10 Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32, 19:1-24:27; Rom. 2:17-29  
 1/11 Ezek. 33:1-20; Rom. 3:1-18  
 1/12 Ezek. 34:1-24; Rom. 3:1-19  
 1/13 Ezek. 36:13-28; Rom. 4:1-25  
 1/14 Ezek. 36:33-37:17; Rom. 5:1-21  
 1/15 Ezek. 37:15-28; Rom. 6:1-23  
 1/16 Ezek. 38:1-23; Rom. 7:1-20  
 1/17 Ezek. 39:1-10, 17-29; Rom. 7:21-8:17  
 1/18 Ezek. 40:1-4, 43:1-12, 40:5-42:20, 42:13-27; Rom. 8:18-39  
 1/19 Ezek. 44:1-16, 23-29; Rom. 9:1-18  
 1/20 Ezek. 47:1-14, 21-23; Rom. 9:19-33  
 1/21 Joel 1:1-20; Rom. 10:1-21  
 1/22 Joel 2:1-17; Rom. 11:1-24  
 1/23 Joel 2:18-32; Rom. 11:25-12:13  
 1/24 Joel 3:1-21; Rom. 12:14-13:14  
 1/25 Zechariah 1:1-21; Rom. 14:1-23  
 1/26 Zech. 2:1-3:10; Rom. 15:1-13  
 1/27 Zech. 4:1-5:11; Rom. 15:14-33  
 1/28 Zech. 6:1-7:14; Rom. 17:17-27  
 1/29 Zech. 8:1-23; 2 Timothy 1:1-18  
 1/30 Zech. 9:1-17; 2 Tim. 2:1-26  
 1/31 Zech. 10:1-11:3; 2 Tim. 3:1-17

### Sundays and Festival Days (Series A)

- 1/5 Second S. after Christmas  
 1 Kings 3:4-15; Eph. 1:3-14; Luke 2:13-23  
 1/6 The Epiphany of Our Lord  
 Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:1-12; Matt. 2:1-12  
 1/12 The Baptism of Our Lord  
 Is. 42:1-9; Rom. 6:1-11; Matt. 3:13-17  
 1/19 Second S. after the Epiphany  
 Is. 49:1-7; 1 Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42a  
 1/26 Third S. after the Epiphany  
 Is. 9:1-4; 1 Cor. 1:10-18; Matt. 4:12-25

## We Are Celebrating...

The following Trinity Members are celebrating birthdays this month:

- 1/1 Richard Hackbarth  
 1/2 Marge Bischoff \*, Brendan Lute, Bradley Wendzel  
 1/3 Trevor Hasse, Debbie Morris, Jacob O'Connor, Anita Schultz \*, Lillian Wendt \*, Darlene Zelmer  
 1/4 Royce Lute, Tyler Radde, Jenna Siek, Cathy Siemans  
 1/5 David DeVore, Dianne Fernan, Philip Signor  
 1/6 Jack Blahnik  
 1/7 Jacob Angelo, Michelle Brow, Kenneth Patzkowsky, Cathy Plomb  
 1/8 Elizabeth Ashmead, Dick Lockman \*  
 1/9 Katie Andrews, Sally Matzke, Norman Stemm \*  
 1/10 Gustav Hinkelman \*, Gary Murray, Edward Schultz (97)  
 1/11 Whitney Mims  
 1/12 Blake Warren  
 1/13 Dave Johnson, Amy Roth, Zoe Sherbit  
 1/14 Dennis Albrecht, Karah Eaton, Dianna Evans, Rebecca Glisson  
 1/15 Judy Andres, Helga Lenz \*, Barbara Sweet \*, Jackie Trulove, Anna Wilson  
 1/16 Berkelee Kirby, Irma Wedde \*  
 1/17 Nathan Marquardt, Kimberly Poole  
 1/18 Douglas Thumm, Haleigh Wendzel  
 1/19 Edward Keeter  
 1/20 Jerry Schmidtke \*  
 1/21 Agnes Lay \*, Gertrude Patzkowsky \*, Beverly Rittmeyer \*, Suzanne Russell  
 1/22 Gerald Berkholz, Matthew Guisbert  
 1/23 Tracy Haynes, Kevin Marks, Ava Steinke  
 1/24 Katherine Loy, Ronald Patzer, Shawn Taylor  
 1/25 Grace Batcho, Edna Volkens \*  
 1/26 Lisa Kreitner, Joan Siemans \*, Kyle Wojahn  
 1/27 Mike Engel  
 1/28 Kim Cooper, Paul Jersey, Brenda Lewellen, Martha Tilly \*  
 1/29 Ellie Grimm \*, David Halstead, Stacey Kiser, Diana Thumm  
 1/30 Mary Bartloff, John Bock, Douglas Clem, Joyce Freeman, Rev. Michael Roth  
 1/31 Karsen Sartin, Rodney Sartin, Eric Siemans

\* = DENOTES A SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

**If you do not see your birthday listed, please call the Church Office @ 983-5000 to update your records. We indicate the age of members 80 years & over. If you do not want your age listed, please contact the Church Office.**

# This Month at Trinity

# January 2020

**Weekly Events**

Sunday

Worship, 8 & 10:30a, Sanctuary  
 Contemporary, 9:15, Gym  
 Adult Bible Study-'Paul's Letter To Titus',  
 9:15-10:15a, CFH  
 Children's Sunday School, 9:15-10:15a, CMR  
 Jr High Confirmation, 9:15-10:15a, SRC  
 Jr High Bible Study, 9:15-10:15a, room # 213  
 High School Bible Study, 9:15-10:15a, room # 204  
 Senior High Youth Group, 6:30-8p, SRC

Monday

Lifelight Bible Study, 9:30-11a, LHC  
 Ministry Leadership Team Mtg, 1:30-3p, MC-1st floor  
 Plarn Gathering, 2-4p, LHC (2nd & 4th Monday)  
 Men's Basketball, 6-8p, Gym  
 Forgiveness Women's Bible Study, 6:30-8p, LHL  
 Afraid Bible Study, 6:30-7:30p, MC-1st floor

Tuesday

Adult (membership) Instruction Class, 6:30-8p,  
 MC-1st floor  
 Stephen Minister Training, 6:30-9p, LHC  
 Greek Class, 7-8p, MC-2nd floor (1st & 3rd Tuesdays)  
 Hand Bell Choir Practice, 7-8p, Music Room

Wednesday

SonRisers Bible Study, 6:45-7:45a, LHC  
 School Chapel, 8:05-8:50a, S  
 Care Team, 10a-11a, MCB  
 Divorce Care, 10:15a-12:15p, LHL  
 Jr. High Drop-Ins, 3:15-5p, SRC  
 The Wired Word, 7:30-8:30p, CFH  
 Mid-week Worship, 6:30p, S  
 Adult Choir Practice, 7:30-9p, Music Room

Thursday

Adult Bible Fellowship, 9:30-11a, LHC  
 Quilters, 11a-2:30p, LHL  
 Divorce Care, 6:30-8:30p, LHC  
 Contemporary Praise Team Practice, 7-9p, SRC

**ADDITIONAL EVENTS**

Wednesday, 1/1

NewYear's Day – campus closed

Sunday, 1/5

Social Ministry Fund Door Offering

Monday, 1/6

Executive Committee Mtg, 5:30-6:30p, MCB

Bd of Education, 6:30-8p, MC-2nd floor

Afraid Bible Study begins, 6:30-7:30p, MC-1st floor

Forgiveness Bible Study begins, 6:30-8p, LHL

Tuesday, 1/7

Adult Instruction begins, 6:30-8p, MC-1st floor

Stephen Ministry Training, 6:30-9p, LHC

Greek Class, 7-8p, MC-2nd floor

Friday, 1/10

February Connected Due

Jr High Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, 1/11

Jr High Confirmation Retreat

Stephen Ministry Training, 9a-2p, LHC

Widows Small Group, TBD

Monday, 1/13

Plarn Gathering, 2-4p, LHC  
 Alzheimer Caregiver Support Grp, 6-7:30p, LHC  
 Church Council Meeting, 6:30-9p, MC-2nd fl

Tuesday, 1/14

Stephen Ministry Training & Cont. Ed, 6:30-9p, LHC

Wednesday, 1/15

Royalton Manor Communion Worship, 10a  
 Whitcomb Towers Communion Worship, 1p  
 Rachel Meyer Presentation, 6:30-8p, LHC

Thursday, 1/16

Special School Chapel w/ Rachel Meyer, 8:05a, S

Saturday 1/18

Men's Network Study & Breakfast, 8-10:30a, CFH

Women's Book Club, 10:30-11:30a, Biggby Coffee

Monday, 1/20

No School – In-service day

Bd of Prop & Finance, 6:30-8:30p, MCB

Tuesday, 1/21

Caretel Communion Service, 10:30a

SAGES, 11a-1:30p, LHC

Parent / Teacher Conferences, 4:30-8p, school

Stephen Ministry Training, 6:30-9p, LHC

Greek Class, 7-8p, MC-2nd floor

Thursday, 1/23

Parent / Teacher Conferences, 4--8p, school

Mobile Food Pantry, 4p, MC parking lot

Friday, 1/24

Parent / Teacher Conferences, 12-4p, school

Saturday, 1/25

Community Dinner, 11:30a-1p, LHC

Sunday, 1/26

Volunteer Appreciation, 2-4p, CFH

Monday, 1/27

National Lutheran Schools Week Begins

Pancakes with the Pastor, 7-8:30a, CFH

Plarn Gathering, 2-4p, LHC

Alzheimer Caregiver Support Grp, 6-7:30p, LHC

Bd of Elders Mtg, 6:30-9p, MC-2nd floor

## PLEASE NOTE...

**Social Ministry Door Offering, Sunday, January 5th, following each service**

**Adult Instruction Class begins, Tuesday, January 7th, 6:30-8p, MC-1st floor**

**February Connected Articles Due, Friday, January 10th**

**Plarn Gathering, Mondays, January 13th & 27th, 2-4p, LHC**

**Alzheimer Caregiver Support Group, Mondays, January 13th & 27th, 6-7:30p, LHC**

**Women's Book Club, Saturday, January 18th, 10:30-11:30a, Biggby Coffee**

**Widows Small Group Meeting, Saturday, January 11th, TBD**

**Stephen Ministry Peer Supervision, Tues, Jan. 14th & 28th, 6:30-9p, MC-2nd floor**

**Royalton Manor Communion Service, Wed, January 15th, 10a**

**Whitcomb Communion Service, Wed, January 15th, 1p**

**Men's Network Meeting, Saturday, Jan. 18th, 8-10:30a,CFH**

**Caretel Communion Service, Tues, January 21st, 10:30am**

**SAGES Group, Tuesday, January 21st, 11a – 1:30p, LHC**

**Mobile Food Pantry, Thursday, January 23rd, 4:00p, MC Parking lot**

**Community Dinner, Saturday, January 25th, 11:30a-1p, LHC**

**Volunteer Appreciation, Sunday, January 26th, 2-4p, CFH**

**Soup Kitchen, Tuesday, January 28th, 10a**

**Pancakes with the Pastor, Monday, January 27th, 7-8:30a, CFH**

**National Lutheran Schools Week, January 27th – February 2nd**

Tuesday, 1/28

National Lutheran Schools Week

Soup Kitchen, 10a

Stephen Minister Training, 6:30-9p, LHC

Stephen Minister Peer Supervision, 6:30-9p, MCB

Art Show, 6:30-8p, School

Wednesday, 1/29

National Lutheran Schools Week

No School Chapel

Thursday, 1/30

National Lutheran Schools Week

Friday, 1/31

National Lutheran Schools Week-1/2 day

Countywide School Chapel, 10-11a, S

Jr High Dance, 6:30-8:30p, LHC

**We value the dedication of our volunteers!**

**Please watch for more information about the VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION coming up on Sunday, Jan 26th, from 2-4pm.**



CFH-Christian Fellowship Hall; CMR-Children's Ministry Room; LHC-Lighthouse Café; LHL-Lighthouse Lounge; MC-Ministry Center; MCB-Ministry Center Boardroom; S-Sanctuary; SRC-Solid Rock Café; SCH-School; WC-Welcome Center

**MARY KAY**<sup>®</sup>  
 Jan Yelding  
 Independent Beauty Consultant  
 (269) 637-5645 • Cell (269) 470-5645  
 jyelding@marykay.com  
 www.marykay.com/jyelding

**FREE  
 Make-overs**

**Royalton  
 Manor**  
*Building a Home. Restoring a Legacy.*  
 288 Peace Blvd.  
 St. Joseph, MI 49085  
 269-556-9050   
 www.cienafacilities.com

**PRI-MART**  
 QUIK SHOP

**&**

**PriMarPetroleum, inc.**



**BIG  
 LUMBER**

Come Visit Our  
 Coloma Design &  
 Selection Center  
 6603 Red Arrow Hwy  
 269-468-3128  
 BigCLumber.com



**LAKEFRONT  
 ROOFING & EXTERIORS**

- ROOFING
- SIDING & WINDOWS
- INSULATION
- GUTTERS
- MASONRY

**Serving South West Michigan's Lake Shore**  
**1-888-766-3014**      **www.LakefrontRoof.com**

**PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE  
 MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM**

**\$29.95/MO**  
**BILLED QUARTERLY**      **PLUS SPECIAL OFFER**

**CALL NOW! 1.877.801.7772**  
**WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM**



**Starks**  
 Family Funeral Homes  
 & Cremation Services

St. Joseph    Dowagiac    New Buffalo  
 Decatur    Berrien Springs    Buchanan

**www.starksfamilyfh.com 269-556-9450**

**4LPi**

**WE'RE HIRING  
 AD SALES EXECUTIVES**

- Full Time Position with Benefits
- Sales Experience Preferred
- Paid Training
- Overnight Travel Required
- Expense Reimbursement

CONTACT US AT: [careers@4LPi.com](mailto:careers@4LPi.com)  
[www.4LPi.com/careers](http://www.4LPi.com/careers)



**BITTNER | JENNINGS  
 ATTORNEYS**  
*Strategically Focused...Relationship Driven.*

J. Joseph Daly • Randy S. Hyrns  
 Craig P. Jennings • Richard A. Racht  
 James J. Riemland

BittnerJennings.com  
 Niles: 269-684-0777  
 St. Joseph: 269-983-0551



**FAMILY DENTISTRY**

**David S. Miller D.D.S.**  
 824 Napier Ave., St. Joseph  
**Office: 269-983-4371**  
 Fax: 269-983-5304

**AVAILABLE  
 FOR A LIMITED TIME**

**ADVERTISE YOUR  
 BUSINESS HERE**

Contact **Joe Kravec** to place an ad today!  
[jkravec@4LPi.com](mailto:jkravec@4LPi.com) or **(800) 477-4574 x6831**

**ST JOSEPH  
 DENTISTRY**

Dr. Charles Howenstine  
 Dr. Theresa Burt  
 Dr. Stephanie Grider

**(269) 281-8080**  
 www.StJosephDentistry.net

**Adent's**  
 Landscape Supplies, Inc.

465 W. Glenlord Road  
 Saint Joseph, MI 49085  
**269-428-0200**

Specializing in:  
 PROCESSED TOPSOIL  
 STONE • MULCH • COMPOST  
[www.adentslandscapesupplies.com](http://www.adentslandscapesupplies.com)  
**WHERE BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES BEGIN!**

**SILVER HARBOR**  
 BREWING COMPANY

Hand crafted beer | Locally inspired New-American menu | Serving lunch & dinner

721 Pleasant St. • Downtown St. Joseph (behind the post office)  
 269.281.7100 • [silverharborbrewing.com](http://silverharborbrewing.com)

**EAT. DRINK. BEER HAPPY.**





Trinity Lutheran Church & School  
619 Main Street  
St. Joseph MI 49085

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Permit No. 301

### Newsletter Submissions

To meet publication deadlines, all articles must be received by the **2nd Friday of each month.**

Please don't forget to include your phone contact information!

Turn information into the Church Office in person, by fax 983-8933, or e-mail to [betty.perrone@discovertrinity.org](mailto:betty.perrone@discovertrinity.org)

Questions? Suggestions?

Contact Betty Perrone at Church office.

## Faith in Verse *by Bob Lawrence*

### Turning from the Brightness (LSB 337, Verse 5)

*God dwells with us in darkness  
And makes the night as day;  
Yet we resist the brightness  
And turn from God away.*

*But grace does not forsake us,  
However far we run,  
But God claims us still as children  
Through Mary's infant Son.*



It seems like a mystery that defies all understanding. God enters the darkness of our sinful life and turns all that darkness into day with the eternal promise of His love and forgiveness. In any movie that would make a sensational happy ending, right? In real life, however, we all do what at first would seem to be impossible - we actually turn away from God and resist all the brightness of His love.

It is important to consider this reaction just after Christmas, because it is during this season that we just celebrated that God turned up that brightness to new level. But then, just like the way we take down the lights, the trees, and the banners when the holiday is over, it is so easy for all of us to step right back into that darkness. It's as if all the brightness was an illusion and shouldn't be taken seriously.

But unlike ourselves, when God makes a promise, He means it. The Christmas message is definitely not an illusion because God doesn't turn off His grace after we pack away all the Christmas decorations in the attic. Instead His grace literally comes after us, so no matter how hard we run, God is there when we finally realize how far we have wandered away and is anxious to reclaim us as His children.

And children we are. No matter how smart we think we are or how much success we think we have achieved, when it comes to our relationship to God we are definitely children. Only a child would react to God's grace the way mankind does by running away from it as often as we do. And He is definitely our Father because like a father he continually pulls us back into His arms. As demeaning as some might think this relationship is for a grown adult, mankind hasn't even come close to God in that department either.

If the Almighty God of the universe is willing to become an infant, we should be honored to be called His children.