

THE SCROLL

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

A united vital force in our community sharing the love of Jesus.

DECEMBER 2023

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

Words from the Pastor

Page 1 - 2

Stewardship

Page 2

Sunday Adult Bible Study

Topics for December

Page 2

Advent by Candlelight

Page 3

LWML Mission Grant

Page 4

October Council Minutes

Page 5

IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH

Dec 3/10/17/31: Youth Group

Dec 3/10/17/31: Trinity Volleyball

Dec 5: CE Board

Dec 5/19: Quilters

Dec 6: Dorcas

Dec 6/13/20: Advent Midweek

Worship Service

Dec 7/14/21/28: Thursday

Bible Study

Dec. 10: Last day to return Giving

Tree gifts

Dec 13: Men's Lunch

Dec 16: Advent by Candlelight

Dec 16: Transition Projects

Meal Prep

Dec 19: Prayer & Praise at

Church

Dec 24: 10:00 am Worship Service

7:00 pm Candlelight Service

No Sunday School

Dec 25: Merry Christmas! No

Worship Services planned

TRINITY STAFF

Rev. Ted Engelbrecht

Pastor

J. Patrick & Carol Moore

Administrative Assistants

WORDS FROM THE PASTOR - December 2023

Here we are in Advent already. Advent means 'arrival, coming, or incoming.' Advent in the Church is when we wait for both the past coming and the second coming of Jesus. It begins our new Church Year.

The first Gospel reading in our lectionary takes us to Palm Sunday and Jesus' last week on this earth before his death and resurrection. Palm Sunday happened to fulfill the words above that come from Zechariah: *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. (9:9)* But the words come to a people who, with Isaiah, look to someone - God - to come to rescue them from themselves and to create in them 'new hearts' - a new people - who would do His will in the world.

Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?...

But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever.

Behold, please look, we are all your people. Isaiah 64:5-9 (Excerpts)

It may seem strange that the church has chosen this Gospel text for the Christmas Season, but in it Jesus is recognized as Messiah in the fulfillment of the hopes of His people. His life will begin as a baby, but will lead to His greater purpose to be the King who will die for our sins on the cross in that mission to both cleanse us and re-create us for life here as His followers.

The story continues with His resurrection to start a new era of Anno(s) Domini or Years of our Lord on the earth as He reigns from Heaven. From there He will return at the end of time to judge this earth but also to usher in the New - and final - Heaven and Earth which we also all wait for.

We pray in the Lord's prayer for God's kingdom to come and God's will to be done. What does this mean? According to Luther, since "the good and gracious will of God is done even without our prayer," it means "asking that it comes to me" - to each one of us. This happens in Baptism, in listening to His Word, and in partaking of His Supper. These are His "means of grace," since in them His Holy Spirit comes to us, and to each He brings faith and the forgiveness of sin. May we continue to pray this prayer.

continued on page 2

continued from page 1

The Day of the Lord coming is indeed near - it is already here in us who are His. It comes to us as grace, as the Gospel, but it comes to us as a challenge, too, in the command to love others as He loved and loves us. And yet it comes, too, with the promise that He will be with us in it all, even until the end of the age - and beyond.

May our King come to us all in a special way again this Christmas. And may we be a gift to each other and our neighbor in his name.

Pastor Ted

STEWARDSHIP #2 - 2023

Each month we will be including a short piece on stewardship. The first series is labeled the 8 “T”s of Stewardship: **Time, Talent, Treasure, Testimony, Touch, Tissue, Trash** and **Technology**, taken from materials prepared by Rev. John Heckmann, a consultant to the LWML.

T #2: TALENT

Our talents include the gifts, skills and abilities that God has given us.

Romans and 1 Corinthians 12 speak about the ‘spiritual GIFTS’ that the Holy Spirit gives us according to His will, *“Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.”*

These are to be for the benefit of the common good (1 Peter 4:10).

Using our God-given TALENTS wisely and well produces the fruit of the Spirit that Paul mentions in Galatians 5:22-23: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*

Of course, our God-given ‘physical and mental SKILLS and ABILITIES,’ like those needed in building, mechanics, accounting and computing, business, civil service of all kinds, farming and gardening, cooking and baking, and even sports can also serve God, the congregation and our neighbors, too!

Make every effort to discover your gifts, skills, and abilities and find ways to put them to work in our congregation in service to both God and neighbor.

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY

On Sunday, November 5 we began a Bible Study entitled “Unshakable: Standing on the Rock When Life Quakes Hard”, by Donna Snow. We are walking through the lives of eight remarkable men and women whom God shook to the core, then used to point people to the hope of salvation. We learn their history, we peer into their struggles, and see how God moved in their lives to teach us vital spiritual lessons today.



Remaining Biblical figures we'll be studying are: **James**: From Doubting Brother to Impactful Leader; **Mary Magdalene**: From Demon-Possessed to Devoted Disciple; **Paul**: From Persecuting Pharisee to Passionate Advocate; **Gideon**: From Fearful Judge to Faithful Warrior; and **John**: From Humble Fisherman to Beloved Disciple.

CONTRIBUTIONS\$

These are the latest figures we have on year-to-date collections, through the end of November, but not including the basket collection. Thank you for your generosity!

2023 Collections	Actual	Budget	Difference	%, +/-
Month-to-Date	\$ 14,515	\$ 17,308	\$ (2,793)	-16.1%
Year-to-Date	\$ 177,642	\$ 207,692	\$ (30,051)	-14.5%
Total Yearly Collection Budget:		\$225,000		

TRINITY VOLLEYBALL NOW ON SUNDAY NIGHTS!

Join us for some good exercise and fun in the Jade Room on Sunday nights. Same great exercise, same great fun, only now on Sundays. 6:30 pm in the Jade Room.

SHARE YOUR FLOWERS

Remember how, in the story of the Good Samaritan, in order to provide for ongoing care for the injured guy, he takes out two coins to extend the care he cannot stay and give? Flowers this time of year can be kind of like that, only different. If you cannot grow flowers right now, would you be willing to pull a few coins out of your wallet to provide flowers for church on Sundays? Good! Contact Connie Adams to make arrangements (no pun intended!).

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Save the date! On Saturday, December 16th at 2:00 PM Advent by Candlelight returns! We'll be in the Sanctuary and use battery operated candles or lights. Ages 10 and up and open to the fellas too! Join us for this beautiful, relaxing and delicious time as we prepare for the birth of our Savior. A short program and beautiful music will add to our enjoyment of our dessert and fellowship time. Wear your favorite Christmas clothes-ugly Christmas sweater- crazy socks- sequins galore- elf shoes- light bulb necklaces- whatever you have!! This favorite event has a long history here at Trinity. Sign-up sheets are available in the narthex. See you there!

HOME/SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: meets in the Trinity Library every Thursday at 10:30 am.

Contact: Pastor Ted, 503-632-5554. Current Study: Book of Exodus

CANBY SMALL GROUP: meets on the fourth Tuesday--7:00 pm at Al and Rhoda' Bohr's home

Contact: Rhoda Bohr --503-896-1070. It is also a Prayer Group, prayer requests are given and prayed for.

KASTING HOME BIBLE STUDY: meet every Thursday evening 6: 30 pm at Pastor Mike's home.

Contact person--Pastor Mike Kasting---503-305-6189. Current Study: the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah

ENCOURAGERS BIBLE STUDY: meets on the third Sunday at 6:30 pm at alternating homes.

Contact: Brian / Barbara Hawkins--503-803-1553 or 503-753-1371. New study coming soon!

LWML 2023–2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 3
SERVING GOD’S CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
JOURNEYS LUTHERAN SCHOOL | \$100,000



For 60 years, the distinctive ministry of Journeys Lutheran School has been to serve God’s children with special needs such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder, autism, anxiety, trauma, emotional behavior disorder, and obsessive-compulsive disorders. Families choose Journeys Lutheran School for a variety of reasons, including emotional and spiritual growth, a Christian worldview, an educational approach that works best for their unique student, or a more therapeutic approach to education.

We are all God’s children despite our differences, challenges, or experiences. Journeys Lutheran School prepares students in Grades 3–12 with unique learning challenges to maximize their God-given spiritual, academic, physical, emotional, and social potential. The resources and experience of Journeys provides academic help to students and provides an opportunity for their lives to be touched by the Holy Spirit through devotions, prayer, Christian counseling, religion classes, and personal witness.

Grant funds will purchase two 15-passenger vans. The vans will allow Journeys to reach and teach more students and meet their academic and spiritual needs. In addition to the school bus already in use, the vans will provide alternative means to reach students in areas outside of Milwaukee. Additionally, the vans will transport youth to Martin Luther High School, a ministry partner, so that Journeys students can take elective classes in a Christian mainstream environment. This will enable Journeys students to earn a high school diploma, not just a certificate of completion. The vans will also transport students to potential school-to-work internship opportunities and to transport students to cultural, historical, and spiritual learning experiences without needing to use the full-size school bus.

Journeys children deserve the same educational and spiritual opportunities that other children enjoy. The van will help them experience the fullness of God’s creation by opening the world and all its possibilities and opportunities to them.

Your mites can make a difference! Thank you for supporting the LWML Missionary Grants.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH | COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES | October 17, 2023

Attendees: President Brian Hawkins, VP Rhoda Bohr, Finance Committee Rep. Connie Adams, Secretary Ronda Corless, Pastor Ted Engelbrecht, Elder Dave Wilson, Property Board Herb Meissel, Christian Education Rep. Carolyn Stucky, Facilities Use Rep. Sheila Wahl

Rhoda opened the meeting with a prayer and shared a devotion titled Naps: Resting when you're awake and resting with God.

September minutes were approved.

Cary Martenson attended as a guest to discuss the 2024 Rancho Santa Marta mission trip and the excess donations/fundraising given from the 2022 trip which were approximately \$5,500. Connie has contacted the bookkeeper to see where the excess amount was posted in the financials.

Facilities Use: Sheila Wahl (Present - Report Attached)

Sheila reported Sunshine school doesn't have their occupancy permit yet. Brian asked who is on the Facilities Use committee, it was noted that the current committee consists of Gail Allen, Sheila Wahl, Craig Nichols, Carolyn Stucky, Paula Bennett, and Stanette Rosenberger. Sheila said the school keeps a record of who comes in and out with school key codes. J. Pat and Carol have a list of the building keys and who has which keys.

Christian Education: Carolyn Stucky (Present - Report Attached)

Outreach: Pastor Ted/Connie Adams (Present - No Report)

Pastor noted that Outreach is sponsoring "Trunk or Treat" in October and there will be a movie night in November. December will be Advent by Candlelight.

Pastor Report: Pastor Ted (Present - Report Attached)

Elders: Dave Wilson (In Attendance- Report Attached)

Finance Committee: Connie Adams (Present - Report Attached)

For the month ending September 30, 2023, the church reports a loss from operations of \$9,631. For the 9-month period ending September 30,

2023, the church reported an overall loss of \$41,536 from operations.

Council gives the Treasurer approval to correct account postings as needed during the year. Closing entries at year end need council approval such as moving funds from restricted funds to balance the budget.

It was agreed that we can move \$5,500 from Outreach Temp Restricted funds to cover the 2024 short term mission trip to Rancho Santa Marta.

Council approved moving \$30,000 from Properties Temp Restricted funds to cover the shortfall in Properties maintenance/improvements due to the repairs needed on the air conditioners in 2022.

Council reviewed the proposed 2024 budget. Congregation will vote on the proposed budget in the November 2023 Congregation meeting.

Property Board: Herb Meissel (Present—No Report)

There are still leaks but not as bad. Herb will come in to see if he can find the leak.

President: Brian Hawkins (Present - No Report)

Vice President: Rhoda Bohr (Present -Report Attached)

Rhoda said she needs to ask Jim who is on the distribution list for council emails so revisions can be made to the list as appropriate.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Congregation meeting will be November 19, 2023 directly after Worship.

Next meeting will be November 21, 2023 at 6:30pm. Carolyn will do the devotion.

Brian closed the meeting with a prayer at 9:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ronda Corless – Recording Secretary

GET INVOLVED!

If you would like to become involved in any of these areas of service you can use the Communication card or find sign-up pages on the orange *Get Involved* bulletin board across from the coffee service.

If you see blank space that means we need caring individuals to help out.

Greeters	
Dec 3 rd	Elders
Dec 10 th	Elders
Dec 17 th	Elders
Dec 24 th	Elders
Dec 31 st	Elders

Communion Set-Up	
Dec 3 rd	TBA
Dec 17 th	TBA
Dec 31 st	TBA

Lectors (10 am Service)	
Dec 3 rd	Jeff Allen
Dec 10 th	Stanette Rosenberger
Dec 17 th	Dave Wilson
Dec 24 th	Marilyn Allen
Dec 31 st	Rhoda Bohr



Flower Contact	Connie Adams 503.631.7446
----------------	------------------------------



Flowers		
Dec 3 rd	Warren Handy funeral	
Dec 10 th	Vase available	
Dec 17 th	Vase available	
Dec 24 th	Vase available	
Dec 31 st	Vase available	

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH | OREGON CITY | LEADERSHIP LIST

Additional contact information for the following individuals is available in the church directory.

Board of Elders (term ends)

Head: Jeff Allen **E, L, T** 206.228.3724 (2021)
Al Bohr **H, I, J, O** 503.980.8047 (2022)
Ray Clack **M, N** 503.656.3891 (2022)
Levi Darnell **A, D, R** 503.631.7559 (2023)
Cary Martenson **C, G, K, V, Z** 503.632.3879 (2023)
Louis Miller **F, W** 971.404.4771 (2023)
Dave Wilson **B, P, S** 503.632.4068 (2021)

Council Officers

President: Brian Hawkins (2025)
Vice President: Rhoda Bohr (2025)
Treasurer: TBA (2025)
Recording Secretary: Rhonda Corless (2025)
Financial Secretary: Connie Adams (2025)

Property Board

Herb Meissel (2023)

Audio, Video, Information Technology

Paul Petrone

Outreach

Carol Wilson

Christian Education Board

Henrietta Brooks
Carolyn Stucky

Facility & Building Use

Herb Meissel

Trinity Office Email Addresses

Pastor: Rev. Ted Engelbrecht
pastor.ted@trinityoc.org
Administrative Assistants: J. Pat & Carol Moore
office@trinityoc.org

Publications

Bulletin & Scroll Editor: Admin Assistants

Ministry Primary Contacts

Dorcas Circle

Diane Ledgerwood

Prayer Chain

Coordinator: Jacquie Ingalls ingalls.rose@yahoo.com

Assoc. Coordinator: Shirley Albrecht 503.656.7721

Prayer & Praise

Henrietta Brooks

LWML/Mission Guild

Carolyn Stucky

Quilters

Sheila Wahl

Communion Guild

Carol Wilson

Altar Committee

Colleen Brinkert

Connie Adams

Thursday Bible Study

Pastor Ted

Thrivent

www.thrivent.com

Trinity Oregon City Missions and Contacts

Local Outreach

- **Transitions Projects** (Portland) Pat Benjamin
- **The Father's Heart Street Ministry** (Oregon City)
- **Love INC** Office 503.655.4223 ext. 2
- **True Housing** 503.234.8757
- **Lutheran Latino Ministries** PO Box 293, Mt. Angel, OR 97362

National Outreach

- **LCMS Disaster Fund**
- **LWML**

International Outreach

- **Child Beyond International**, Guatemala
- **Compassion International**

DECEMBER 2023

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i> Ryan Walker	<i>2</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> Phyllis Ernsberger	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> Daisy Teske Jeanne Baker
<i>10</i> Herb & Rae Meissel	<i>11</i> Tom Handy	<i>12</i> Teresa Doss	<i>13</i> Wilbur Bohr	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> Carol Cameron	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> Brian & Connie Adams	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24</i> Wyatt VanDelaat Ed & Sandra Lindquist	<i>25</i> Jesus O'Nazareth	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> Lester Schmidt	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> Marilyn Allen	<i>30</i> Josh Martenson

DECEMBER 2023

TRINITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 10:00 Warren Handy Celebration of Life
					6:00p <i>The Fun Flyers</i>	
<i>3</i> 10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 6:30 Trinity Volleyball 6:30 Youth Group	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> 10:00 CE Board 1:00 Quilters	<i>6</i> 10:30 Dorcas 7:00 Advent Mid-Week Worship Service	<i>7</i> 10:30 Bible Study	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i> 10:00 Private Event (kitchen)
<i>10</i> 10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 6:30 Trinity Volleyball 6:30 Youth Group	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 11:30 Men's Lunch @ Stanley's Corner 7:00 Advent Mid-Week Worship Service	<i>14</i> 10:30 Bible Study	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 2:00 Transition Projects Meal Prep 2:00 Advent By Candlelight
					6:00p <i>The Fun Flyers</i>	
<i>17</i> 10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 4th Sunday Women's Bible Study 6:30 Trinity Volleyball 6:30 Youth Group	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i> 9:30 Prayer & Praise 1:00 Quilters	<i>20</i> 7:00 Advent Mid-Week Worship Service	<i>21</i> 10:30 Bible Study	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>
<i>24/31</i> 10:00 Sunday Worship Service (24) 7:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (31) After: Coffee Social/ Sunday School 6:30 Youth Group	<i>25</i> No Services Office Closed	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> 7:00 Praise Team Practice	<i>28</i> 10:30 Bible Study	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>