

THE SCROLL

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

DECEMBER 2024

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

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IMPORTANT DATES THIS MONTH

- Dec 1/8/15/22/29: Youth Group
- Dec 2/9/16/23/30: Trinity Volleyball
- Dec 3: CE Board
- Dec 3/17: Quilters
- Dec 4: Dorcas
- Dec 5/12/19/26: Thursday Bible Study
- Dec 7: Carol Wilson Funeral
- Dec 11: Men's Lunch
- Dec 14: Transition Projects Meal
Assembly/Delivery
- Dec 14: Meal Prep for Homebound
Members
- Dec 14: Advent by Candelight
- Dec 15: Special Worship Service
- Dec 17: Prayer & Praise at Church
- Dec 18: Elders Board Meeting
- Dec 22: 4th Sunday Women's Bible
- Dec 24: Christmas Eve Worship
- Dec 25: Christmas (office closed)
- Dec 28: Laverne Bauer Funeral

TRINITY STAFF

Rev. Ted Engelbrecht
Pastor

J. Patrick & Carol Moore
Administrative Assistants

WORDS FROM THE PASTOR - December 2024

December and Advent services start on the same day this year. The Church Year and Secular New Year are exactly a month apart!

The Advent season begins a new church year and is a time of preparation, as the Latin "Adventus" means an arrival or coming of someone. More than preparing for the coming of just anyone, here we prepare for our Savior. As we get hearts and minds ready for the Christmas crescendo to come celebrating Christ's humble birth, we also remain prepared in this season and always as He promises to come again.

At Christmas we celebrate the first coming of our Messiah and King, but traditionally, Advent is also a time to remember that Jesus will be coming back again to judge and end this world and this time and to start the new Heaven and Earth.

This is why we also always read the words written in Zechariah 9:9 which take us to Palm Sunday and Jesus' last week on this earth before his death and resurrection.

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)

The words come to us - to a people who look to God's Elected one to come to rescue them from themselves, to forgive them, and to create in them - as a potter does a pot - 'new hearts' - a new people - who would do His will in the world in preparation of the next one.

Isaiah reminds us of both God's and our role in just this whole process.

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)

In remembering Jesus' birth with death and resurrection, we remember that His whole life matters to us. How he lived and what He lived for are both a model for living and 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 in submission to His Father 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.

Although we are not called to, indeed cannot, be the sacrifice for sin of the world, we are called to die to our egos and be His 'hands and feet' who
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will humbly follow His guidance in the work for justice and mercy in accordance with His command to 'Love God and Neighbor' - whoever that neighbor might be. We can't do that alone or without His Holy Spirit. And so we pray for it.

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.

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

PRESIDENT'S CORNER December 2024

"Joy to the World, the Lord has come!" He came and He spoke about Joy: near the time of his crucifixion, "And now I am coming to thee, but while I am still in the world I speak these words, so that they may have my joy within them in full measure." John 17:13 NEV. Those who know me know that I have spoken and written about 'Joy' a number of times. I asked family and friends "What is Joy" and the responses range from exuberant happiness to quiet contemplation, joy in singing, joy in a child's welcoming smile, togetherness, giving, experiencing a burst of spring color or the rich colors of fall, cooking and sharing a meal, a quiet hug, time with a friend who is soon to greet the Lord. C. S. Lewis in *Surprised by Joy* wrote "Joy...sharply distinguished both from Happiness and from Pleasure...anyone who has experienced it will want it again..." So I make it that Joy cannot be planned or created, only experienced. Today my joy comes from being able to share my time, talents, and resources with those I love and some in need whose names I will never know. From the far side of 80 years, there is joy in experiencing God's beautiful creation every day and a special contentment, Joy, that comes from being grounded in my Christian faith. I wish you much Joy in the days ahead!

Share your Joy this Christmas Season! Write, text, or email me a note with what Joy means to you; I will compile a list and share it back with you (without your name, if so requested).

Sheila Wahl
21232 S. Richard Court, Oregon City, OR 97045
swahl7547@gmail.com
971-998-6481 mobile

CONTRIBUTIONS\$

The figures to the right reflect all contributions received online, by mail and in person through the end of November. Hard to believe that 2024 is 11/12 over!

Once again, thank you for your generosity.

2024 Collections	Actual	Budget	Difference	%, +/-
Month-to-Date	\$ 16,497	\$ 16,423	\$ 74	0.5%
Year-to-Date	\$ 171,906	\$ 192,971	\$ (21,065)	-10.9%
Total Yearly Collection Budget:		\$213,500		

MONDAY NIGHT VOLLEYBALL!

We really need clipart with two snowmen holding the volleyball net this time of year. Join us for great fun, great exercise, Mondays at 6:30 pm in the Jade Room. Check with Pastor Ted on Sundays if there will be a sufficiently large group to play.



SHARE YOUR FLOWERS

Contact Connie Adams to coordinate either donating flowers, or a donation to purchase flowers for church.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD NEWS

LCMS YOUTH GATHERING: There is still opportunity and time for Youth (ages 14-19) and their family to ponder, think about, and register about going to the LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans July 19-23. The theme *ENDURE* is taken from Hebrews 12:1-3.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SURVEY: The Christian Ed. Board would appreciate knowing your thoughts and needs for future courses of study for Adult Bible Classes. If you missed the survey on Sunday, December 1, but want to participate, please contact the office. Your input is valuable and important to us.

TEMPORARY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CLASS CHANGE

Temporarily, the 6 & 7 grade Confirmation Class will meet in the Brooks home on Mondays from 4:15 to 5:15 PM. This is to help with students' busy schedules and help with being regular and consistent as we study.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM PHYLLIS

From Phyllis Ernsberger on the gift of flowers, quilt and appreciative words from Pastor Ted and the Congregation as she 'retired' from full-time organist duty:

Dear Sheila and all the Quilters and friends of Trinity, Thank you for a beautiful, warm and encouraging send-off (although I will be back from time to time) and the large music quilt... These gifts will always remind me of you, although I could hardly forget you anyway. Blessings for Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and all the years to come. *Phyllis for John too*

SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Sunday, December 15th, our 10:00 A M Worship Service will have a guest speaker-- Wendy Sue. Her message is entitled REFLECTIONS of MARY. Portraying Mary, Jesus' mother, Wendy Sue will bring us back in time with a dramatic retelling of Jesus' life from His birth to His resurrection. There will be participation (music-hymns) for the congregation, a time to ponder, and prepare for His coming.

THE GIVING TREE

This year the Giving Tree is in the Narthex, adorned with the stockings that contain gift ideas for the Parrot Creek recipients. Once again, Parrot Creek is asking us not to wrap our gifts but to put them in Gift Bags with some Tissue folded just inside the package and attaching the paper Stocking to the package handle.

We need to have the packages ready for Parrot Creek to pick-up on December 16th, so *the last day to return our gifts will be Sunday, December 15th.*

We will also be accepting Socks, Gloves and Hats for kids as well as adults as the tags are taken and the Giving Tree transmogrifies into the Sock Tree!



LOVE INC CURRENT NEEDS...

You can always check their website for the latest list of needs at <https://clackamasloveinc.org/get-involved/ways-to-support/>

Here's the list as of the beginning of November:

- **Personal Care products:** Toilet paper, Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Feminine products, Kids products, Men and Ladies deodorant, Body wash, Soap, etc...
- **Household products:** Laundry detergent, Fabric softener, Paper towels, All-purpose cleaners, Toilet bowl cleaner, Window cleaner, Dish soap, etc...
- **Baby items:** Diapers of all sizes, Wipes, Baby shampoo, Baby soap, etc...
- **New Linens:** Pillows, Pillow cases, Bed Sheets, Mattress pads, (Twin, Full, Queen), etc...
- **Furniture:** twin, double, queen bed sets, couches, kitchen table and chairs. etc...
- **Kitchen:** Pots, Pans, Coffee Maker, Toasters, etc...

Please be as generous as possible.

LWML NEWS

We have two Mite Projects coming up for December, see next page.

WILL MARSHALL TO LEAD CLASSES ON GEMSTONES

Will has three more presentations this year at the Pioneer Community Center's Fireplace Room. Stop by the Pioneer Center on Tuesday, December 17 at 12 noon.

RED FOOD BARREL

Back in its regular spot in the Narthex, the Red Food Barrel is ready to accept your donations of boxed or canned non-perishable foods that are delivered to one of the local churches that takes part in the local food bank program, H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Eat). On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, we dropped off 329 pounds of food. Our plan is to make another delivery prior to Christmas, to assist those who struggle to keep their homes warm and also put food on the table.

TRINITY CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Plan on being here on Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 pm for our Candlelight Christmas Worship Service.

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT IS BACK!

This event is historically a favorite here at Trinity! Saturday, December 14th at 3:00 pm, join us in the Sanctuary for a delicious time to reflect on the birth of baby Jesus. Sign ups are available for host/hostessing or attending. Look for them in the Narthex.

Gentlemen and Ladies are invited as well as children over the age of 8 or so. (It can be hard for littles to just sit while we visit!!) Consider hosting a table alone or with a partner! Decor runs the gamut of festive paper goods to your crystal...you get to decide. Desserts are up to you as well: cake-cookies-pie-baked Alaska, whatever works! Plan for 8 at your table including you. We certainly hope to see you there!

Stanette Rosenberger and Rhoda Bohr



2023–2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 21 | HEALTHY TOGETHER: HEALTHY WORKERS, HEALTHY CHURCH | LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICE | \$106,000

Christ-Centered Mental Health Counseling for LCMS Church Workers

For years, Lutheran Family Service counselors have been quietly ministering across Iowa to church workers who are slowly collapsing under the weight of faithfully doing ministry in a world where such work is not valued as it once was. Not only must the church worker uphold difficult biblical teachings in the face of a world that no longer understands such teachings as useful or even relevant, but they also face congregations that are shrinking.

The Healthy Together: Healthy Workers-Healthy Church campaign will allow Lutheran Family Service to take what they have learned over many decades in Iowa about effectively serving and supporting brothers and sisters in Christ to others who need this help. Funds raised through the campaign will provide an expanded network of professional, Christ-centered, mental health and marriage and family counselors dedicated to supporting LCMS church workers and those they serve. The vision for expanded services reaches throughout Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, and other Greater Midwestern states — reaching nearly half of the Missouri Synod’s rostered workers. By establishing their unique brand of care through a growing team of Christian therapists in the Greater Midwest — all passionate about the Lord’s work and about supporting His workers — Lutheran Family Service will make sure that crushed spirits receive the spiritual, emotional, and psychological support they need as they navigate the challenges of church work in the 21st century.

As our congregations and schools face serious shortfalls of rostered, theologically trained candidates to fill available roles, we do not want to lose any of the workers we already have. By offering pro-active resources as well as specialized help in times of crisis, Lutheran Family Service shores up the troops and keeps them in the fight. Healthy pastors remain in the pulpit and continue to proclaim the Gospel. Healthy teachers staff Lutheran schools, and they are able to share the Gospel and Christ’s love with people both inside and outside of the church.

Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work (1 Thessalonians 5:11–13a).



2023–2025 MISSION GRANT NO. 26 | LIFE CONNECTION EVENTS AND KITS | LUTHERANS FOR LIFE | \$70,000 *Learning to Speak for the Sanctity of Life*

Lutherans For Life (LFL) received an LWML Mission Grant of \$70,000 to engage and equip young adults as well as bring older and younger generations together by sponsoring the Life Connection Events and Kits mission initiative. The words spoken through this initiative will tell of the Savior’s grace to multitudes of people facing life issues. The events and kits will appeal to the young adult generation by inspiring them to proclaim the life-affirming work and love of the Lord of the nations.

The mission of Lutherans For Life is to renew hearts with the Word of the Lord and to receive every human being as not just a neighbor but as a sister or brother with whom we may share God’s everlasting blessings. Life issues like surprise pregnancy, terminal diagnoses, biotechnology, and sexuality offer mission witness moments. The Good News can be proclaimed — that God creates, redeems, and calls every member of our race as His own precious treasure from fertilization to forever.

The LFL’s popular Y4Life programs show that youth gravitate toward activity-oriented involvement. The mission grant supports four pilot events over two years. Each event builds relationships through group outings and structured discussions, educates on specific sanctity-of-life issues, and connects neighbors through life-affirming community service.

The second part of the initiative will produce “event-in-a-box” kits from the knowledge gained from the four pilot events. This information will include better understanding of the dynamics of young adult involvement in sanctity-of-life advocacy, having identified and apprenticed the attendees for returning to their congregations as ambassadors for witness and catalysts for servanthood. The kits will provide a field-tested collection of high impact activities ready for replication almost anywhere.

Virginia Flo, LFL Director of Volunteer Relations, states, “Engaging young adults in life affirming ministry in our churches and communities is vital to the future of sustaining life ministry across the country.”

We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2:10). I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:14).



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 1 st	Elders
Dec 8 th	Elders
Dec 15 th	Elders
Dec 22 nd	Elders
Dec 29 th	Elders

Communion Set-Up	
Dec 1 st	Carol & Steve Cameron
Dec 15 th	Carol & Steve Cameron
Dec 29 th	Carol & Steve Cameron

Lectors (10 am Service)	
Dec 1 st	Marilyn Allen
Dec 8 th	Stanette Rosenberger
Dec 15 th	Special Service
Dec 22 nd	George Deines
Dec 29 th	Contemporary Service



Flower Contact	Connie Adams 503.631.7446
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Flowers		
Dec 1 st	Vase available	
Dec 8 th	Vase available	
Dec 15 th	Vase available	
Dec 22 nd	Vase available	
Dec 29 th	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 (2025)
Al Bohr **H, I, J, O** 503.980.8047 (2025)
Ray Clack **M, N** 503.656.3891 (2025)
Levi Darnell **A, D, R** 503.631.7559 (2025)
Cary Martenson **C, G, K, V, Z** 503.632.3879 (2025)
Louis Miller **F, W** 971.404.4771 (2025)
Dave Wilson **B, P, S** 503.632.4068 (2025)
Craig Nickles "Elder at Large" (2026)

Council Officers

President: Sheila Wahl (2026)
Vice President: Rhoda Bohr (2025)
Treasurer: TBA (2025)
Recording Secretary: Rhonda Corless (2025)
Financial Secretary: Connie Adams (2025)

Property Board

Herb Meissel (2025)

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 Editors: Admin Assistants

Ministry Primary Contacts

Dorcas Circle

Diane Ledgerwood

Prayer Chain

Coordinator: Jacquie Ingalls ingalls.rose@yahoo.com

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
- **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 2024

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 Jeannie Baker	<i>10</i> <i>Herb & Rae Meissel</i>	<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>Brian & Connie Adams</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> Wyatt VanDelaat <i>Ed & Sandra Lindquist</i>	<i>25</i> Jesus of Nazareth	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i> Lester Schmidt	<i>28</i>
<i>29</i> Marilyn Allen	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i> Josh Martenson				

DECEMBER 2024

TRINITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>1</i></p> <p>10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 6:30 Youth Group</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>4:15 6th—7th Grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Trinity Volleyball</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>10:00 CE Board</p> <p>1:00 Quilters</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>10:30 Dorcas</p> <p>7:00 Advent Mid- week Worship</p>	<p><i>5</i></p> <p>10:30 Bible Study</p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>6:00p <i>The Fun Flyers</i></p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>10:00 Carol Wilson Funeral/Reception</p>
<p><i>8</i></p> <p>10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 6:30 Youth Group</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>4:15 6th—7th Grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Trinity Volleyball</p>	<p><i>10</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>11:30 Men's Lunch @ Stanley's Corner</p> <p>7:00 Advent Mid- week Worship</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>10:30 Bible Study</p>	<p><i>13</i></p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>9:00 Transition Projects Meal Delivery 10:30 Homebound Member Meal Prep 3:00 Advent by Candlelight</p>
<p><i>15</i></p> <p>10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 6:30 Youth Group</p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>4:15 6th—7th Grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Trinity Volleyball</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>9:30 Prayer & Praise</p> <p>1:00 Quilters</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>11:00 Elders Board Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Advent Mid- week Worship</p>	<p><i>19</i></p> <p>10:30 Bible Study</p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>6:00p <i>The Fun Flyers</i></p>	<p><i>21</i></p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 4th Sunday Women's Bible Study 6:30 Youth Group</p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>4:15 6th—7th Grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Trinity Volleyball</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>Christmas Eve</p> <p>7:00 Christmas Eve Worship Service</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>Christmas <i>Office closed</i> <i>No Worship</i> <i>Service</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>11:00 Laverne Bauer Funeral/ Reception</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>10:00 Worship Svc After: Coffee Social 11:00 Sunday School 6:30 Youth Group</p>	<p><i>30</i></p> <p>4:15 6th—7th Grade Confirmation Class 6:30 Trinity Volleyball</p>	<p><i>31</i></p>				