

December 5, & 6 2020 Weekly Bulletin

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings

Principal/Associate Pastor: Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Church Administrative Assistant: Beth Wohlrabe

Church (920) 722-2662, School (920) 725-1715

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-3:00pm



✠ This Week at Trinity ✠

Sunday, December 6

9:00AM Worship in Church & Online

10:30AM Education Hour - Online & In Person

Monday, December 7

Pastor's Day Off

6:00PM At Home Prayer Time

6:30PM Women's Bible Study Online

Tuesday, December 8

6:30AM Ladies Bible Study

6:30PM Board of Director Meeting

Wednesday, December 9

10:30AM Advent Worship in Church & Online

5:00PM Catechism

6:30PM Advent Worship in Church & Online

Thursday, December 10

6:00AM Men's Bible Study

6:30PM 3rd & 4th Grade Christmas Service

Friday, December 11

2:45PM School Electives

Saturday, December 12

9:00AM-9:30AM Food Pantry Drive Up

5:00PM Worship in Church & Online

Sunday, December 13

9:00AM Worship in Church & Online

10:30AM Education Hour - Online & In Person

Altar Flowers

Given to the Glory of God by Altar Guild.

✠ We Pray For... ✠

Bill Dull, Mike Godwin, Barbara Thomas, Rick Stanford, Mona Bahrke, Scott Henrickson, Jason Seals, Lee Weinig, Barbara Kester, Merry Voigt, Karen Beard, Rose Kosloski, Alyce and James Thurber, Kari Lindner, Joan Reinke, Tom Drum, Merle Webber, Joyce Virchow, Wendy Kondzela, Oliver Siegel, Roy Mehl, Jeff Dionne, Laurel Wirth, Donna Mies, Roman Brockman, Kathy Rigotti, Dianne Olsen, Alan Manteufel, Shirley Fleischer, Don Mader, Ann Keller, Mark Becker, Roman & Flora Turenko, Scott Dontje, Scott Steenepoorte, Tom Howden and family, and Lynn Olson.

✠ Stewardship Lesson ✠

2 Peter 3:11 – “Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness ...” All the things of earth have an expiration date: “Good Until the Last Day.” On that Day, all these things will be dissolved. The things that seem so important now will simply cease to be. Peter issues this to us as a challenge. Since this is so, what kind of life should we be living? What should your priorities be? On things? Or on the things of God?

News, Events, Requests, Etc.

Visit us at: www.trinitymenasha.com or
“Like” Us on Facebook.

\$ Current Finances \$

Monthly Income Needed: **\$75,637**

Income as of November 29: \$58,489

This Weekend's Banners- The Pulpit Banner - "Advent Candles & Holly." **The Lectern Banner** – "Prepare the Way." **Banner in Narthex-** "Scripture Alone, Faith Alone, Grace Alone."

Church Office- The church office hours are Monday-Friday 8AM-3PM.

Teaching the Faith Bible Study- with Pastor GeRue. We meet Sundays from 10:30–11:30 AM in the meeting room. Some topics will be Holy Scriptures, God's Law, Creation, Salvation, The Trinity, God, Confession, Sacraments; things you were afraid to ask & more. The study is open to all. It is a review of the Lutheran Christian Faith and serves as an Adult Information / Confirmation Class.

Advent Worship- This Wednesday, December 9th, at 10:30am and 6:30pm we will celebrate the season of Advent with special worship services. Please call the Church Office to register. Services will also be live broadcast.

Prayer Chain- Barbara Kester is head of the Prayer Chain. If you desire prayers for yourself or someone else, please call Barbara at (920) 722-3228.

Church Mailbox- Please look for your name on your church mailbox.

Ushers- We are looking for more ushers to help on Wednesday night, Saturday, and Sunday. If you would like to help, please contact Beth at the office and she can get you on the schedule.

Women's Bible Study- If you wish to join the online Women's Bible Study contact Connie Henkel by email at sonshine_54952@yahoo.com or call (920) 725-0694.

Altar Flowers- If you wish to donate flowers please contact the office. The cost of providing Altar flowers is \$25.00.

Portals of Prayer- Devotional books are \$.75 each. Please let the office know if you wish to purchase one.

Volunteers- To help with temperature taking on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. If you would like to help, please contact Mary Howden (920) 730-9521.

From Board of Properties- Hello everyone, Cold and snowy weather is upon us. Which means it's time to dust off the shovels! Please prayerfully consider signing up for one month, multiple months, or the entire season! If you are interested, there are two ways to sign-up: contact Eric Voigt (property@trinitymenasha.com) or contact Beth through the Church Office.

We are also looking for help with shoveling before school starts in the morning and before school is released in the afternoon. Please contact Eric Voigt or Lee Colby with any questions or for more information.

Thank you.

New 2021 Church Directory- Please look for your new 2021 Church Directory in your church mailbox. If you did not get one, please contact Beth in the office and she will give you one.

Luther and the Christmas Tree- According to tradition, Luther may have popularized the tradition of the Christmas tree to express and teach theology to his family. On his way home one evening, he became overwhelmed by the incredible beauty of a fir tree positioned against the backdrop of the brilliant starlit sky. He so desperately wanted to describe what he had seen to his family, that he brought home a fir tree and even decorated the tree with candle tapers, mimicking the stars that hung over the manger where the newborn Messiah lay.

Christmas Blessings from Your Board of Worship

The year 2020 has put us through a lot of changes since March. Many of the decorating participants from the past have been asking about the plans for this year. Let's just say – it's going to be a different look and feel. We have decided to build the anticipation for Christ's birth in our decorating format this year. No large, massive explosion of decorations all done in one day, but a more subtle increase to point the way to His birth. If you wish to be involved in the plans you can contact Sally Bolan @ 920-422-2054. Sally will be contacting past workers to assist with some aspects of the process that they are familiar with. Our prayer is to have us all return to the true meaning of Christmas and not be fixated on how elaborate our decorations are.

A blessed Christmas to All,
Elaine, Sally, Beth, Chantay, Val & Kari

Thank you- to all who participated in the Taste of Trinity Fundraiser. Approximately \$200 was raised for the Organ fund. Anyone looking for a sweet treat for a Christmas present, or themselves, can contact Rosemary Collingwood for Jams.

Thank you everyone! Elaine & Rosemary

Shelter Blanket Sewers Wanted! If you can sew a straight seam, or close to it, we have a need for you. We have a lot of squares and strips ready to be sewn together into quilt tops. This is a project you can do at home. Contact LaVerne Werth @ 740-0381. Machines are also available for your use.

\$ SCRIP News \$

SCRIP is sold in the Church Office Mon-Friday from 8:00AM-3:00PM.

How to Order Scrip? You can call the office Monday-Friday 8:00AM-3:00PM, Or email Beth with your order -- bwohrabe@trinitymenasha.com. She will put it together and you can receive your order at door #7 when the office is open.

Kwik Trip Scrip is back to a 10% rebate, limited time only. Get yours today!

Pick up your Tom's Drive In Scrip - at a 10% rebate now through the end of the year. Get yours today!

Trinity's Food Pantry

Thank you to all who continue to support Trinity's Food Pantry through food & monetary donations. We have truly been blessed by your generosity! You are providing for many who are in need at this time. As we look toward the end of the year, we are in need of the following non-perishables: Cereal, Canned Pasta, Mac & Cheese, Jelly, and Pudding/Jello. If you or someone you know would benefit from the food pantry, please call Steve Reinke at 920-540-5090.

✠ School News ✠ "Sent to Serve"



Upcoming Events

Wed. Dec. 9: School Advent Chapel 10:30AM
Thur. Dec. 10: 3rd & 4th Grade Christmas Service
Fri. Dec. 11: Electives 2:45PM

† School News †

Angel Tree

This year instead of an Angel Tree for a school wish list, we are asking for gift cards to be donated directly to teachers and staff. There are many in stock and available through Scrip. This is a great way to help out your teacher's classroom or the school through your donation.

Our School Staff includes:

3PS: Mrs. Caitlin Vanden Bloomer

4K: Miss Nina Johnson

5K: Mrs. Heather Andreshak

1st-2nd: Miss Kirsten Johnston

3rd-4th: Mrs. Valerie GeRue

5th-6th: Miss Elizabeth Bahrns

7th-8th: Mrs. Rachel Maloney

Aide: Miss Desiree Wittmann

Custodian: Mr. Lee Colby

Cook: Mrs. Anne Dahms

Admin. Assistant: Nathan Dahms

Principal: Rev. Keith GeRue

School Christmas Services

Sign up with Mr. Dahms for any of these services. They will fill up quickly because of limited seating. All of them will be live streamed on the Trinity Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Trinity-Lutheran-Church-and-School-137682064805>.

Thur. Dec. 10 6:30PM 3rd and 4th Graders

Mon. Dec. 14 5:30PM K5, 1st – 2nd Graders

Tues. Dec. 15 5:30PM 3 – 4 year olds

Wed. Dec. 16 10:30AM & 6:30PM 5th– 8th Graders

This week's theme: "Comforted to Serve"

Isaiah 40:1–4

"Comfort, comfort my people, says your God" (Is. 40:1).

Have you heard of a comfort dog? Lutheran Church Charities sponsors a ministry where specially trained dogs are brought into areas where "comfort" is needed.

They have been brought to places where there has been a tornado, hurricane or other natural disaster. They have been brought into schools, churches and other places where children and adults are sad, scared or otherwise in need of emotional support.

The people of Israel needed comfort that no animal or even any human source could provide. Israel would face challenges from foreign kings who would desolate the land and ultimately take some of the people as captives. In Isaiah 39, King Hezekiah is warned "The days are coming, when all that is in your house, and that which your fathers have stored up till this day, shall be carried to Babylon" (Is. 39:6). As prisoners, they would be away from their families and friends in a foreign land. They would be very lonely. They would need comfort.

More challenging than their political position was their spiritual condition. Israel had given into the temptation to worship idols. There was no escaping the judgment of the just God. No comfort blankets, dogs or any other experiences could comfort them.

To those captive to sin, Isaiah speaks a word of comfort from God, "Comfort, comfort my people ... speak tenderly to Jerusalem ... that her iniquity is pardoned" (Is. 40:1). Isaiah again shares the Advent promise that the Savior will come. Through His suffering and death, the Savior would take away the sin (iniquity) of Israel and the world. They would be comforted in believing that God was with them, and that He would rescue them. God would bring them back to their homeland again.

During the Advent season, we are blessed to hear God's promises again. We are also blessed to know that God has fulfilled all His promises in Christ. We have the comfort that all our sins are forgiven. When we have a problem or tragedy, God's Word comforts us. We have the comfort of knowing that we will be with Jesus forever.

PRAYER Jesus, there are many times where our lives are uncomfortable because of the sin in our world and the sin in our lives. Comfort us in Your forgiveness. Make us instruments of comfort to others. Amen.