

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH 505 Commercial St. SE Hanceville, Alabama 35077

www.trinityhanceville.com

Phone 256-352-6442

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45 AM

WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00 AM

JOIN US THIS SUNDAY!

THE TRINITY TRIBUNE

A Ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church, Hanceville, Alabama

January 2024



### **Light Has Come**



Merry Christmas! Yes, I know it's January, but this is the Epiphany season - the Gentile Christmas. It's called that because we remember the Magi's visit to the Child Jesus. So early in Jesus' life God was already showing that His Son did not come for any one nation or group of people, He came for everyone who would receive Him for who He is. As a matter of fact, the entire season of Epiphany is a celebration of God revealing Himself to us in His Son Jesus.

Epiphany is from a Greek word, meaning to "reveal" or "make manifest." The season of Epiphany is our time to focus on the revelation of "who" Jesus is: both true God and true man. On the Festival of Epiphany, we hear the reading of the visit of the Magi. In that event, these foreigners bowed down in acknowledgment that this Child was indeed the Christ, the Son of God. Then we hear the account of the Baptism of Jesus. Here, God the Father confirms that this man standing in the water is His beloved Son. Next is the account of the changing of water into wine at Cana. Through this event, Jesus revealed His glory and His disciples put their faith in Him. In all these ways, God is shining the light of His love on a dark and sin-filled world by revealing to us our Savior Jesus.

Unfortunately, even though God has revealed the True Light in His Son Jesus, many misguided people still look for their Epiphany elsewhere. They grope around in their sin darkened world for some sort of light to show the way. To these lost souls we must bring the light of the Gospel of Jesus. It will be a difficult task because mankind's natural sinfulness will always try to stand alone and deny God. But like a candle in a darkened room - no matter the darkness, it cannot ignore the light. Shine the light of the Gospel and let the Holy Spirit do the rest.

For the Magi, the God who dwells in unapproachable light set the heavens ablaze and created a sign that led them to a child of flesh and blood like them. The hidden God was revealed. With them we behold the true Epiphany: In all our searching we could not come to God, but in Christ, God has come to us. Jesus is **Immanuel "God with us."** That is the Light that has come. God in flesh made manifest. Jesus Christ our Savior.

This Epiphany season, we will do well to remember the lesson that the ancient Magi teach. The heavens point not to a god above; removed, cold and distant; but to the God below - here with us to save us. If they had searched for a glorious king, they would have missed Him altogether. Instead they looked for Him in the place His Word said He would be: "In Bethlehem in Judea . . for this is what the prophet has written." Let's remember that the next time we are tempted to ignore the way God is and try to go after the way we want Him to be.

We may indeed see God in other places as well; Scripture says that the stars do proclaim His glory, but His mercy and love will not be found in them. Water, bread and wine, and words that come from mouths like yours and mine may not flash with heavenly glory. Nevertheless, they are where we will find our God. In them we have found our light - our Epiphany: God is with us. He has saved us from our sin. We will live with Him forever.

In Christ,

Pastor Jankens

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Janu	ary 2	2024				
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Divine Service 11:15 am Planning Council	8	9 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study 6:30 pm Elders	10 10:00 am LifeLight Bible Study	11	12	13 10 am Knit/Crochet Service Project
14 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Divine Service Flowers - E. Moore	15	16	17 10:00 am LifeLight Bible Study	18	19	20 10 am LWML
21 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Divine Service 11:15 am Voters Mtg.	22 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	23	24 10:00 am LifeLight Bible Study	25	26	27
28 8:45 am Sunday School 10 am Divine Service Flowers - C. Crump	29	30	31 10:00 am LifeLight Bible Study			

# **Special Days for the Month of January**

# **Birthdays**

1/4
1/8
1/10
1/11
1/13
1/17
1/18
1/20
1/30
1/30
1/31



### Anniversaries

Billy and Kristen Barnett 1/15

### **Baptism Birthdays**

Don Cochran	1/1
Teeny Teichmiller	1/1
Karry Morin	1/1
Jansen Morin	1/1
Spencer Cameron-Morin	1/1
Patsy Armstrong	1/1
Wanda McMurrey	1/1
Beth Hardin	1/1
Dianne Holcomb	1/2
Beau Barnett	1/4
Emma Littleton	1/10
Jayden Littleton	1/10
Sandy Bales	1/22
David Dingler	1/25



### **Elders News**

It was so encouraging to see our pews more packed in our services during December.

In 2024, the Elder's will continue to perform our duties during weekly services, and assist our pastors as needed. We are grateful for those who are willing to serve the Trinity Congregation, and you will find our serving schedule in this newsletter, and you can also find it posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

As so many make "New Year's Resolutions" at the start of the New Year, I would like to invite each of you who do this to consider adding some of the following resolutions for 2024 if they apply, which sometimes people don't often think of:

- attend church more regularly and consistently (even the special mid-week services during Lent and Advent)
- give of your time, talents, and treasures more generously (there are so many needs in our congregation to consider)
- attend a Bible Study, whether that is on Sunday morning, or the Wednesday study, or the Ladies Study, or LWML, or the Men's study (God's Word gives us strength in this troubled world)
- partake in <u>personal</u> Bible study if you aren't already (even if that is simply doing the daily readings that are listed on the back of the bulletin)

May the Lord bless and keep each of you in 2024 and always.

Your brother in Christ.

Tim Smith / 205-492-0235

# **LWML News**

The ladies of Trinity LWML and our guests had an enjoyable evening of fellowship at our Christmas gathering. We dined at the local Nature's Effect Coffee Shop in Hanceville. Kay led us in an opening devotion and Judy got us singing a few of our favorite Christmas hymns. We dined on pork loin, turkey, sides and desserts. A few of the ladies entertained our group with a skit that reminded us of the heart of Christmas. We should not get all wrapped up in shopping, wrapping gifts, baking and cleaning; but focus our hearts, mind and energy on preparing for the celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. Our ingathering offering consisted of gift cards and money of approximately \$550 that we sent to the Hallock family. Our way of a long distance baby shower. We closed our gathering singing Silent Night.

Thank you Lord for Your blessings and the opportunities Trinity LWML had in 2023 to "Serve You and our community with Gladness". All ladies of Trinity are encouraged to join us in the New Year 2024 on Saturday mornings at 10:00 for Bible study and fellowship.

# **Knit and Crochet Group**

We have set aside the second Saturday of each month at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall to work on service projects for our community and missions. The first project which we will work on for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024 (or however long it takes) will be knitting and crocheting hats and scarves for Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. Please see Judy Jankens if you are interested in joining us or let Judy know if you cannot join us on Saturdays but would like to contribute to this effort. I will have patterns for both knitting and crocheting and a supply list right after the first of the year to give you time to purchase supplies before the first session. I am looking forward to starting this mission outreach and hope you will join us for devotions, fun and fellowship!

### **Board of Education News**

Happy New Year from the members of the Board of Education!!

The Board of Education ended 2023 on a high note with the children's program during the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service directed by Alesia. What a wonderful treat! Thank you to everyone involved.

We will again be having the annual St. Paul's sign up for the McNutt Scholarship this month. Please keep watch on the bulletin for further information.

The following is a list of bible study groups as of today:

Sunday school and bible study: 8:45 am every Sunday morning

Second Tuesday of the month: Bible study with Marty at 1:00 pm

Every Wednesday at 10:00 am bible study with Pastor starting January 10th

LWML: third Saturday of the month at 10:00 am

Thank you to Dan Dahlke for leading the men's Bible study on Saturday morning. It was a hit!!

With the new year here, let's make a resolution to strengthen our faith by attending one of the bible classes and Sunday service. As the expression goes, "Out with the old and in with the new!"

As always in Christ

Anne Gotch (256) 636-4288

# **Board of Stewardship News**

### The Chief Stewards of Humanity: Mom and Dad

St. Paul tells the Ephesians that the first commandment with a specific promise attached to it is, "Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you, and you may live long in the land" (Eph. 6:2). This promise is one indication of the importance of this commandment. The other thing that highlights the special nature of this commandment is its placement within the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are clearly organized in two big categories. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. This category is called the First Table of the Law. The last seven commandments, the Second Table of the Law, tell us how we should relate to other people. These two tables correspond to what Jesus calls the two greatest commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37–39).

The order of the Second Table of the Law is also important. Murder is a greater sin than adultery, which is a greater sin that stealing, or lying, or coveting. But why is the Fourth Commandment first in the Second Table, ahead of "you shall not murder"? Is disobeying your parents really worse than murder? Or maybe we should give up on thinking these commandments are ordered?

The overall effect of this order is to get us to see our parents as a connection point between our neighbors and our God. Throughout our upbringing our father and mother stand between us and God and deliver His gifts to us: God clothes us, feeds us, protects us and teaches His Word to us through our parents.

So, parents have a very high calling from God. They are called to be stewards of the greatest gift: the gift of life.

Parenting thus gives us a keen insight into all our stewardship. Parents know that they have been given a great treasure in their children, a treasure that does not belong to them, yet for which they feel a great deal of responsibility. Truth be told, every gift we have been given is like this, because everything we have - whether our own personal skills and powers or our wealth and time - is all from God. He entrusts it all to us so that we can use it all and take care of it all for His great purposes.

# **Board of Evangelism News**

We had about 30 participants for our Christmas caroling outing. It was an evening of sharing the joy of Christ's birth with six different households of shut ins. It was very rewarding to see and be a witness to our members who cannot join us for Sunday worship. The fellowship afterward was also very enjoyable an uplifting.

In this newsletter (see next page) you will find a thank you note from Roxie Lee for the money Trinity donated to the drama program at Hanceville Elementary. This was money raised at our German lunch in October. Thank you again for everyone's help at the lunch. You see that your service was appreciated.

January starts a new year, and we wonder what opportunities God will give our congregation to be a witness to Him in the year 2024. To be prepared for these opportunities we must stay close to Him and His Word through Bible study and church attendance.

We would like to share with you another way to be close to God's Word throughout each day. Included in this newsletter is information on KFUO Radio which is a broadcast of The Lutheran Church----Missouri Synod. This radio station shares Christ through worship services, Bible and theology studies, as well as, practical talk programs, and beautiful sacred music. The information shows possible ways you can tune in to KFUO radio and shares a schedule of available programs and their days and times. Tuning in to these programs during the day as you work, relax, or travel is a very easy way to stay focused on God and His Word.

May we all strive to be prepared to "share Christ anytime, anywhere" in 2024. In His service,

Margie Burkart 256-531-4122

### Elder and Greeter on Duty Schedule - 2024

<u>Month</u>	<u>Elder</u>	Greeter / Bulletins	
January	Robert Durand	Dennis Wilborn	
February	Robert Durand	Lauren Morin	
March	Tim Smith	Chad Nelson	
April	Andrew Jankens	Nick Ayers	
May	Weston Morin	Brandon Gotch	
June	Dan Dahlke	Richard Evers	
July	Tim Smith	Eddie Crump	
August	Dan Dahlke	Ethan Jankens	
September	Weston Morin	Matt Bales	
October	Tim Smith	Hugh Duke	
November	Robert Durand	Jason Moody	
December	Andrew Jankens	Nicholas Podner	

<sup>\*</sup>If you have to miss one of your Sunday's during a month, please arrange one of the other Elder's to fill in for you.

<u>Greeter Responsibilities:</u> Be on duty at 9:35 or 9:40AM to greet and pass out bullitens at the Narthex door until service begins. <u>Elder Responsibilities:</u>

Be on duty on Sunday morning - Talk with <u>visitors</u> about communion, handle any questions or refer to pastors, count attendance, take up offering, assist alter guild in getting altarware to kitchen for cleaning, collect attendance sheets from pews, and lock up all buildings after service.

Select communion "assistant" and also a communion "usher".

Set up communion ware on Sunday morning prior to service (preferably before Sunday School which Elders should attend when at all possible as an encouragement and example to the congregation).

Light candles before service (or designate someone to). Make sure that someone extinguishes them after service.

Coordinate and communicate as needed prior to service with church security team leader (Robert Durand)

Confirm that someone is in attendance to run the sound board. (David Dingler, Brandon Gotch, Robert Durand are trained)

Communion Assistant	<u>Date</u>	Communion Assistant	<u>Date</u>
David Jankens	David Jankens January 7, 2024		July 7, 2024
Nicholas Podner	January 14, 2024	Robert Durand	July 14, 2024
Chad Nelson	January 21, 2024	David Jankens	July 21, 2024
Eddie Crump	January 28, 2024	Weston Morin	July 28, 2024
Jason Moody	February 4, 2024	Tim Smith	August 4, 2024
Andrew Jankens	February 11, 2024	Nicholas Podner	August 11, 2024
Dan Dahlke	February 18, 2024	Chad Nelson	August 18, 2024
Tim Smith	February 25, 2024	Eddie Crump	August 25, 2024
Robert Durand	March 3, 2024	Jason Moody	September 1, 2024
Weston Morin	March 10, 2024	Andrew Jankens	September 8, 2024
David Jankens	March 17, 2024	Dan Dahlke	September 15, 2024
Nicholas Podner	March 24, 2024	Robert Durand	September 22, 2024
Chad Nelson	March 31, 2024	Tim Smith	September 29, 2024
Eddie Crump	April 7, 2024	Weston Morin	October 6, 2024
Jason Moody	April 14, 2024	David Jankens	October 13, 2024
Robert Durand	April 21, 2024	Nicholas Podner	October 20, 2024
Dan Dahlke	April 28, 2024	Chad Nelson	October 27, 2024
Andrew Jankens	May 5, 2024	Eddie Crump	November 3, 2024
Tim Smith	May 12, 2024	Jason Moody	November 10, 2024
Nicholas Podner	May 19, 2024	Andrew Jankens	November 17, 2024
David Jankens	May 26, 2024	Dan Dahlke	November 24, 2024
Weston Morin	June 2, 2024	Robert Durand	December 1, 2024
Chad Nelson	June 9, 2024	Tim Smith	December 8, 2024
Eddie Crump	June 16, 2024	Weston Morin	December 15, 2024
Jason Moody	June 23, 2024	David Jankens	December 22, 2024
Andrew Jankens	June 30, 2024	Nicholas Podner	December 29, 2024

Communion Usher Pool		
David Jankens		
Dennis Wilborn		
Eddie Burkart		
Eddie Crump		
Richard Evers		
Jason Moody		
Chad Nelson		
Ben Moody		
Any off duty Elder		

### Communion Assistant Pool

Andrew Jankens Dan Dahlke Robert Durand Tim Smith Weston Morin

David Jankens Nicholas Podner Chad Nelson Eddie Crump Jason Moody

# **Thank You**

December 4, 2023

Dear Saints of Trinity Lutheran,

Greetings in Christ from Concordia
Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne,
Indiana. Thank you so much for your gift!
Your continued support helps us to train
new Pastors to preach and teach the Gospel of
our Lord Jesus Christ.

If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

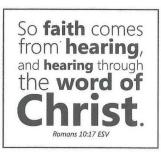
Peace, Paster David With

Dear Trinity Luthern Church,
Thank so all so much
for your generosity to the
Hanceville Drama Club. Your
donation will benefit the
Club for years to come.
Sincerly, Moxilee

### **KFOU INFORMATION**



**KFUO Radio**, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares **Christ for you anytime, anywhere** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music.



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# KFUORadio. Christ for you. Anytime. Anywhere.

KFUO Radio is the listener-supported broadcast ministry of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Check kfuo.org for up-to-date programs and schedules.

Monday - Friday (Central Time)

7:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

Oratio 7:15 a.m.

The Coffee Hour Sharper Iron 8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.

9:30 a.m. Law and Gospel

10:00 a.m. Daily Chapel from the LCMS International Center

10:30 a.m. Sacred Music

11:00 a.m. Thy Strong Word

12:00 p.m. Sacred Music

Issues, Etc. 3:00 p.m.

Sign Off with Sacred Music **Evening Prayer** 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. Sunday (Central Time)

Worship Service 8:00 a.m.

St. Paul's Des Peres Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

12:00 p.m. Liberty Action Alert from LCRL

12:30 p.m. The Lutheran Hour® Sacred Music 1:00 p.m.

Worship Service 4:00 p.m.

The Lutheran Hour® Sacred Music 5:30 p.m.

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schedule

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\* Denotes program available as podcast.

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The Coffee Hour

Concord Matters

Alphabetical >

list of podcasts

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Cross Defense

Daily Chapel Sermons

End Goals from LCMS Youth Ministry

Friends for Life from LCMS Life Ministry

Law & Gospel produced by Rev. Dr. Tom Baker

LifeMoments from Lutherans for Life

The Lutheran Ladies' Lounge Podcast

The Lutheran Witness Podcast

Mission Field: USA — Church Planting

Morning Prayer Sermonette

Oratio

Sharper Iron

Specialized Pastoral Ministry: Bring the Love of Christ

St. Paul's Bible Study from St. Pauls Lutheran, Des Peres, MO

Thy Strong Word

Wrestling with the Basics

2019 & 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering Sessions

7:00 a.m. Sacred Music 9:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. St. Paul's Bible Study Rebroadcast 9:30 a.m. Liberty Action Alert from LCRL 9:00 a.m. Wrestling with the Basics Lamplighter Theatre® 10:00 a.m. Concord Matters 4:00 p.m. Worship Service 11:00 a.m. Cross Defense 7:00 a.m. Sacred Music 12:00 p.m. Sacred Music 5:00 p.m. Sacred Music Saturday (Central Time) 7:30 a.m. 3:00 a.m.

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# **FEDERWITZ**EXPRESS



# Ethiopia Project Visits

In the last month I had the opportunity to visit each of the projects in Ethiopia that LBT supports directly. I use the word "directly" because LBT supports work in over 20 languages in various ways. We work with the Department of Mission and Theology (DMT) which manages active translation projects as well as the Mekane Yesus Seminary which is training future translators for more language projects. The projects I visited are ones for which we provide funding.

I first made a trip to Arba Minch in

the southwest part of the country with Rev. Dr. Lalissa, the DMT Director, and Solomon, the head of the Bible Translation division. Janine Pluger, an LBT missionary who serves as the Ethiopia Data Coordinator, also accompanied us. In Arba Minch we were joined by Rev. Getachew, the translation coordinator for the region.

We visited the Dhirytia project in Gidole. The New Testament was completed not long ago by another organization, and LBT started sponsoring the OT a couple years ago. There are three translators, but unfortunately two of them were not able to be there due to medical issues. We were able to meet the language committee and some of the reviewers. The local churches have been working to take ownership of the project, but the language community has recently been experiencing internal conflict which is making it difficult for them to support the work they way they would like.

We also visited the Zayse project. Similar to Dhirytia, the New Testament was recently completed by another organization and LBT is sponsoring the Old Testament. We were able to spend time with the three translators, the language committee and some of the reviewers. It was encouraging to hear the impact that scripture has already had on the community. One of the reviewers is a pastor who had received his theological training in a language of wider communication, not his heart language. He talked about how he had always preached and even prayed in that language. Older members of the congregation would ask him after church what he had said. When he became a reviewer he received training on how to read Zayse. Now he only preaches and prays in Zayse and no longer has to explain his sermon again after church.

A couple of weeks later I traveled to Assosa with Solomon, Janine and Rebuma (a manager for several translation projects). This time we went to visit the South Gumuz project. The New Testament has been available for several decades, but the Old Testament translation project was started a little over a year ago. Due to unrest in the area, the translators are not able to live and work in their home area, but are in another city. The security issues complicate many normal parts of the translation work, especially engaging the community. It also adds to the cost as the long and difficult transportation has to be included for each interaction. It was both sad to hear about the difficulties that were being faced and encouraging to see the translators still excited about the work.

# Member Care Skill Building

As part of her role in member care, Ali has received a variety of training in lay counseling, workshop facilitation, debriefing, trauma, and more. These have all served her well over the years. With our move to Ethiopia last year, and the realization we should have more free time with the kids being in school all day instead of homeschooling, Ali was looking



# Paul & Ali FEDERWITZ

Hannah, Levi & Eden

### ABOUT US

Paul role is two-fold: He provides strategic leadership internationally as LBT's Director for Field Programs while serving locally as Director of Programs in Ethiopia.

Ali is the Member Care Facilitator for LBT.

Paul and Ali's ministry is funded solely through donations from individuals and groups.

### CORRESPONDENCE

- Paul and Ali FederwitzC/O LBTP.O. Box 789Concordia, MO 64020
- @ Paul-Ali.Federwitz@LBT.org
- pafederwitz.wordpress.com
- on.fb.me/138ZLI5



### CONTRIBUTIONS

Lutheran Bible Translators P.O. Box 789 Concordia, MO 64020

Please make checks payable to Lutheran Bible Translators and designate P/A Federwitz Ministry

Online giving at https://go.lbt.org/pafederwitz

**Podcast: Let's Talk Trauma** When we were in the US during the summer, Ali led two sessions about trauma at our Concordia Mission Institute conference. After the conference, Rich and Emily interviewed Ali about the content of her sessions and trauma in general. This episode gives a good foundation for understanding the impact of trauma on our own lives and the lives of the people around us. Listen to Episode 90 at <a href="https://www.LBT.org/podcast">www.LBT.org/podcast</a>.



for a professional development opportunity to complement her role. Now that everyone is more settled into our second year of life here, Ali joined a life coach training program in September.

Her weekly intensive classes have been both challenging and interesting. She gets to put into practice what she learns each week while meeting with her clients, pro bono of course. Ali will need to acquire 100 hours of coaching clients before she can pursue accreditation as a coach. Thankfully she will be able to use the coaching approach with LBT missionaries and staff to work towards this goal. Thinking through the reoccurring themes of missionary life, Ali is interested in the potential of becoming a transitions coach and help with life and ministry transitions that are so common in cross cultural work.

### The kids

Kids have a propensity to grow and ours are now all taller than Ali. Ali is happy to use this to her advantage whenever she needs something that is just slightly out of reach. A shout of "hey, random tall person needed" is not an uncommon refrain coming from the kitchen.

Our kids are sometimes difficult to share updates about because they are not unlike American teens when you ask how is school or how they are doing. The response is always "fine" or "good." The truth is, though, that they really are fine and good. Hannah is enjoying playing volleyball this year and is honored to be the captain of her team. Levi is in what is possibly the most intensive year of high school in the Cambridge system. The first two years of high school in this system are equivalent to a full US high school diploma. He is doing well but it is definitely a challenge for him. Eden is content to be at school and content to be at home. She's our



newest teenager, turning 13 at the beginning of September, and fits right into whatever group she is with. We have really enjoyed this stage of life with our teens. They are such capable people. Yes, it can be tricky to navigate at times, but it is overall enjoyable.

