

News of the Son

Trinity Lutheran Church – Columbia, MO



Joining the Heavenly Choir

“Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace, good will toward men.”
(Luke 2:14 KJV)

The curtain of stars had been drawn across the sky above the towns and fields. The hushed tones of the night had fallen into place. The shepherds tended their flocks. And then the silence was broken by the messenger of God who would bring fear and joy.

On that first Christmas night, the shepherds trembled in fear. Their own holiness was of little worth as “the glory of the Lord shone around them.” Yet they were not left in fear but raised to stand in joy. “And the angel said to them, ‘Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people.’”

According to the essay “Incarnation and Music” by modern Lutheran scholar Rev. Dr. John Kleinig, the angels’ song to the shepherds shows how important Jesus’ birth in Bethlehem was. Psalm 29 tells us that in Heaven, the angels react to being in the presence of God by glorifying him in song. With the earthly birth of Jesus, the angels now sing God’s glory on Earth for the same reason—they are in the presence of God. Jesus, God incarnate in human flesh, has come to live among mankind. We are invited to join a new choir and sing with the angels glorifying God.

To speak of the “Glory of God” is to signify God’s awesome splendor and holiness.

We, His baptized people, belong to that choir that sings of His awesome splendor and holiness. We sing of that splendor beheld in the Christ child and the Christ crucified who has come in the flesh for us of the flesh. He gives peace and forgiveness. Peace with God and forgiveness for our sins. We sing of this great work on Earth for the people of the Earth.

When new fads or familiar teachings are spoken, we can test to see if they are in harmony with the messengers of God who spoke over the fields of Bethlehem. Does this new book, program, or message give God the glory? Does this familiar teaching deliver peace (and forgiveness) to the people of God?

When I first stepped into the Lutheran church, I asked these questions of Baptism. Does the teaching regarding Baptism honor God as the one who works this miracle, or does it point back to ourselves? If I am the one working Baptism (my dedication, my commitment) then the glory is mine, but then God is robbed of the glory.

What of peace? Any work of mine is never a sure thing for it is always tainted with sin, thus I am robbed of sure peace and forgiveness. But with Baptism, God’s work is in giving His name, then life and salvation, and delivering it to me. The new birth is a sure thing for whatever God does is always pure and holy. With this new birth—His work, not mine—my peace is delivered without a doubt. To God be the glory and to his people, peace.

Your Servant in Christ,

Rev. Brian K. Thieme



December
2018

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**Knowing Christ's Love
Seeking His Will
Spreading His Word**

New Members



Carolyn Trigg



Noah Wren

LLL FELLOWSHIP CLUB

Please come join the LLL for our next meeting and Bible study Sunday evening, December 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This month we will continue our Bible study series with "Nurturing Your Faith: Prayers of Gratitude."



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Men's Thursday Morning Bible Study meets at 6:30 a.m. at The Terrace Retirement Community, 1408 Business Loop 70 West, in the cinema room on the second floor. Following the one-hour study period, we share an optional breakfast and fellowship time in the lovely Terrace dining facility. You are warmly encouraged to join the group and bring along a friend!



LFCS SEASON OF SHARING



Lutheran Family and Children's Services has placed a Christmas tree in the Education Wing hallway from Thanksgiving to Christmas to help the families we serve. We encourage you to pick an ornament, purchase the item on the ornament and place the item along with the tag under the tree as we continue our mission, through Christ's love, to empower children and families to overcome challenges today so they can build a better tomorrow.

Blessing to all, LFCS Staff

THANK YOU

The Mary Martha Guild would like to thank you for your support of our fall fundraiser. The nut sales were a success, and we were able to meet our goal. The nuts were delivered to us by Farmstead Nuts and Treats at no charge due to the large amount of nuts you ordered. We also received some funding from Thrivent. The proceeds from sales will be used for financial donations to missions selected by Guild members. Thank you all for your orders, and many thanks to those who served on the nut committee to complete this project successfully.

Thanks again! ~ Mary Martha Guild



JCC Christmas Party

Sunday, December 2, 2018

**Lunch (pizza and drinks) served at Noon
during JCC class time (meet in Fellowship Hall)**

**After class, we will move into the Gym for
games, snacks and Christmas fun!!**

Instead of having a gift exchange between the students, we are asking for those interested to bring gift items to share with the Rainbow House. The Rainbow House is a Child Advocacy Center as well as an Emergency Shelter for Homeless Youth. They have a "Wish List" of various items that they continually need for youth in their shelter. Here is a list of preferred items:

- * Canned Fruits/Veggies
- * Fruit Snacks
- * Individual Snacks
- * Juice Boxes
- * Bottled Water
- * Paper Plates
- * Paper Towels
- * Playdoh
- * Pens
- * Markers
- * Watercolor Paints
- * Construction Paper
- * Office Supplies
- * Copy Paper
- * Non-Bleach Cleaning Spray
- * Clorox Wipes
- * Lysol
- * Trash Bags
- * Laundry Detergent
- * Dryer Sheets
- * Toilet Paper
- * Dish Soap
- * Dish Sponges
- * Dishwasher Tabs
- * Pull-ups
- * Underwear
- * PJs (size 6 and up)
- * Gift Cards
- * Video Games & Movies



NOVEMBER 13, 2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES (Draft Minutes - Yet to be Approved)

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order on November 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Attendees included Gary Kespohl (Chairman), Jacque Eckhoff (Secretary), Doug Kiehne, Ken Greer, Annette Kiehne, Virginia Propp, Warren Harms, Angel Arnall, Chris Bailey, Mary Frerking and Pastor Brian Thieme.

Pastor Thieme gave the opening devotion.

Chairman Kespohl added LFCS Christmas Tree to New Business, and took Downstairs Bathrooms off Old Business. Warren Harms moved to accept the Meeting Agenda with these changes; seconded and approved.

Annette Kiehne spoke regarding a call she received from a woman who is a former ADF lawyer, who now works for US Attorney General Whittaker. Attorney General Whittaker has created a new task force named "Religious Freedom Task Force". She asked if Whittaker could come to Trinity and do a goodwill visit on the TLCLC playground because it was such a high profile case. The lawyer stated the visit is from a law enforcement perspective, not political. Whittaker was hoping maybe next Wednesday, November 21st. The BOD then held discussion. Concerns included media, and looking as though Trinity is being political. The biggest question is what is meant by a "goodwill visit"? Many agreed that Trinity having a legal representative would be the next step. Angel Arnall moved that we allow Chris Kespohl and/or a current ADF lawyer to speak with Attorney General Whittaker's representative, and then let Chris report back to the Executive Committee to make the final recommendation; seconded and approved.

Chairman Kespohl updated page 14 of the BOD packet, under item 5. Current status is that the bathroom addition plan has been approved by the City. Septagon has the ball in their court. They are looking at starting a week from Friday. Also, the Executive Committee will do an evaluation of the Church Secretary the first week of December. This allows to get the evaluation on a yearly, end of year, schedule. Angel Arnall moved to accept the Consent Agenda with these changes; seconded and approved.

The Consent Agenda meeting minutes and reports are filed in the Congregation Secretary's notebook. The following are summaries of the reports, with the name of the board representative at the Board of Directors meeting listed:

PASTOR'S REPORT - Pastor Thieme

Rev. Spotts is visiting 2/3 of the Homebound each month.

Adult Classes: Two individuals are taking the adult information class, Sunday morning is going through the appointed readings, Monday morning class is going through the Large Catechism and Monday evening class is the "Five Listeners".

Bible Classes for New Members: Looking to train leaders and start new classes.

434 went through the Semisaurus museum and 62 attended the two classes.

The LCMS National Youth Gathering is July 9th - 15th.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

For the month of October, the Regular Envelope collections are 97.73% of the anticipated monthly amount. Loose Plate collections are 138.52% and Sunday School are 104.58%. The

Total Monthly collections are 99.30% of the monthly anticipated amount of \$42,035. The Total Year to Date collections through the end of October are 100.11% of the anticipated amount of \$425,263.

BOARD REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - Mary Frerking

On Reformation Sunday the BOCE laminated the placemats that were left over from the 500th Anniversary celebration last year. Each of the Sunday School children and the members of the Adult Bible studies received a placemat. Luther Rose color sheets were also given out. Closet clean out is underway. The BOCE sponsored a trunk at Trunk or Treat. There will be no Sunday School on Thanksgiving day. It will be on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. Ornaments have been ordered for all children ages Pre-K through Senior High Youth for this year's Christmas celebration. The BOCE has provided the Nominating Committee with the names of several individuals who they recommend to serve as new members of the board. Teresa Gooch will finish out her term in December.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - Virginia Propp

TLCLC currently has one T/Th toddler opening to fill, and will have another T/Th toddler opening January 1, 2019. A current staff position will be expanded into the afternoon to assist with planning curricular programs for the afternoon. Both toddler classes have full time aides now. Another half time staff position will be added to cover afternoon curriculum. Ribbon Cutting Celebration for the Recycled Rubber Pour-in-Place Playground Surfacing was November 13, 2018 at 11:00 a.m.

ELDERS - Doug Kiehne - No report filed.

EVANGELISM - No Representative Present

The BOE has a coach for the MO District Plus One initiative, but have not been in contact yet. A suggestion was made to have "Save the Date" info publicized for the June Christian Storytelling Conference, starting in January. The BOE will assist with transportation and mixing with international students coming from campus probably January 18th, with Pastor Spotts for an event at Trinity.

PAROCHIAL EDUCATION - No Representative Present - See agenda packet for financial report.

SOCIAL MINISTRY - Angel Arnall

The Board of Social Ministry continued collecting this month for Voluntary Action Center and their Warm-Up Columbia drive. Food Bank donations continue to be collected.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE - Andrew Saeger - No report filed.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND - No Representative Present - No report filed.

TRUSTEES - Ken Greer - No report filed.

YOUTH - Chris Bailey

The Board of Youth is working on finalizing the design for the t-shirt fundraiser. A Christmas party will be held on December 9th, 6:00-8:00 PM, for the Senior Youth. Finals dinner will be December 16th. 21 people are registered for the National Youth Gathering.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: No report filed.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

In:

Carolyn Trigg transfer from Christ's Greenfield Lutheran Church, Gilbert, AZ

Stephanie Bachman and sons Spencer and Preston transfer from King of Kings Lutheran Church, Chesterfield, MO.

Robert Young by Holy Baptism.

Warren Harms moved to accept the Membership Changes; seconded and approved.

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Library Upstairs: Pastor Thieme asked a congregation member to look into updating the library. They have the idea of seeing if someone at the University would want to do their Practicum here with it.

College of Classes: Lay individuals who would teach a class once or twice a year.

Acclamation through Bible Telling: Example being that some people who went on the Israel trip have told stories to others who don't know the Bible well.

Art Work: Trinity has a few pieces of art from a woman who can show her work and talk about religious art to congregation members.

Transportation: An Elder is looking into Uber for those who cannot drive themselves to church. It's called Uber Access. Trinity is also in need of new wheelchairs.

International Students and the Wittenberg Door Trailer

Camera in Service: Pastor Thieme would like to live Stream or record services for those who are unable to attend, and also for the purpose of improving himself by being able to watch it.

Younger Adults Group: Pastor Thieme has asked someone for ideas for the 20-30 year old age group.

Stephen Ministries

Word to Text: The sermon would go from word, into text. Also, text to iPad.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Warren Harms (Treasurer)

For the month ending October 31, 2018, the Church income is \$45,134 and year to date is \$478,372 (78.45% of the total income budgeted for the year). This is <\$28,227> or <5.57%> less than in 2017. The 301-Regular Envelope is down <\$7,838> or <1.91%> less than at the end of October 2017. The total Learning Center income for September is \$62,285 and \$606,858 for the year to date (89.52% of the budgeted income for the year).

For the month of October, Church expenditures are \$30,289, and \$415,938 year to date (68.2% of the annual expense budget of \$609,775). The Learning Center expenditures for October total \$51,878 and \$523,007 year to date which is 77.15% of the annual expense budget of \$677,900. Total reserve accounts at Lutheran Church Extension Fund are now \$197,932. There is currently no building loan on the books.

Angel Arnall moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded and approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Vision Plan: The contract with LCEF to help with our Vision Plan has been signed.

Called Worker Benefits: Page 25 of the BOD packet shows the recommendations for Trinity Lutheran Church Called Worker Vacation and Paid Time Off. The BOD would like to run the

recommendations by Carole Eilers, so they will be kept on the agenda for the December BOD meeting.

Constitution: Chairman Kespohl reminded everyone we will look at this again in the December AOV meeting.

Budget: Warren Harms will report a small change at next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

LCEF & Youth: LCEF can set up an account for our youth group at the National Youth Gathering. Our group can then draw from this account for expenses. Acct 527 is designated in our budget for "Youth Trip". Pastor Thieme asked if the leftover \$900 can be used at the Gathering for the LCEF account. Chris Bailey is going to the Gathering and is on the Board of Youth. She would be the main signature on the LCEF account, and Pastor Thieme would be a back up signature. Angel Arnall moved we set up the account for the Gathering; seconded and approved.

Facility Use Request: Wittenberg Door Campus Ministry. Pastor Thieme may be the person here, but it could also be Doug McDowell. Mary Frerking moved to approve the request with no insurance required; seconded and approved. Chairman Kespohl will sign the request and be the person here.

TLCLC Copier: A new copier has been ordered, but it's not in yet. The Executive Committee approved the new contract and asked for the BOD to approve their decision. Angel Arnall moved to approve the decision of the Executive Committee in regards to the new copier contract; seconded and approved.

Crum Contract: Andrew Saeger moved we approve the contract; seconded and approved. Andrew Saeger moved to approve the dumpster and lawn restoration contracts; seconded and approved.

TLCLC Pay Scale: The BOD would like to compare the TLCLC Pay Scale to District Guidelines. Therefore, this item will be kept on the agenda for the December BOD meeting.

LFCS Christmas Tree: LFCS would like to put their tree in the foyer and not the overflow. Discussion followed as to the best placement for the tree. Angel Arnall moved to put the LFCS Christmas Tree in the hallway and not the foyer; seconded and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Larry McCoig is Lay Representative to Synod.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to be held on December 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.. The early start time is due to the amount of material that needs to be covered.

The next Assembly of Voters meeting will be held on December 16, 2018, 12:30 p.m., with a potluck at 12:00 p.m..

It was scheduled to read *Built on the Rock* chapters 10, 13-15 for November 17, 2018. Several are now unable to attend. Angel Arnall moved to reschedule for February due to the busy holiday season; seconded and approved.

Advent Lite Supper Schedule:

Mary Martha/Early Childhood/Social Ministry (Tacos) on 12/5, BOE/BOCE (Soups) on 12/12 and

Elders/Trustees (Meal TBD) on 12/19.

Angel Arnall moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.; seconded and approved.

Chairman Kespohl led the group in closing prayer.

Jacque Eckhoff, Secretary

NOMINATIONS

The following Trinity members have consented to be nominated for elected officer and board positions:

Congregation Chairman: **Gary Kespohl**
 Congregation Secretary: **Jacque Eckhoff**
 Treasurer: **Warren Harms**
 Financial Secretary: _____

Board of Christian Education: _____

Board of Early Childhood Education: _____

Board of Elders: _____

Board of Evangelism: _____

Board of Parochial Education: _____

Board of Social Ministry: _____

Kathy Ferguson

Board of Stewardship and Finance: _____

Board of the TLC Endowment Fund: _____

Board of Trustees: _____

Charlie Cott

Board of Youth: _____

If you are interested in serving on a board or as an officer, please contact Jim Cherrington, Nominating Committee Chair, at jimcherrington@yahoo.com or (573) 445-1572.

Elections will be held at the Assembly of Voters on December 16, 2018.

THANK YOU

The Board of Social Ministry would like to thank everyone who volunteered and filled in to help make this year's Lutherfest a success. We appreciate all of the items brought in to share, as well as time spent cooking, setting up, serving and cleaning up for the event. We could not have done it without you! And a big Thank You to all who attended and gave to the free will offering to support the Member Assistance and Member Emergency Funds. Your kindness and generosity are much appreciated.

In Christ, Carol, Loanna, and Angel
 Board of Social Ministry



2018 Trinity Lutheran Church Board Members

Chairman

Gary Kespohl

Secretary

Jacque Eckhoff

Treasurer

Warren Harms

Financial Secretary

JoAnn Schoenike

Board of Elders

David Attebery

Ron Barrett

Jim Cherrington

John Frerking

Doug Kiehne

Larry McCoig

Board of Evangelism

Betty Buchheit

Robert Hall

Doug McDowell

Pattie Smith

Board of Youth

Chris Bailey

Melissa Kiehne

Melissa Fitzgerald

Board of Social Ministry

Angel Arnall

Carol Morrison

Loanna Thompson

Board of Stewardship and Finance

Lori Bresnahan

Laura Grise

Darren Laupp

Fred Luetkemeier

Richard Mangold

Andrew Saeger

Board of Christian Ed.

Mary Frerking

Teresa Gooch

Julie Smith

Board of Early Childhood Ed.

Karen Niederjohn

Virginia Propp

Mark Unterreiner

Board of Parochial Ed.

Cynthia Green

Candice Kling

Mary Raisch

Board of TLC Endowment Fund

Pete Easterhaus

Buck Katt

Don Malson

Board of Trustees

Michael Brown

Ken Greer

Jim Niederjohn

December Board of Directors reports and agenda items are due to the church office by noon on Friday, December 7, 2018.

The Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Assembly of Voters will meet Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Greetings in the Name of Jesus the LORD of our life from beginning to end!



Lutherans
For Life

As we thoughtfully ponder and anticipate the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it is appropriate that we remember that moment of time in the life of each one of us when life began...a moment when we were changed from nothing into something; from nothing into **everything**. At that fraction of time called conception, we were in the presence of the **One** who is life, who is light and who is love. At that time of conception there was direction, destiny and power because "IN THE BEGINNING GOD created..." He made everything, including the incredible human brain. The human brain ranks among the greatest wonders of God's creation. At that moment of conception, there is in the single fertilized egg (that which each one of us once was) 27 times more information than is found in an entire set of the Encyclopedia Britannica! The truth is that you and I didn't **come** from a fetus, an embryo or a fertilized egg. You and I once **were** a fetus, an embryo, a fertilized egg. Each individual life is a continuum that begins at conception. The same is true for Jesus. The Body that lay in the manger, the Body that hung on the cross, the Body that rose from the crypt was a body given to Jesus at His conception in the womb of Mary.

Before we were formed (Psalm 139), before God's hands made us and fashioned us into an intricate unity (Job 10:8, 12), God knew us, loved us and had a plan for us. In a world in which so many people have a poor self-image, lack self-esteem and feel rejected and unwanted, the conception, life, death and resurrection of Jesus say to each one of us, **"you are so special, so unique, so valuable that you are worth dying for."**

When a young child was asked how he got out of his mother's tummy, he exclaimed, "God made a baby door!" With all the biological, medical and scientific language we use to describe pregnancy and childbirth, fundamentally, that is what it really is. God made a baby door for physical life **and** for spiritual life, because it was God's own Baby, His own Son, who through His conception, life, death and resurrection became the Door by which each of us was birthed into His family. **That's cause for celebration! We ought to be so filled with the joy of being alive, so grateful for the gift of created life, that others seeing us will say, "teach me what you know; teach me your joy; teach me your peace; teach me your LORD!" Let the celebration begin!**

(The preceding article was adapted with permission from Dr. Jean Garton's speech at the Southern District Convention of LCMS in July 1997)

FROM AGE TO AGE THE SAME: "I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save." Isaiah 46:4. This was the theme for the special conference celebrating Lutherans For Life's 40 years of ministry. The National Conference was held in October at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Olivette, MO with more than 240 people in attendance. Several LFL pioneers came back to share their memories and bring encouragement as they have seen the Lord's work through LFL for these 40 years. Rev. Dr. Samuel Nafziger, a highly-regarded theologian, who spent 30 years working on the LCMS Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR), gave the keynote address. He was instrumental in working closely with Dr. Jean Garton, LFL's first president, in the development of Lutherans For Life. His knowledge of the history of LFL was amazing and his presentation uplifting.

Two former LFL executive directors, Rev. Edward Fehskens III and Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, came to share their special gifts of communication and passion For Life. Their messages were inspirational, reflecting the past but also pointing to the future of LFL. Topping off the day was a presentation from Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, President of Concordia Seminary St. Louis, and former speaker on "The Lutheran Hour." Dr. Meyer closed the conference in dynamic fashion.

Conference attendees were a mix of experienced conference participants and those who were there for the first time. The conference quickly became a wonderful blending of people—from as far away as California, Pennsylvania, Washington, Texas, and Canada—with the same heart to affirm life and support Lutherans For Life.

As prayers for this life-affirming organization continue to be given, there is unfailing confidence that the Lord will sustain From Age to Age the Same. 2019 regional conferences will center on the theme verse, **"LORD, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." (John 6:68)** Won't you plan now to attend one of the conferences near you and rejoice with your fellow "For lifers" in the gift of life that God continues to create, redeem and sanctify?

Have a Christ-filled Christmas,

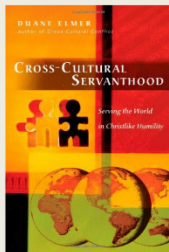
Sylvia Glenn

Feel free to call me (573-592-7866) for information or concerns about life issues. For those who have had an abortion, there is a **word of hope!** "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3). For **confidential post-abortion referral, counsel, and reconciliation** contact WORD of HOPE, toll-free 888-217-8679, info@word-of-hope.org, or visit www.word-of-hope.org.

News from Erin Mackenzie, serving the Lord in the Dominican Republic (DR)
missionaryMAC.blogspot.com

Trinity Lutheran Church supports Erin Mackenzie's mission work through the Together In Mission (TIM) program.

A stimulating read on the what it takes to break down unavoidable barriers and truly serve someone from a culture unlike your own!



(If you received a hard copy of this and would like to help me be green and save on postage, please send an email to erin.mackenzie@lcmsintl.org.)

Under Lock and Key? Look and See!

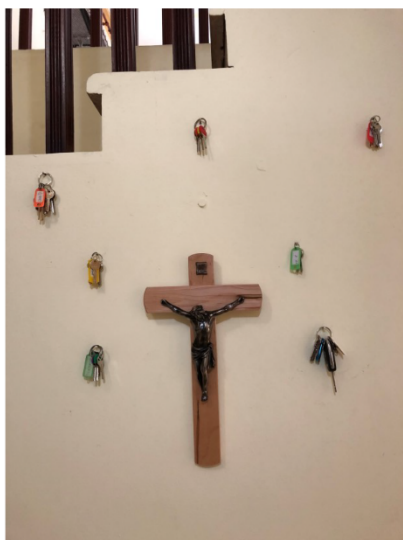
A fellow missionary laughed as she walked into my house. Why? The first thing you see is a crucifix hanging on the wall, surrounded by seven sets of keys. Only the nails now remain as a vestige of the prior occupants' feature wall of crosses. The center one bears my crucifix, and the rest, my painstakingly grouped and labeled sets of keys (for the time being).

Why so many? There are 12 padlocks around my house. Beautiful ironwork gates are common here, but my house takes things to the extreme. From the sliding *portón* in front of the driveway to the cage around the backup generator battery, each entry is secured by a lock with a corresponding key.

It sounds like I live in a fortress meant to limit, restrict, and maintain distance. Yet these locks are also freeing. I can choose who and what comes in and out — unbar the gates at my discretion and welcome others into my humble abode. Such is our world. The Gospel is shrouded by sin; hearts locked to its message. My task — and yours — is to love those yet outside the gates by pointing them to the cross.

Thanks be to God that His Word is not bound (2 Tim. 2:9). The Good News transcends cultural boundaries. John 20:21 recounts that Jesus appeared behind locked doors after the resurrection. He is the Key. The Advent hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" summons the "Key of David" (LSB 357:5). Jesus' death and resurrection is the greatest act of love ever known. By it, He locked up sin, death and Satan and threw away the key; simultaneously unlocking paradise for all believers. Yes, my key wall looks silly, but it reminds me of my duty and privilege to love my neighbors by leading them toward the heavenly gates so that, by the Holy Spirit, they might have eternal life.

*Adapted from my second Lutheran Witness blog post, which went live earlier this month!



Be honest. Did YOU laugh, too?





Praises and Petitions

1. Thanksgiving for the safe return of all 11 Venezuelan pastors that spent a week in the DR in late Oct.
2. Thanksgiving for another year of God's grace and favor, having celebrated my first birthday in the DR on 11/19.
3. For Iglesia Luterana Fuente de Vida in Ponce, PR, as current pastor Rev. Richard Schuller transitions to a new call in CA & the congregation awaits the arrival of its newly called pastor, Rev. James Neuendorf, in mid-Feb.
4. For peace of mind, good health, and diligence for the students at CMSCR as they prepare to begin a new trimester.
5. For missionaries around the world and others who will spend Advent and Christmas far from home, and for the loved ones who will miss them dearly.

Raise the Roof

Hurricane Maria ravaged Puerto Rico just over a year ago. In the blog post about my recent trip to the *Isla del Encanto*, I alluded to the goal of outfitting 100 homeowners with new roofs in 12 months thanks to LCMS Disaster Response's generosity. That's two per week!



The NC roofers with homeowner Wilfredo, 2nd from right.

Community leaders help identify recipients in nearly all of Mayagüez's barrios and Ponce (80 km away), too! Home Depot delivers the materials; the recipients are then responsible for doing the work or hiring someone to do it. While this can and usually does work brilliantly, there are too many instances of materials sitting unused. Shady contractors are just one more reason why the roof put on by last week's short-term team from Wake Forest, NC, the first done by volunteer labor, was notable. The hope is to do more of the same in 2019 as well as to begin doing intentional follow-up home visits with past roof recipients, reinforcing the connection between their new and improved physical shelters and the refuge we have in the shelter of the Most High (Psalm 91).



Left: Food truck fun with friends (L to R: James, me, Jo, Natalie, Isaac, and Jeancarlos).

Center: Santiago is known as the *Ciudad Corazón* (Heartland City).

Right: Fellow missionary Jo & I with the president of the Lutheran Church of Venezuela.

Quote of the Month!

"...what the eye has not seen, the heart cannot grieve."

— Craig Greenfield, a life overseas: the missions conversation, April 19, 2018

To support the LCMS through me, you may give a tax-deductible gift...

- **online**, securely from any device: lcms.org/givenow/mackenzie;
- **by calling** a donor care representative: 1-888-843-5267; or
- **by sending a check** (with "Mackenzie/Latin America" on the memo line) to:
 - ⇒ LCMS, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861; or
 - ⇒ Mission Central, 40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034.





Glen and Elke Beltz December 2, 2006
 Rex and Lou Pasley December 4, 1988
 Karl and Barbara (Henke) Christopher
 December 7, 1984
 Ron and Barbara Barrett December 16, 1977
 Phil and Sylvia Glenn December 19, 1970
 Don and Susan Malson December 22, 1974
 Larry and Virginia Propp December 23, 1971
 Rob and Melba Hall December 24, 1990
 Danny and Karla Yung December 26, 2003
 Norburt and Marian (Kueck) Pierson
 December 28, 2008
 Donald and Lynne Scharlott December 30, 1972



1
 Kyle Dickes
 Larry Samuel
2
 Brianna Chiu
 Kristin Gerike
 Stanley Wise
3
 J.R. Littell
5
 Matt Gibson
 Andy Mott
6
 Debbie Crutchfield
7
 Annette Kiehne
 Hannah Watts
8
 Ainsley
 Thoroughman

9
 Julie Calfee
 Nolan Froese
 Sylvia Glenn
 Kevin Kiehne
10
 Shelly Gibson
 Jan Lang
11
 Laura Grise
 Lynne Scharlott
 Diane Smith
12
 Henry Rainey
13
 Avery Linneman
 Barbara Sanchez
15
 Allie Smith
17
 Zachary Jones
 Chuck Murphy
19
 Jason Starbuck
20
 Erika Berry
 Emelia Mangold
 Brian Tate
21
 Elizabeth Crutchfield
 Lillian Fei
22
 Elke Beltz
 Joseph Buchheit

23
 Becky Mott
28
 Chloe Gibson
 Herb Griggs
 Noah Mefrakis
29
 Jackson Gooch
 Izabel Hanson
 Michelle Wren
30
 Jon Berendzen
31
 Ruth Stone
 Colin Weber
 Marilyn Wise



**A SEASON
 of JOY**

The information for Anniversaries & Birthdays is obtained from our Shepherd Staff database. If any info is incorrect or omitted, please contact the church office so this information can be updated.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES:

The JCC Christmas party will be Dec. 2nd with lunch served during classes and the festivities held in the gym after classes.

The Sr. High Christmas Party will be Dec. 9th at 6 p.m.

SENIOR HIGH FINALS MEAL:

The Sr. High Finals Meal will be Dec. 16th at 6 p.m.

JCC SCHEDULE:

December JCC sessions will be at noon on Dec. 2nd and 9th. Class will be at 4 p.m. on the 16th. There will be no classes on Dec. 23rd or 30th.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE:

JCC III will be the acolytes for December. Go to the Trinity website → Ministries → Youth → Jr. High Youth → Acolyte Schedules to sign up or change the services you would like to acolyte.

**KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR INFO ON
 MORE JR. AND SR. HIGH EVENTS**

THANK YOU FROM VESPER GUILD



Vesper Guild wishes to **THANK the Trinity members** who donated items for the annual Craft Fair in November. We are blessed to have such talented Trinity members.

We also want to extend a sincere **thank you to everyone who purchased items.** The money will be genuinely appreciated by the local mission agencies that we support. Our donations will be awarded in May of 2019.

AND a warm **THANK YOU** to everyone who donated non-perishable food and money for the **Thanksgiving Food Drive!!** For every dollar donated, the Food Bank is able to purchase \$21 of food for needy families. We collected 185 pounds of food and \$25 in cash.

God's blessings to each of you from the Vesper Guild!



December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8a & 10:30a Worship / Comm. 9:15a Sunday School 12p JCC 1:30p JCC Christmas Party 5p Handbell Practice 6p LLL 6p Choir Practice	3 9a Bible Class 6p Worship Service w/Communion	4 6p Board of Early Childhood Ed.	5 7a Pickleball 9a TLCLC Chapel 12p Advent Worship 5:30p Board of Youth 5:45p Advent Light Supper 7p Advent Worship	6 6:30a Men's Bible Study @ Terrace 9a TLCLC Chapel	7	8 9a Life Team training
9 8a & 10:30a Worship Handbells Play 9:15a Sunday School/ Kids' Christmas Eve Practice 12p JCC 6p Sr. Youth Christmas Party 6p Choir Practice	10 9a Bible Class 9:30a Decorate Church for Christmas 6p Worship Service	11 6p Vesper Guild 6:30p Board of Directors	12 7a Pickleball 9a TLCLC Chapel 9:30a Mary Martha Guild 12p Advent Worship 5:45p Advent Light Supper 7p Advent Worship Choir Sings	13 6:30a Men's Bible Study @ Terrace 9a TLCLC Chapel 7p CLAS	14 1:30p Women's Social Connection @ Lenoir Woods	15
16 8a & 10:30a Worship / Comm. Choir Sings 9:15a Sunday School/ Kids' Christmas Eve Practice 12p Voters' Potluck 12:30p AOV Meeting 4p JCC 6:30p Senior High Finals Meal	17 9a Bible Class 6p Worship Service w/Communion	18 6p Kids' Christmas Eve Practice	19 7a Pickleball 9a TLCLC Chapel 12p Advent Worship 5:45p Advent Light Supper 7p Advent Worship	20 6:30a Men's Bible Study @ Terrace 9a TLCLC Chapel 6p Board of Evangelism	21 TLCLC CLOSED (EXTRA DAY)	22
23 8a & 10:30a Worship 9:15a Sunday School/ Kids' Christmas Eve Practice 12p Choir Practice 5p Kids' Christmas Eve Dress Rehearsal	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 7p Christmas Eve Worship Service 11:30p Christmas Eve Worship Service / Comm. TLCLC CLOSED	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9a Christmas Worship / Comm. OFFICES CLOSED TLCLC CLOSED	26 7a Pickleball TLCLC CLOSED	27 6:30a Men's Bible Study @ Terrace TLCLC CLOSED (EXTRA DAY)	28 TLCLC CLOSED (EXTRA DAY)	29
30 8a & 10:30a Worship / Comm. 9:15a Sunday School	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 12p NYE Worship w/ Communion 7p NYE Worship w/ Communion OFFICES CLOSED TLCLC CLOSED	January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY OFFICES CLOSED TLCLC CLOSED				

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2201 WEST ROLLINS ROAD
COLUMBIA, MO 65203-1433

NON-PROFIT ORG
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COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT NO. 184

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES:
SUNDAY 8:00 AND 10:30 A.M.
MONDAY AT 6:00 P.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE CLASS

SUNDAY: 9:15 A.M.
PHONE: 573-445-2112

FAX: 573-445-4078
EMAIL: CHURCH@TRINITY-LCMS.ORG



ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Items for the monthly *News of the Son* are due to the church office by noon on the 25th of the month (or the previous Friday if the 25th falls on a weekend).

Announcements for the *Trinity Weekly News* are due to the church office by noon each Thursday. Announcements of 75-100 words are preferred.

Dear Church Family,
Please contact the church office when:

- a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so visits can be made
- someone you know is very ill or has passed away
- your class, board, or group would like to use the church for a meeting or event so it can be scheduled on the church calendar
- your contact information or address changes
- a new baby arrives in your family
- a member of your family leaves home for college, joins the military, or is getting married
- you would like to have a member call you to visit or assist you in some way
- you have a prayer request
- you would like to share your time and talents
- you feel the church can assist you in any way