

# TRINITY TIMES

## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Members of Trinity,

Greetings from the Baby Who changed everything!

Christmas is God becoming a man. Epiphany is Jesus, the Baby who changed everything, revealing He is God. The Truth of this is that the God-man creates a relationship with us right where we are. We could not and cannot approach God so Jesus took on humanness to approach us and save us.

This Truth gives us what we really need. Our problem is we 'think' we know the Truth. What a mistake! Far too many people, many Christians included, figure that they

THE BABY WHO CHANGED EVERYTHING  
WANTS TO CHANGE US, OUR THINKING,  
OUR LIVING, OUR WHOLE LIFE SO THAT WE  
ARE INCLUDED IN THOSE WHOM HE SAVED,  
REDEEMED, AND BLESSED WITH ETERNAL  
LIFE.

can get along without God. *That is their truth.* Believe it or not! The person who states that they can get along without God or there is no god is gnawed by the fact "there might be a god?" This leads to questions. "If there is a god what is he like?" "What does he think of me?" "What does he intend to do with me?" "How do I fit into

his plans?" "Is there more to life than here?" "Is there a life after death?" The questions keep coming and we get farther and farther away from god? Please note that I did not capitalize the word 'god.' That is because people don't want to believe or follow any 'god' but themselves. When we capitalize God now you know there is a greater being. Now ask those questions. Is this where we want to leave it?

We might, but GOD did not! He came to save all. He did this by becoming a man, Jesus, the Baby who changed everything. He came so that we could believe in a God who really was concerned about us. So much so, that He suffered and died for us and rose again, only God can do that! He created His Church where His Word and Sacraments are taught, preached, and administered to build us up in the faith that He gave us, all that we would be His, now and forever.

The Baby who changed everything wants to change us, our thinking, our living, our whole life so that we are included in those whom He saved, redeemed, and blessed with eternal life. To help us God gives Himself daily in His Word and weekly in worship where God comes to us. We, thanks to God changing us, respond to His love and grace, receive mercy and peace, and are blessed! All from the Baby who changed everything.

Peace, Pastor Thur

## CALL COMMITTEE REPORT

The final paperwork has been submitted to the Rocky Mountain District for consideration of placement for a 2019 seminary graduate. Rev. Schlechte, our district president, will sign this and add any comments he has prior to forwarding the packet on to the placement officers of each seminary. A decision on placements will be made by the Council of District Presidents in early April and announced on call day at each seminary. So we now have twelve weeks to pray for God's will to be done.

## Board Reports

**Elders** - The Elders met January 6 at 8 a.m. A Men's Bible Study was discussed with the hope of interest in the congregation. New photos for the photo wall in the Fellowship Hall were also discussed. The Elders next meet Sunday February 3, 2019 at 8 a.m.

Mark Johnson	570-7639
Ralph Wegner	565-3936
Josh Chittick	560-4785
Bill Witthans	533-9055
Michael Merrit	564-4901
Burt Ramsey	565-3086
Bryan Baumgartner	562-4701
Roland Walter	882-7450

**Council** – No report

**Trustees** – The Trustees met on Saturday 12/15 to develop our 2019 proposed work program and budget and to familiarize new trustees with the facilities. The 2019 trustees are:

Bruce Short (Head)	Jim Broderick
Kyle Riddell	Jerry Wittwer
Dale Cumpston	David Sperling
Andrew Riddell	Brian Rose

Please let any of these folks know if something is out of order or any facilities questions. Repair request forms are posted on the bulletin board by the upstairs restrooms between the narthex and the fellowship hall.

Dave Sperling worked on several plumbing fixes during Preschool Christmas break. The leaking outside water bib on the north side of the main preschool building was repaired by a commercial plumber in early December.

We have had the parking areas plowed by Larry Green three times so far.

One of the stoves in the fellowship hall kitchen (north wall) is failing and we will be replacing that as soon as a suitable replacement is found.

**Mission & Social Concerns** - The Good Samaritan Center has moved to its new location at 30 N. Beech Street. They are in need of volunteers. If you would like to volunteer please call Kristen Tworke at 989-444-0007. Work days are Monday - Thursday from noon to 2:00. You can work as many days as you like or once every other week. Substitutes are also needed. Renew is always in need of hygiene products and towels & washcloths.

**Education and Youth** – No report

**Stewardship** – No report

## Other News

**Trinity Library** – New in the Library

**IMMERSE:** The Bible Reading Experience  
The Bible is an invitation to discover God's Story and then to step into it. So the best thing we can do is immerse ourselves in it - to read it at length without distractions, with historical and literary perspective, and in a life-long rhythm. Immerse: The Reading Bible comes in six volumes and feature the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, a clear and faithful rendering of God's word in contemporary English. Read just two eight-week sessions per year, and you will have read the entire Bible in three years.

**Prayer Group** – 1 John 5:14 says "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." Pastor Chittick said, Prayer is not the only thing you can do; it's the best thing you can do." If you would like to be part of a Prayer Group that would meet regularly, please meet after Worship on Sunday, January 13.

## Dates to Remember

Feb 3, 2019 – Elders Meeting @ 8 a.m.

Mar 3, 2019 – Elders Meeting @ 8 a.m.

Mar 6, 2019 – Ash Wednesday

April 21, 2019 – Easter Sunday

## Facts about Winter

\* The Southern Hemisphere typically has milder winters than the Northern Hemisphere. This is because the Southern Hemisphere has less land and a more maritime climate.

\* Winter cold kills more than twice as many Americans as summer heat does.

\* While it seems counterintuitive, Earth is actually closest to the sun in December, even though winter solstice is the shortest day of the year.

\* One inch of snow will produce just less than 1/10 of an inch of water when melted. Ten inches of snow will melt down to only 1 inch of water.

\* The average snowflake falls at about 3 mph.

\* Snow appears white because snow is a bunch of individual ice crystals arranged together. When light hits snow, it bounces all around the ice crystals and the "color" of all the frequencies in the visible spectrum combined in equal measure is white. While white is the color we see in snow, individual ice crystals are actually translucent.

[www.factretriever.com/winter-facts](http://www.factretriever.com/winter-facts)

## Newsletter and Website

You can sign up for the monthly newsletter by sending your e-mail to Shar @ [shortstuff1950@gmail.com](mailto:shortstuff1950@gmail.com).

The Trinity website is also current with Church information and Calendar. If you would like to post something on the website you can contact Shar as well. The website is [www.trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com](http://www.trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com)