

TRINITY TIMES

From the Pastor's Desk

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to our newborn king!" As Christmas fast approaches we like the angels who sang to the Shepherds that first Christmas night should be harkening, listening to what the revelation of God is for us. The Word of God made flesh, Jesus, is our revelation. His birth changed the world. But more importantly, His birth changed YOU! If Christ hadn't come then our faith would be false. It would be in vain, but because Christ came we have His Word living in our lives. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "In him we have obtained an inheritance... so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory" (Eph 1:11-14). We have been given the inheritance of salvation and eternal life because Christ came. He came that first Christmas to the choirs of angels. He came that first Christmas to the sounds of cattle and sheep. He came so that we might listen to His Word. Praise God for sending His Son to be our Word of Life!

Your Servant, Pastor Scheele

Advent Season

Our Wednesday Advent Soup Suppers will start serving food at 5 pm and will finish serving at 5:45 pm. Additionally, as the preschool families and church members finish eating they can head into the Sanctuary early for a Hymn sing from 5:30-6 pm. All of these things, then lead up to a 6 pm Midweek Advent Worship Service where we will be doing a kid and family friendly style of worship that will feel familiar to an evening Vespers worship service, but do things in a kid focused way. At these services we will interactively learn about some of the different names of Jesus and how those names help us to praise, honor, and worship Him!

Elders

Elders meetings will now be held on the first Sunday of each month at 7:30 a.m. Meetings will include a Bible study and end at 8 a.m.

A Men's Bible Class is in the works for 2020. Watch for the details.

Mark Johnson	570-7639
Ralph Wegner	565-3936
Josh Chittick	560-4785

Michael Merritt	739-5353
Burt Ramsey	565-3086
Bryan Baumgartner	562-4701
Roland Walter	882-7450

Trustees

The AA group has donated funds to complete the electrical wiring to the backflow preventer valve to power the heat tape. We will use the funds to do the wiring and provide two electrical boxes along the preschool east fenceline for exterior uses. Thank You AA! The wiring will be done in the next few weeks.

The 2019 trustees are:

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

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.

Christmas Worship Services

December 24, 2019 – Christmas Eve Service @ 7 p.m.
December 25, 2019 – Christmas Eve Service @ 9 a.m.

Trinity Preschool

The Preschool Themes for December are The Spirit of the Season, Giving and Sharing, Children Around the World, and Holiday Food and Tradition. They are reviewing previous letters, learning the color green, and studying the concepts of top, middle and bottom. The Bible stories are: Jesus is Born, Angels tell the story, and Shepherds Worship Jesus. The Christmas break is December 23 to January 6, 2020.

Mission & Social Concerns

Thank you to everyone for donating items to Renew. They are always very excited to get those items. I would like to add just a few items; deodorant, tissues, combs & hair brushes and toothbrush and toothpaste.

Board of Education

We are looking for volunteers to help with Children's Church. Anyone who is interested can talk to Robin Wolcott. We try to make it very doable for anyone willing to help. We typically have been having between two to six children on Sunday morning.

Trinity Lutheran Facebook Page

Thanks to Pastor Scheele, Trinity now has a FB presence. You can check in [here](#). It's easy to see what might be happening and make comments or likes.

Dates to Remember

Dec 18, 2019 – Advent Soup Supper @5 p.m. and Service @ 5:45 p.m.
December 24, 2019 – Christmas Eve Service @ 7 p.m.
December 25, 2019 – Christmas Day Service @ 9 a.m.
Jan 14, 2020 – Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Facts

- *The word Christmas originates from the words Christ's Mass. In old English (first recorded in 1038) it was referred to as Cristesmaesse, which literally means 'Christian Mass'.
- *Anglo-Saxons referred to the holiday as 'midwinter' or 'nativity'.
- *The word Noel entered the English language in the late 1300s. It originated from the Latin word 'natalis' which means 'day of birth'.
- *Christmas lights were invented in 1882 by Edward Johnson.
- *The first evidence of a Christmas tree is from a pamphlet that dates back to 1570.
- *In order for Santa to visit all the homes on Christmas Eve he would have to visit 822 homes each second.
- *The tradition of hanging stockings comes from a Dutch

custom. They would leave shoes full of food for St. Nicolas' donkeys and St. Nicholas would then leave small gifts in return.

*12th century nuns left socks full of nuts, fruit and tangerines at the doors of the poor. This is where the tradition of putting tangerines in stockings came from.

*The three wise men who visited Mary and Joseph when Jesus was born brought gold, frankincense and myrrh as gifts. Some believe that Jesus was born in a cave and not a stable.

*The tradition of Christmas caroling began as an old English custom. It was originally called wassailing and was a toast to long life.

*St. Francis of Assisi began the custom of singing Christmas carols in church in the 13th century.

*The letter X in Xmas is a Greek abbreviation for Christ.

*In 1950 the world's largest Christmas tree was placed in a Washington Mall. It was 221 feet high.

*Jingle Bells was originally written by James Pierpont in 1857, for Thanksgiving not Christmas. It was originally called One Horse Open Sleigh.

*The traditional Christmas meal in England before turkey was mustard and a pig's head.

*The Christmas wreath is symbolic of Jesus. The red berries symbolize his blood and the holly represents the crown of thorns.

*The best-selling Christmas song ever is White Christmas by Bing Crosby. It has sold more than 50 million copies around the world.

LCMS

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod is now offering a 2 volume set that complements the Lutheran Service Book (LSB). Volume 1 includes text and tune background, theological and scriptural discussion, usage advice, and exhaustive historical details of original sources for all *LSB* hymns. Volume 2 includes biographies for all hymn authors and composers; essays providing a survey of hymnody; and indexes, appendixes and charts. You can find out more [here](#).



Newsletter and Website

You can sign up for the monthly newsletter by sending your e-mail to Shar @ 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