

TRINITY TIMES

Trinity Lutheran Church

January 2016

From the Pastor's Desk

"He who was seated on the throne said, 'I am making everything new!' Revelation 21:5

Stastny Novy Rok! Of course, that is Happy New Year in the family I grew up in. A new year for us all. And Jesus makes all things new. He paid for our sins and we are the forgiven children of God. Every morning is a new day and we have the chance to praise our God for His love through His son. Let's make every day a new day in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. Have a blessed 2016!

Pastor Chittick



Elders

Advent and Christmas are over with - that went very fast. Epiphany will disappear quickly as well. Before you know it, Lent will be here. It is early this year, February 10 is Ash Wednesday. The Elders are always interested in hearing from you, the parish members of Trinity. Thoughts and suggestions are always welcome.

The Elders will be meeting again on January 10 following services.

The Elders are:

Larry Gessner	565-6371
Kelly McCabe	565-7269
Marty Ruggles	565-4049
Joe Stevens	565-3679
Roland Walter	882-7450
Ralph Wegner	565-3936

Please feel free to contact any of them at any time with comments or concerns.

Fellowship Sunday

Sunday January 31, 2016 will be a Baked Potato & Dessert Brunch hosted by the Fellowship

Committee. This event will commence after the regular church service. Watch for sign ups and more details.

Sew 'n' Sews

Sew 'n' Sews will meet Wednesday, January 13 & 27 this month. We may also meet on January 20 for a catch up day. Please meet in the Ruth Guild room at 9 a.m. Questions can go to Shar Short at 564-1596 or Mary Mahaffey at 562-4750.

Hopes Kitchen/The Bridge

Although not our busiest year ever, 2015 was still full of activity. Thanks to so many people and organizations, we were able to serve approximately 19,500 meals during the course of the year. Plus you can add another 1,900 meals provided to the Bridge shelter by the Kitchen as well. The Kitchen uses or recycles tons of food received from the three markets in town - City Market, Safeway and

Walmart. The members of Trinity have been faithful in keeping us supplied with not only canned goods but eggs and dry goods as well. Thanks to one and all for their continued support both for the Kitchen and the Bridge.

Larry Gessner

Upcoming Events

- January 10, 2016 – Elders Meeting @ 10:30 a.m. (after church)
- January 12, 2016 – Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- January 31, 2016 – Fellowship Brunch @ 10:30 a.m.
- February 10, 2016 – Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 p.m.
- March 27, 2016 – Easter Sunday

Web Site

There will soon be a recipe page added to the Web Site. This will give those interested in popular recipes a chance to see it without the original person having to write it out for everyone. Keep up with the happenings at Trinity by checking the calendar and revisiting past Trinity Times. Give it a look at trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com. Shar Short

LCMS

So what's the benefit of reading and knowing the Bible? So that the Word of God achieves its purpose in your life too. "The Word of the Lord does not return void" (Is. 55:11). The Word of God creates faith in Christ, and faith receives the Word (2 Cor. 11:4). By the word of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Spirit dwells in believers (1 Cor. 3:16.) The Word of God, preached but also read, is an action. In fact, it is the "power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1:16). The Word of God saves (Eph. 1:13f.) and works rebirth, renewal (1 Peter 1:23) and hope (Col. 1:5). The Word of God is the source for strength in life and its many challenges (Eph. 6:5). It reminds us that we are nothing of ourselves — that we are all are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account (Heb. 4:13) — and that God's Word is "sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit" (Heb. 4:12f.). And that is exactly what we need now in these last wretched days. Luther often repeated that reason without faith is a problem because there are many challenging things in the Bible.

Excerpt from "Why Read the Bible" by Rev Dr. Matthew C. Harrison
<http://blogs.lcms.org/2016/why-read-the-bible>

New Year's Traditions around the World

In the US, there are some fairly traditional ways to celebrate the new year that is beginning. Parties of various kinds and in various places are common. And many families celebrate in various ways through tradition. Here are some interesting ways that people from other countries celebrate a new year.

- In Denmark they save all of their unused dishes and plates until the 31st of December when they affectionately shatter them against the doors of all their friends and family.
- In Ecuador they celebrate the New Year by burning paper filled scarecrows at midnight. They also burn photographs from the last year. All in the name of good fortune.
- In Spain, if you can manage to stuff 12 grapes in your mouth at midnight you've achieved good luck for the next year.
- In some South American countries wearing colored underwear will determine your fate for the new year. Red underwear means you'll find love. Gold means wealth, and white signifies peace.
- In Japan they ring all of their bells 108 times in alignment with the Buddhist belief that this brings cleanness. It's also considered good to be smiling going into the New Year as it supposedly brings good luck.
- In Switzerland they celebrate the New Year by dropping ice cream on the floor.

- In Romania they throw their spare coins into the river to get good luck
 - In Bolivia coins are baked into sweets and whoever finds the coins has good luck for the next year.
 - In Denmark people climb on top of chairs and literally "jump" into the New Year to bring good luck.
 - In Chile families spend the night in the company of their deceased loved ones by sleeping at the cemetery.
 - In Siberia they jump into frozen lakes carrying tree trunks
 - In Estonia people eat seven times on New Year's Day to ensure abundance in the new year.
- Maybe you'll be tempted to try something new next year!
List25.com

Volunteer Needed

If you have some extra time during the week and knowledge of technical devices, Wayne Hite could use your help in taping and burning copies of the Sunday sermon. Give him a call at 882-1438.

Newsletter Info

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter or to the website, please put it in Shar Short's box, call her at 970-564-1596, or e-mail her at shortstuff1950@gmail.com.