

**THIS WEEK AT TRINITY**

**Sunday, November 25**

8am-9am: Worship Service  
9:30am-10:15am: Sunday School and Adult Bible Class  
10:30am-11:30am: Worship Service-Communion

**Tuesday, November 27**

10am-11am: Seniors' Bible Study  
5pm-8:30pm: Girls' Basketball vs. Zion Litchfield at Home

**Wednesday, November 28**

6:30am-7:30am: Sunrise Bible Study  
8:15am-9:30am: School Chapel  
4pm-5pm: Public School Catechism  
6:30pm-8pm: Adult Instruction Class  
7pm-8:30pm: Adult Choir Practice-Downtown Sanctuary

**Thursday, November 29**

School Christmas Store for Students  
9am-2:30pm: Trinity Quilters

**Saturday, December 1**

December Food Pantry Collection  
5:30pm-6:30pm: Worship Service

**Sunday, December 2**

December Food Pantry Collection  
8am-9am: Worship Service  
9:30am-10:15am: Sunday School and Adult Bible Class  
10:30am-11:30am: Worship Service

**ADVENT SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Please join us for our mid-week Advent Services on Wednesdays at 6:30pm.

- December 5 at the Downtown Church Campus
- December 12 in the Parish Hall (led by the lower grade school students)
- December 19 at the Downtown Church Campus (led up the upper grade school students.)

**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICES**

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve:  
7pm Service and 11pm Service

Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day:  
10am Service

Monday, December 31, New Year's Eve:  
6:30pm Service

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**DECEMBER FOOD PANTRY:** Our Food Pantry families receive large amounts of groceries from the Trinity School Thanksgiving food collection so we usually skip the December collection. This year the Youth Group is doing a service project to collect items for the Matthew Project, which serves homeless and at need children in Springfield. In lieu of food donations, please drop off one or more of the items below.

Toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, shower gel, lip balm, shampoo, conditioner, hand lotion

The usual Food Pantry bins will be available in the narthex and the Parish Hall lobby the weekend of December 1 and 2.

**KINDERGARTEN PREVIEW NIGHT:** Did you know that kindergarten students at Trinity Lutheran School learn to count in Spanish, German, French and Swahili? Join us on **Dec. 4** from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the Parish Center on the School Campus to learn more about our language program, as well as the many other features that make Trinity the perfect school for your child's elementary education.

**CAPITAL AREA CONCERT BAND:** The Capital Area Concert Band will perform a variety of Christmas carols on Tues., Dec. 4 at 7:00pm in the Parish Center. Leroy Anderson favorites "Sleigh Ride", "A Christmas Festival" and "Clarinet Candy". Alfred Reed's "Greensleeves" will have audience members reaching for the tissues. The Band will "stump the audience" with "Minor Alterations" as very familiar carols are transposed from major to minor keys and become almost unrecognizable songs. Three modern arrangements of other beloved carols will round out the hour-long program. Light refreshments will be served after the concert. Contact Jan Zepp at 217-789-0753 for more information.

**GRACE LUTHERAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Grace Lutheran Church is hosting a Christmas Season Concert on **Dec. 5** at 6:30pm. Seating is limited and the cost is \$5.00 per ticket with all proceeds going to support the Grace Lutheran Child Development Center. There will be a time of fellowship following with German treats to enjoy. Please call the Grace Lutheran Church Office between 9am-12pm for tickets and information.

**LIVE NATIVITY AT OUR SAVIORS CHURCH:** Enjoy a realistic recreation of the amazing events that surround the night of our Savior's birth when you visit Our Savior's Church and School's unique drive through Live Nativity on **Dec. 7 and Dec. 8**. The free event feature holiday lights, choirs of angles, beautiful displays, live animals, and period dressed actors.

**LUHI COOKIE WALK:** The annual cookie walk at LUHI is Sat., **Dec. 8** from 8am-12pm. The Cookie Walk is one of the major fundraisers for the Lutheran High School Music and Drama Departments. Come choose from a wide range of holiday cookies, candies and other goodies!

**LADIES AID MEETING:** Merry Christmas to all! Join us on Wed., **Dec. 12** in the parish hall for our holiday program. We will have an early start time of 11:15am. Please bring three dozen cookies to be packaged and shared with the Bethesda homes and our shut-ins. Remember to also bring a gift for a Bethesda resident. Our lunch will be catered by Nelson's Catering and the Trinity Kindergarten and Preschool will provide our delightful entertainment. Faye Garvue will lead devotions.

## WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

### **SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASSES:**

- Lutheranism 101: The Lord's Supper, taught by Pastor Holmes in the Science Room.
- Women's Bible Study: Living the Fruit of the Spirit, taught by Amy Holmes in the Extended Care room.
- Burning Questions, taught by Pastor Hemenway in the Parish Center.

\*Please note that on Sunday, December 2, Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo will be a Guest Bible Study Leader during the Burning Questions Bible Study.

Rev. Dr. Tilahun Menedo serves with Lutheran Bible Translators as the Executive Development Officer. Tilahun was born and raised in Ethiopia. He knows firsthand the value of the heart language to communicate the precious promises of God. Dr. Menedo spearheaded the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus effort to develop a strong, accredited training system from the many local Bible schools and training institutions that the church had throughout the country. He served as the seventh president of Concordia University in Selma, Alabama from 2010 – 2016. Drawing on his experience and relationships in both Ethiopia as well as Lutheran circles in the USA, Tilahun is delighted to serve God as part of the team making His Name known to those who have never before had the Bible in their own language.

### **TUESDAY SENIOR CITIZENS BIBLE CLASS:**

Class begins at 10am in the Parish Center. For more information, please call the church office at 217-787-2323.

### **TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY:**

We will meet in November at the home of Lana Schurb, 130 Pinehurst (behind Our Savior's in Country Club Estates). We will continue with our bible study on Sip, Savor, and Drink Deeply by Deb Burma. For more information or directions, please call Lana Schurb at 217-679-4623. Please note that we will not meet on Nov. 20 due to the Thanksgiving holiday!

**SUNRISE BIBLE STUDY (Wednesday):** All members of Trinity are welcome to join us in the school library for Sunrise Bible Study every Wednesday at 6:30am. For more information, please contact Bill Rast at 217-585-0571.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

**THIS WEEK IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Today's Sunday School lesson, "The Bronze Serpent," is one of the more challenging stories in the Old Testament. Just as the bronze serpent was lifted up to heal and save the Israelites, Christ was lifted up on the cross to heal and save us from sin, death, and the devil. Ask students, "How did God rescue people bitten by the serpent? How does God rescue you?"

## UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED

### **5TH AND 6TH GRADE CHRISTMAS SERVE**

Join Mrs. Good for an afternoon of snacks, games and service projects. Fri., **Dec 14** from 3pm-5pm. Service project activities will include: decorating cookies for the Youth Christmas Bake Sale, tying blankets for those in need, assembling desk braces for Midwest Mission, sorting plastics bags and container for St. John's Breadline, and putting together personal care kits for The Matthew Project. If you are able, please purchase deodorant to donate to the personal care kits and start saving plastic bags and plastic containers with lids. For more information contact Cindy Good at [cgood@trinity-lutheran.com](mailto:cgood@trinity-lutheran.com).

**CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE: Dec. 15 and Dec. 16** Visit the Christmas Bake Sale for last-minute Christmas treats and stocking stuffers. At the Parish Center before and after Sat. Evening service, Dec. 15 and during Fellowship Hour on Sun, Dec 16. All items offered for a donation to support Trinity's Youth Programming. Please contact Cindy Good for more information at [cgood@trinity-lutheran.com](mailto:cgood@trinity-lutheran.com)

**SAVE THE DATE:** Our young people at Trinity will present a Christmas recital on **Dec. 15** preceding the Saturday night service. Plan to arrive by 5pm to enjoy wonderful Christmas music.

**PACKERS VS. BEARS GAME:** Come join The Trinity Men's Group on Sun., **Dec. 16** in the extended care room for a time of fellowship and join the rivalry between Packers and Bears fans as we watch the game on the big screen. Time TBD. Lutheran beverages allowed BYOC (in cans only-no bottles). Snacks provided. Contact Scott Anderson at 217-299-3060 for more information.

**SAVE THE DATE-CIRCLE OF MOMS:** The Circle of Moms group will be returning on the second Friday of each month January - May in 2019. This is a great opportunity to meet other women in our church and school community and to enjoy time of fellowship while participating in activities and service projects. Mothers and women of all ages are welcome to attend. The first meeting of the new year will be held on Fri., **Jan 11** from 8:30am-10am. Join us as we prepare freezer meals to take home or to share with others. For more information contact Karen Hemenway through email at [marketing@trinity-lutheran.com](mailto:marketing@trinity-lutheran.com)

**SAVE THE DATE-2019 LUTHERAN HIGH AUCTION:** It's coming... the 30th Anniversary Lutheran High Blue Tie and Pearls Auction! Mark your calendars for Sat., **April 27**, 2019. The Lutheran High Association Office is now accepting donations. Please keep this in mind as you are shopping those holiday sales!

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL CALENDAR:** On Oct. 28, the leaders of Trinity Lutheran Church and School met to review our master calendar and to ensure that the dates of our 2019 events and meetings were in place and accurate. If your group has not yet provided its meeting and event dates, it is important that you do so to ensure facility/space availability. The master calendar can be viewed at [trinity-lutheran.com/calendar](http://trinity-lutheran.com/calendar). Please note that the "Calendar of Events" found in the resources section of the website does not automatically populate from the Google calendar. All efforts will be made to keep that calendar up to date, but we encourage you to visit [trinity-lutheran.com/calendar](http://trinity-lutheran.com/calendar) for the most timely and accurate information. Please contact Karen Hemenway with questions or concerns at [marketing@trinity-lutheran.com](mailto:marketing@trinity-lutheran.com).

**LWML CID MISSION GRANT #3:** Fort Wayne and St. Louis Seminary Food Banks (\$10,000) A necessary part of sharing the Gospel with others and spreading the Word is having trained church workers, including pastors. Having the ability to draw on food bank resources supports the church's mission of training church workers and pastors to spread the Gospel. This grant will assist the staff at these food banks in buying food, toiletries, and other needed items.

**TRUSTING IN THE LORD  
CONTRIBUTIONS REPORT -  
BLDG. FUND**

Thru the month of October 2018

Months completed: 23

Months to go: 13

Pledges made: \$746,518

Amount received (62%): \$463,791

**Contributions Report** - Thank you for your financial support to the Trusting In The Lord building campaign. In this season of Thanksgiving, we want to thank you for your support. Your contributions are greatly appreciated in providing for our \$3 million in improvements at the church and school. Please keep this endeavor in your prayers.

**STRATEGIC PLAN SPOTLIGHT**

In 2016, Trinity Lutheran Church and School adopted a Strategic Plan to guide its efforts and bring about improvements across all areas of ministry. In these weekly spotlights, we are featuring areas of the Strategic Plan that have been completed or are currently in development.

Under the focus area, Encourage Members to be Spiritually-Mature, one of the strategies is to develop and implement a plan for increased retention of our youth, Confirmands, and young adults. In 2014, prior to the Strategic Plan creation, a plan was developed to acknowledge our youth by sending birthday, Baptismal birthday, Confirmation, and graduation cards beginning in their 7th grade year and ending as they graduate from high school. Individuals and groups within the congregation have been diligently sending out these cards and making connections with our youth since that time. Currently 86 students are receiving these cards. The first group of students in this program will graduate from high school in the spring. The efficacy of the program will be evaluated, and improvements will be made as necessary.

**CHOIR SCHEDULE:  
REMAINDER OF  
NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**

**Primary Choir:**

December 16: 10:30am Service

**Junior Choir:**

December 15: 5:30pm Service

**Trinity Choir:**

December 2: 10:30am Service

December 9: 8am Service

**Adult Choir:**

November 25: 8am and 10:30am Service

December 2: 10:30am Service

December 5: 6:30pm Service

December 9: 8am Service

December 22: 5:30pm Service

December 24: 11pm Service

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED**

**LUTHERAN HIGH SHOPPER'S BLESSING PROGRAM:** Have you enrolled in the Lutheran High Shopper's program? With the holidays approaching, this is a great time to stock up on gift cards. You can use gift cards for your holiday purchases or to give as gifts; all while saving money for your student's future Lutheran High tuition! For more information, please contact Kim Haynes at 217-546-6363, ext. 135 or stop by her table at Trinity School on Thursday mornings during school drop-off.

**CALENDAR YEAR 2019 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES:** In an effort to save on mailing costs, the distribution of our 2019 contribution envelope packets will be the same as last year. ***All envelope packets are now available*** in the Parish Center, arranged in alphabetical order, reading from the bottom of the table to the top, left to right. Please be sure to use the designated envelopes for your capital campaign offerings. Also, like last year, there is a check box marked "I/We Give Electronically" on each envelope. This is for those who have (or will) sign up for regularly scheduled electronic transfers of their set offerings from their bank account to the Church's accounts), or through one or more of Trinity's e-giving options. To make things easier for all concerned, the envelope packets for 2019 will be renumbered to match the alphabetical listing of family names. This greatly eases the administration, preparation and distribution of envelopes. Please be assured that all records of past giving will be transferred completely to your new envelope number. Please note your new number. The contribution counters ask that you write it on the memo line of your contribution checks in 2019. ***Please pick up your envelope packet as soon as you can.*** Remaining packets will be prepared for mailing on Saturday, Dec. 15. Please do not use your new envelopes until after Jan. 1, 2019. After New Year's Day, you are encouraged to dispose of any unused 2018 (or previous years') envelopes. Thank you for your assistance!

**WE'RE LEARNING A NEW HYMN!** The sermon hymn for our Sunday morning worship provides an opportunity to experience a new hymn. "Lo, He Comes, With Clouds Descending" was written by Charles Wesley (1707-1788), a founder of the Methodist Church. Wesley was the author of over 6000 hymns, many of which are still popular today. Among Trinity's favorites are "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling." A listing of other hymns in our hymnal written by Wesley can be found on page 1002. The text of "Lo, He Comes, With Clouds Descending" was inspired by the book of Revelation and describes the majesty and splendor of the Second Coming of Christ. How fitting it is to mark this Last Sunday of the Church Year with ringing hymns of praise. Come, Lord Jesus.

**2019 GUIDEBOOK DIRECTORY NEEDS INFORMATION:** The 2019 Guidebook Membership Directory is in the works. Have you moved? Changed phone numbers? Please be sure that the church office has the most updated information for your family by Dec. 5. Whatever the church office has on file is what will be submitted to the company for publication. Don't assume the office has the correct information already and don't wait until the last minute to make those changes--call 217-787-2323 or email the church at church@trinity-lutheran.com with any corrections! Thanks for keeping the guidebook (and the church database) updated and accurate!

**2019 GUIDEBOOK AND DIRECTORY ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY:** We are in the process of updating our annual Guidebook Membership Directory for the church. This book will contain everything pertinent to our church: the various ministries, organizations, committees, activities plus a complete directory of all members. This book is being provided and direct-mailed to each family at no cost to our church. It is subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please call the Church office 217-787-2323 by **Dec. 5**. A Guidebook sales rep will be in contact with you in early January.

## POINSETTIAS

It's Poinsettia Time! Advent is fast approaching and it's time to order your poinsettias for our Christmas services.

Flowers are \$14 and may be ordered by contacting Judy Fliege at 217-787-9011 or [judy.fliege@gmail.com](mailto:judy.fliege@gmail.com).

All orders need to be placed by December 10. Please indicate with your order if you would like to designate someone to honor.

All poinsettias may be taken home after the Dec. 25 service.

## HOT LUNCH MENU

### Monday, November 26

Pepperoni Pizza, Green Beans, Fruit, Milk

### Tuesday, November 27

Mini Corn Dogs, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk

### Wednesday, November 28

Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Fruit, Milk

### Thursday, November 29

Ravioli, Garlic Stick, Peas, Fruit, Milk

### Friday, November 30

Tomato Soup, Sandwich, Crackers, Fruit, Milk

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

**2019 FLOWER CHARTS:** The altar flower charts for 2019 will be posted at the Parish Hall and at the downtown church location soon. If you would like to place flowers on the altar, please note your name and phone number on the day(s) of your choice. A member of Ladies Aid will contact you in the month prior for placement and to get specifics for printing in the bulletin. Please call Susan Schultz at 217-483-5225 or Janie Rast at 217-585-0571 with any questions.

**EARN A RETURN AND HELP OUR LCMS CHURCHES:** The Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund (CID-CEF) provides resources to churches in our Central Illinois District that wish to grow God's ministry through building or expansion. We are able to do this because of conscientious LCMS members like you who support our churches by investing in the CID-CEF - we need *your* continued support and investments! As an added blessing for your investment, we are now offering a 24-Month SPECIAL RATE of 2.35% (minimum investment \$500) to you as well as our church organizations to support the LCMS ministry. Please contact Chris Anderson or Susan Short at the CID-CEF (phone: 217-793-1802, email: [cef@cidlcms.org](mailto:cef@cidlcms.org)) or visit our website: [www.cidlcms.org](http://www.cidlcms.org), for this special interest rate and other recent rate increases for our investment options. Thank you for investing in the future of our LCMS!

## SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BIBLE BOWL:** Congratulations to all participants in the Bible Bowl competition at Lutheran High School. 8th Grade and 6th Grade each took Second Place. Participants included: 8th Grade team: Avery Biggs and Elijah Klug. 6th Grade team: Greenlee Dust and Reaghan Madura. 5th Grade team: Levi Biggs, Ashlyn Bodine and Tucker Cave.

**SCHOOL STORE:** The Trinity School Store is coming! Trade in those Elements of Success cards for pens, pencils, plush toys, gift cards, and Trinity apparel. Scheduled to open after Christmas break.