

trinity
Lutheran Church

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love.transform.serve.

TRINITY TODAY



At the Manger

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
– Isaiah 9:6

Advent &
Christmas
Schedule
Page 10



Welcome Pastor Chris

Page 3

P A S T O R O F C A R E
M I N I S T R I E S
D E B O S T



At the Manger



P A S T O R
P A U L
S V I N G E N

Last Word.....

Members and friends of Trinity Lutheran,

Since this is the last *Trinity Today* in which I might offer a closing word of thanks, let me here say to you, one and all, my thanks for these 16 months of partnership in interim ministry. I have been blessed in getting to know and serve Christ with so many of you these past months we've been together. Know that I wish the very best for Trinity and for each of you whose individual contributions add up to the whole sum of the Body of Christ in ministry here together. I will keep you in my prayers as you continue the journey of faith. Likewise, I enlist your prayers for me and Bethel Lutheran Church, Madison, WI, as together we walk the walk of faith in that place. With Packers, Brewers and Badgers hovering all around me, with your prayers I will surely hold steady in the firm footing held about me by the Vikings, the Twins and the Golden Gophers.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Paul

**For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**
— Isaiah 9:6

*Eager planning, excited preparation,
anxious anticipation, impatient waiting,
wakeful attentiveness, wide-eyed
watching*

This sounds a lot like the process of calling our new lead pastor and, now, awaiting Pastor Chris' arrival.

Or it could be the countdown to Christmas as children, near and far, get ready for St. Nick, Kris Kringle or Santa Claus to come with his presents.

For Christians around the world, these phrases describe the season of Advent: the first four weeks of our church year in which we await the coming of Christ.

During these weeks before Christmas we pay attention, and we look:

Back, to the coming of Jesus through his birth in a humble stable in Bethlehem.

Forward, to the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

Inward, for the coming of Christ into our hearts and lives.

Outward, for the continual coming of Christ into the world, and to all creation, reconciling and making all things new.

During these weeks in Advent, we also plan and prepare. We ready ourselves to receive the gift of the Christ Child. However, it is through God's grace and love that *Christ comes to us* and into the world. We don't need to do anything to make it happen. In fact, we *can't* do anything to make it happen. But, we are drawn to the Christ who is coming, and embark on spiritual journeys — towards the manger.

Some of us get detained, lose our way or become exhausted by all the hustle and bustle of the holidays; we wonder if we'll make it. Some of us are grieving the death of a loved one, the loss of our job, the end of our marriage; we barely have strength to take the first step. Still others of us stall; we doubt that our spiritual journeys will take us anywhere near the manger.

This is why we need our faith community. We need our church traditions with the four Advent Sundays in which to pause, refuel and refocus. We need one another to validate the challenges of our journeys, to encourage us to keep going. We need to be reassured that, regardless of how slowly we travel or how long it takes, *Christ meets us at the manger* — ready to receive us and to be received by us.

At the manger, we find ourselves in the company of other pilgrims of all nations, ages, abilities, sexual identities, colors, political persuasions. We are all weary from carrying our baggage and burdens.

At the manger, we, and all creation, with our many problems and imperfections, are completely welcomed by "The Prince of Peace." Here, the stars, the moon and the sun shine their light upon the Christ — and reflect upon us.

At the manger, we breathe deeply and rest. We pause to pray. We weep grateful tears because our journeys have brought us to this place. A great weight is lifted from our shoulders because we are again assured that *Christ comes to us* through God's grace alone.

Here at the manger, The Wonderful Counselor, in the form of the Christ Child, freely shares the gifts of love, peace, hope and faith. We are nourished and strengthened so that we might take these precious gifts back with us, and then... give them all away.

Blessings to you during your Advent journeys.

Pastor Deb

Pastor Chris' Personal Ministry Statement: Through preaching, worship leadership, relationship and mission, my deepest desire is that people experience God, know their belovedness and develop the language to share this experience with others. By knowing they are part of God's ongoing creative work in the world, my hope is people will discern the various ways in which they are called to bring light to the kingdom through tangible acts of justice, peace and inclusion.

Welcome Pastor Chris!

by Marilee Tangen, Editor



Trinity Lutheran Church voted in a special meeting on October 30 to call Christine M. Bellefeuille as new lead pastor. Chris received her Master of Divinity from Luther Seminary in St. Paul and is currently pursuing her doctorate in ministry with a concentration on preaching. Prior to attending seminary, Chris received her Bachelor of Arts in Biology/Zoology from Concordia College and worked in the insurance industry as an underwriter.

Pastor Chris comes to us from Valley of Peace Lutheran in Golden Valley. She lives in Plymouth with her husband Ted, and is planning a move to the St. Croix Valley. Her and Ted have three grown children. Her first day at Trinity is Monday, December 12, making her first preaching Sunday, December 18.

Please note we are having a special *Advent Event for All Ages: Unlikely People, Extraordinary Choices* that morning and there will be **one worship service at 10 a.m.** (See pages 10-11 for more information.) We are excited to have her join us! And we are excited to see you there as well!

Preaching is both a passion and strength for Chris. She writes, "It is an opportunity to connect, inspire, encourage, exhort, inform, comfort and convict. The task of preaching is one I take seriously, working constantly to achieve a balance between pure proclamation of the Good News and encouraging people to live the life they have been called to live as the people of God."

Pastor Chris is also committed to building a sense of community. Her words: "It is critical to the life of the church that we learn to hear what God is saying to us as a community of the faithful. In worship, preaching and learning, I work hard to emphasize the 'we-ness' of life in Christ, taking the focus off how long someone might have been a member of a particular congregation (which can make newcomers feel like they will never fit in) and instead find conversation points that bind us together; emphasizing that there is no apprenticeship in the church. We all come with gifts to share...."

Along these same lines, Chris brings a strength for recruiting and equipping leaders; and many other gifts we look forward to sharing and exploring at Trinity. Watch for her first article in the next edition of *Trinity Today*. Welcome Pastor Chris!

From the Congregational Council *by Gail Olson, President*

"When the things I believed to be permanent and stable are left by the way side, enfold me in your undying love that I may remember in whom all things are bound. When fear of something new paralyzes me, and grief cripples me with anger of the loss of what had been, send your angels to give me a gentle push over that frightening edge into the unknown, so that I may learn to trust in You."

*Excerpt from Prayer to Accept Change,
Diana Macalinta @2010*

WELCOME PASTOR CHRIS!

It seems especially fitting after our long transition journey that our new pastor will start during Advent, which marks the beginning of our church year. And just as the birth of Jesus ends the vigilant watching and waiting of Advent, signifying new life, so are Trinity's vigilant watching and waiting for a new lead pastor nearly over. The groundwork laid by the Transition Team was critical to the work of the Call Committee to identify a pastor who will help us build on the strengths we have as a congregation and address those areas where we have more "growth opportunity." On December 12, we will welcome with open arms and open hearts Pastor Chris Bellefeuille, our new lead pastor. Pastor Chris will lead and preach at a special service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, December 18.

Change can be challenging, even when it is something we seek. Whether it's a couple just getting married or the birth of a baby to parents long awaiting its arrival, there are adjustments that come with change. Every significant change, regardless of how welcome, requires us to change in some way, too. As we approach this new season in the life of Trinity, let's make sure we greet these changes with grace and graciousness, curiosity and openness. And let's fill the sanctuary to the rafters to welcome Pastor Chris to Trinity at 10 a.m. on December 18. You won't want to miss it!

WELCOME INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTOR KARRI L. ANDERSON

At its November meeting the council approved hiring an interim associate pastor in the position recently held by Interim Pastoral Associate Stefanie Fauth. Following interviews with Pastor Chris and the council, the Reverend Karri L. Anderson was hired to fill the vacant position. Pastor Karri brings a

wealth of experience, both as a called pastor in her early career and as an interim pastor. She will focus on adult education, regular pastoral duties, and assisting Pastor Chris as she assesses our pastoral staffing level and determines the responsibilities of an associate pastor going forward. We are grateful for the significant role taken by Pastor Deb throughout the transition period. Pastor Deb will continue her vital work in care ministries, as well as being an integral part of the new pastoral team.

Pastor Karri will start her interim duties on December 5, immersing herself in all-things-Trinity prior to Pastor Chris's arrival the following week. Please give a warm welcome to Pastor Karri, as well!

COUNCIL CHANGES

Council member and Secretary Eric Olsen completed his term on council effective with the annual meeting on November 20. We are deeply appreciative of Eric's contributions to the council and Trinity. Eric is deeply committed to Trinity and was very devoted to his role with council, heading up the Real Estate Work Group this past year, and earlier providing key leadership in Children, Youth and Family ministries. We extend our heartiest thanks to Eric for all his contributions.

Congratulations and welcome to Arba-Della Beck, who was elected to the council position vacated by Eric. Arba-Della is well known to Trinity, and recently led one of the Transition Team work groups, and most recently chaired the lead pastor call committee. We are delighted to have Arba-Della join the council.

CONTINUING TRANSITION FOLLOW-UP

The council has dedicated significant time since July to further develop the ministry team concept recommended in the Transition Team's report. The discussion has included the scope of each team, how teams will intersect with each other and the congregational council, etc. The next phase will be to seek input from Pastor Chris. We expect that the ministry teams will encompass all areas of Trinity's ministry. The teams will include both lay and staff members, and will provide more active lay participation in shaping the approach used in these areas. The ministry teams will be

advisory to the congregational council and our staff.

TRAVEL TO TANZANIA

In October, Tom and Jeneal Olsen and my husband, Steve Hopkins, and I visited Tanzania with a group organized by the Saint Paul Area Synod. We were frequently reminded of the incredible prayer support Trinity has received throughout our transition period, including prayers from the people of Mwatasi, the Iringa Diocese, the synod office, and pastors and congregations throughout our area. It is one of my personal goals and I hope one of our congregation's goals to regularly remember these partners in prayer, as well.

It is estimated that over a hundred members of the Trinity community have traveled to Iringa, some multiple times. The four of us now have a much deeper understanding of your experiences, the relationships with our partners, and the work that awaits us.

As many of you are aware, Trinity has had relationships primarily in two areas in the Iringa Diocese. The first is with our partner congregation in Mwatasi (with numerous preaching points in neighboring villages). The second is with Bomalang'ombe Secondary School (known as "Boma").

It is important for you to know that your support of the work in Mwatasi has been critical to the wellbeing of the entire extended community there. This is a desperately poor community with many needs, but enormous heart, hospitality, and hope. Pastor Chaula and his congregation are eager to refresh the partnership we have had with Mwatasi over the years.

In addition, your support of the Bomalang'ombe Secondary School with new buildings, needed equipment, and faithful scholarship support has been critical to the lives of many. Students at Boma have no other option for education. Their ability to receive secondary education directly affects not only their future, but the very lives of their family and the community. There remain many opportunities to partner with Boma and the Iringa Diocese (which runs the school) to help them complete unfinished building projects and provide scholarship support.

Trinity's Outreach Missions Board is hoping to organize a trip to Iringa in the fall of 2017. Trinity has renewed its working relationship with Bega Kwa Bega ("Shoulder to Shoulder"), the program within the Saint Paul Area Synod that assists in coordinating activities in Iringa. Please contact Michele Hermansen at michele2255@gmail.com with questions or to let her know your possible interest in joining the next trip to Iringa. To explore your participation in Trinity's other outreach mission efforts, contact Renae Oswald-Anderson at stillroa@gmail.com.

INVITATION

We recognize that some former members of the Trinity community have drifted away or left to find a new church home during this transition period. We hope you will extend an invitation to those without a church home to take a new look at Trinity. We pray for healing and reconciliation for all of our community. All are welcome!

GRATITUDE

The most important thing we have to say is this: Thank you! Thank you to all our congregation and staff for your steadfast commitment and support of all of Trinity's ministry and mission. Your contributions of time, talent, and resources have allowed Trinity to continue responding to God's call to worship and service through significant changes and challenges.

In this season of Advent, we look forward to celebrating Jesus' birth, with the knowledge that God is with us and that there are important things ahead for us.

Thank you for being part of Trinity!

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Coffee With Council Members

*Second Sunday of the Month
December 11
10-10:30 a.m. (between services)
Front Meeting Room in the Church Office*
Do you have questions or comments you would like to share with a congregational council member? Monthly coffee conversations are available between services in the Church Office. You are always welcome to contact any council member, but we are making it a little easier for folks to share conversation and concerns. Grab some coffee and stop by between services! We'll be in the meeting room in the very front of the Church Office.

Serve on a team at Trinity!

As you reflect on the year coming to a close and look to the year ahead, are you looking for opportunities to share your skills in your community? Participating on a team at Trinity is a great way to serve, connect and grow in your faith! We are currently looking for people to serve on our Stewardship Team, Human Resource Advisory Team and Outreach Missions Board. For convenience, there is one application. Download the form at www.trinitylc.org > then select NEWS > then Team Application. You can also pick up a copy in the Church Office.

Trinity Financial Update

October Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2017

	This Year	Last Year	Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	165,551	174,324	1,300,000	13%
Other Income	67,089	126,834	445,360	15%
Total Income	\$ 232,640	\$ 301,158	\$ 1,745,360	
less: Expenses	315,621	380,253	1,745,360	18%
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (82,980)	\$ (79,095)	\$ -	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,050,204	3,174,742
Increase (Decrease)	(20,947)	(20,691)
Long-Term Debt - End of October	\$ 3,029,257	\$ 3,154,050

GIVE LIKE A 5th GRADER

By Spike Carlsen, Stewardship Team

Garrison Kiellor, Paul Bunyan, Bob Dylan—all proof that Minnesotans love a good story. We like ‘em because they let us view the world through someone else’s eyes for a few minutes. And, if we’re lucky, that glimpse can transport, even transform, us for hours, days, even a lifetime.

I heard a couple of stories lately that I feel are worth retelling.

I encountered story #1 while preparing to talk to the “Body of Christ”—a group of sixty 5th and 6th grade students that meet every Wednesday at Trinity. For part of each year the group focuses on stewardship. Last year, inspired by a volunteer who’d worked in Haiti, this group of 10 and 11 year olds spontaneously decided they wanted to raise \$300 for a scholarship to send a Haitian kid to kindergarten. They also decided they wanted to count up their donations “live” after the second week to see how much they’d raised. “When they started counting, there was something in the air; there was this sense of connecting with something bigger than themselves,” explained group leader Julie Jolivet. But, they missed the mark by a long shot. They didn’t collect \$300 for one scholarship; they raised \$1,500 for five.” It was like being at a football game and your team

just scored the winning touchdown,” Julie explained. “They did it together. They learned giving feels good.”

I heard Story #2 while attending a meeting where four Trinity members just back from Tanzania were discussing their trip. One story that rose to the surface had to do with a church service they attended in Kidimali. Per tradition, each person had brought their offering to the front of the church and placed it on the altar. Some people gave “T-Shillings,” some rice; everyone gave something. At the end of the procession, an 80 year old woman shuffled to the front of the church carefully cradling her offering—a single egg. To us, a single egg might not seem like much, but to her it very well might have been the choice between having, and not having, Sunday breakfast.

These may seem like small stories, but they are powerful stories. The first shows that even the youngest can understand the joy of giving and the impact it has on other people’s lives. The second tells us that giving comes in all forms and amounts. Together they show that giving knows no age or geographic boundaries.

Pledge time is upon us—and there are three things we can do to make it a success:

1. Turn in your pledge card for 2017. The timing couldn’t be better. We



at Trinity—with a new pastor, a new year and exciting new possibilities—have an opportunity to kick off 2017 on firm footing with a confident staff and confident budget. The pledge goal this year is \$1.3 million. We may not quintuple our goal like those 5th and 6th graders, but wouldn’t it be sweet to exceed it? Together we can all make a real difference.

2. Fulfill your 2016 pledge. The best predictor for future giving is past giving. Let’s show the council we at Trinity honor our pledges.
3. If you’re an automated giver, take a few minutes to reconsider—and hopefully increase—the weekly withdrawal amount you have on file. Do nothing and the amount will remain the same; bump that number up a little, and little miracles can start happening.

So consider giving like a fifth grader. Consider giving like a woman with only a single egg in the cage. But give.



Come and experience God's presence through the practice of yoga. New session begins in January!

Seated in the Presence
Increases range of motion, improves balance using chair for a prop
Thursdays
January 5 - February 23
9-10 a.m.
\$64/8 weeks

Yogadevotion Flow
Combination of standing, seated, and floor yoga poses
Thursdays
January 5 - February 23
10-11 a.m.
\$64/8 weeks

Note new day and times!

For women and men of all skill levels and abilities. Beginners welcome, no experience needed! Register and pay online at www.trinitylc.org > then select REGISTER > then select Yogadevotion.

Led by a trained yoga instructor, YogaDevotion is a practice of breath, prayer, and movement designed to encourage healthy living and a peaceful presence. For more information, contact Parish Nurse Sue Peterson at speterson@trinitylc.org or 651-439-7400, ext. 335.

All classes in the Garden Room.



An Evening of Holiday Peace with Therapeutic Harpist Tami Briggs

Tuesday, December 6, 7 p.m.
Social Hour with Refreshments, 6-7 p.m.; this event is FREE
Salem Lutheran Church
14940 62nd St. N in Stillwater
Sponsored by the St. Croix Valley Parish Nurse Program

During the holiday season, music often speaks to our hearts helping to relax us and setting the tone for a peaceful holiday season. Join Tami as she shares powerful stories and Christmas readings and plays beautiful harp holiday music. We will explore how music can be a tool to care for yourself, especially during the holidays. Questions? Please contact our Parish Nurse, Sue Peterson at speterson@trinitylc.org or 651-439-7400, ext. 335.

Celebrating Seniors
Worship & Christmas Luncheon



Wednesday **December 7** at **11 a.m.**

Program: Join us for worship in the Sanctuary, a festive luncheon in the Garden Room featuring Christmas songs and sing-alongs with our very own Zanny Johnson & Phil Kadidlo.

UPDATE

by Michele Hermansen, Outreach Missions Board

Secondary School Scholarships Pay It Forward



Mwatasi students currently enrolled at the Bomalang'ombe Secondary School receiving scholarships from Trinity, shown with Tom and Jeneal Olsen, Gail Olson and Steve Hopkins.

Secondary School Scholarships (high school) have been an important part of our Tanzania relationships for well over a decade. Many young people in Tanzania have no opportunity to continue their education beyond primary school without a scholarship to a private high school like those sponsored by the ELCT (Evangelical Lutheran Church Tanzania). These are the high schools such as Bomalang'ombe, Pommern, Image and others in the Iringa Diocese.

When our teams were first in Mwatasi in 2005 for the water project in the village, we met a wonderful young man named Zachariah Kissavah who at that time was attending Secondary School as one of Trinity's scholarship recipients.

Zach has now graduated from the University of Iringa (formerly Tumaini). He has been off working in Dar and is now back in Iringa in his dream job, as Project Director of Compassion Center. Here is what Zach wrote about the role scholarships have played in his life:

"The first day I received news of a scholarship I promised to God that he could let me one day work for others in need. My job has let me send my sister's sons and daughter to college and secondary school. The one in college has completed his studies and the one in secondary school is in form two. She has been a number one student since primary school! Her dream is to become a Doctor. I have been working hard to let her walk on her dreams. She sings in the choir and loves Jesus. All these could not be the way I explain here without Trinity's scholarship.

Not only that, since I started working, I started saving money to buy farms for trees. I can now confirm that I have 120 acres of trees. I want to do this project to inspire others and let them see the importance of school and being helped by others. This trees project will help a lot my family and other people I will need to support in my life. I really don't know when will God pick me from this world but I am sure the holy spirit has put me to this."

Scholarships are administered on our behalf by Bega Kwa Bega, our "boots on the ground" arms of the St. Paul Area Synod in Iringa. Students are chosen by the Tanzanian congregations based on financial need. We have year-round U.S. volunteers who work shoulder-to-shoulder with dedicated Tanzania staff to manage the sound process which includes financial audits, tracking students from all congregations, payment of fees to all schools, and monitoring passage of government-mandated tests.

Won't you help our Mwatasi students Pay It Forward with a good education? **Secondary School Scholarships (our high school equivalent) cost just \$400 per year. Full or partial scholarships are wonderful gifts from individuals, families or groups.** To make a scholarship gift, make your check out to Trinity, with "Tanzania Scholarship" in the memo line. Scholarship contributions are accepted year-round. In addition, our students welcome letters of encouragement from you! Your letters may be left in the church office, with designation attached to the outside of the envelope to the Tanzania Action Team of the Outreach Mission Board. We'll get them sent for you to our students and share responses.

There are so many ways every day that our Trinity family touches lives here in the Valley, in Tanzania and all over the globe. Thank you for your compassion and generosity!

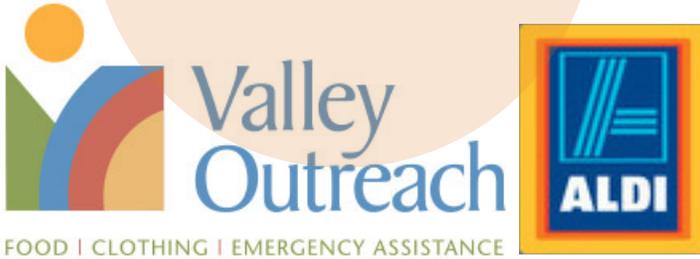


Zachariah Kissavah, his mother and sister

CELEBRATE THE TRADITION

Lutefisk & MEATBALL DINNER

\$4,300 in proceeds from last year's Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner was used to help buy 550 \$10 gift cards to Aldi's to help families buy a Thanksgiving turkey. Valley Outreach distributed a gift card to each family that visited the food shelf in November.

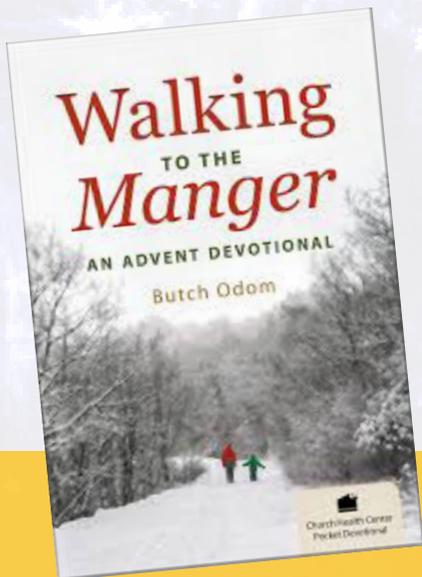


Above: Trinity's knitting ministry provided hats for Ethiopian refugees making a new home here in the Twin Cities.



Left and below: Trinity member Pete Erickson who works at Mount Olivet Lutheran in Plymouth brought Mount Olivet's sister congregation delegation from Dar to Trinity to see our wonderful space and to meet some of our members who have been to Tanzania, including Marlene Harty, Fred Anderson and Spike Carlsen. Please note the two gentlemen in the photo at left know Dr. Mark Jacobson—a true local/global connection!





“Walking to the Manger” Advent Devotional

In conjunction with the “Walking to the Manger” theme for Advent, the Care Team will be providing a daily devotional booklet by Butch Odom titled “Walking to the Manger.” It is a collection of devotionals inviting you to make walking, reflecting and prayer a part of your daily Advent practice. Just as Mary and Joseph traveled the long journey to Bethlehem, the Christian season of Advent is a journey in which the traveling is as full of lessons as the destination. As such, the season is a journey of faith.

Every week begins with a psalm and the opportunity to set a “movement goal,” or a reasonable physical challenge for yourself. Each day in Advent also offers a passage of Scripture along with a reflection and prayer.

As you walk toward the Christ-child through the words of the prophets and the apostles, we pray that you may become healthier in body and spirit. May you be blessed while walking to the manger.

This booklet is available by contacting Sue Peterson, the Parish Nurse at speterson@trinitylc.org or 651-439-7400 ext. 335.

Advent—Christmas 2016

Walking to the Manger

December 4

Advent 2—Preparing the Way

Worship at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Peter Harrits preaching

Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Bega Kwa Bega, a joint ministry between communities of faith of the Iringa Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church Tanzania and the ELCA Saint Paul Area Synod

Worship Text: Joel 2:12-13, 28-29 (God’s Promised Spirit)

December 11

Advent 3—The Hopes and Fears of All the Years

Worship at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Advent Carols Services

Led by choirs and instruments at 9 a.m. worship service, worship band at 10:30 a.m. worship service

Worship Text: Isaiah 61:1-2 (Good News to the Oppressed)

December 18

Advent 4—Advent Worship Event: Unlikely People, Extraordinary Choices

—A morning of food, worship and fellowship

Breakfast for ALL from 8:30-10 a.m.

Garden Room

Sponsored by our Children, Youth & Families

Free-will offering

One service only at 10 a.m.

Worship with children’s choir, children’s ministry performance of the Christmas story, organ, band, communion as well as a message by Pastor Chris on the unlikely people we meet and extraordinary choices we have along the way.

Worship Text: Luke 2:1-21 (Birth of Jesus)

After worship, join family and friends for a time of fellowship, cookies, pictures and Christmas cheer.

See page 13 for details on our Special Sock Offering to be collected this day!

At the Manger Christmas Eve

10-11 a.m.

Live nativity on Trinity Lawn (corner of 3rd & Myrtle Streets)
See and touch the animals; visit the shepherds, angels and wise men; ask Mary & Joseph about their baby; sing Christmas songs and hear the story of Jesus' birth (about 10:20 a.m.).

Christmas Eve is a time to gather for worship with friends and family. We invite everyone to be a part of our family; spend Christmas Eve with us at one or more of our five worship services. Each service will have special musical offerings, carols and candlelight. This year we have added an 11 a.m. service just for children and their families.

11 a.m.

Worship for children and their families (45 minutes in length)

3 p.m.

Festive worship with Trinity Choir, organ & instruments

4 p.m.

Festive worship with Trinity Choir, organ & instruments

5 p.m.

Festive worship with vocal ensemble, organ & instruments

9 p.m.

Festive worship with Trinity All-Star Choir, organ, instruments & Holy Communion

Christmas Day

10 a.m. (one service only)

Worship with Holy Communion

Worship Text: John 1:1-14

New Years Day

10 a.m. (one service only)

Worship with Holy Communion

In the New Year

January 8, 2017—Jesus' Baptism

9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship



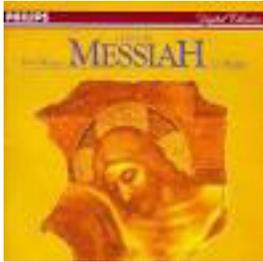
Music and the Trinity Library

by Norma Wilson, Library Volunteer

“And David and all Israel were celebrating before God with all their might, with song and lyres and harps and tambourines and cymbals and trumpets.” (1 Chronicles 13:7-8)



Music is a significant in worshipping and praising God. In God's story we see examples of singing such as the Israelites leaving Egypt, David in the Psalms with praise and prayer, and the wondrous songs of angels. Trinity musicians and singers believe that “music is an expression of our faith, both a gift from God and an offering to God.” Our Directors of Music Ministries, our choir directors, our youth and adult choir members are a blessing to our worship.



CD's from a talented musician who is reducing her personal collection. These CD's can be found in the display on a back wall in our library. The materials are labeled: Title CD Classical with the musician's first initial, i.e. *Handel's Messiah CD Classical H*. This display rack also includes Instrumental, Gospel, Inspirational, Praise & Worship, Children's, Sacred, and Pop Rock Music.

DVD's in the Trinity Library are located on the east wall. Music resources are labeled, for example: *Gospel Bible Songs DVD Music*, or *Preschool Songs DVD Music*.

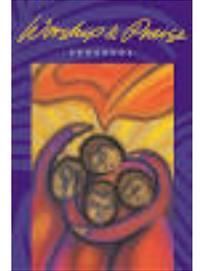


This section also includes DVD's such as *Stretch and Pray: A Daily Discipline for Physical and Spiritual Wellness*, *Yoga for Beginners*, *Janette Oke's book Love's Enduring Promise DVD OKE*, and a multitude of children's resources such as *Veggie Tales Minnesota Cuke* and the *Search for Noah's Umbrella DVD VE*.

Music resources are also found in books for both adults and children. Laura Sobeich wrote of her son Zach's life and

his music in her biography *Fly a Little Higher: How God Answered a Small Prayer in A Big Way* 921 SOBE. *Liturgy and Hymns* 230.4

LUTH, and *Stories Behind the World's Greatest Hymns* 783.9 will provide our background to our worship. Hymnals and hymns are located in the 264 section with prayers, sacraments and music. Of course, *Jesus Loves Me* EB in the children's area is perfect to read and sing with a child!



The Trinity Library is open whenever the church is open. Please stop in and browse; you will be enriched by the resources provided. We are reminded in Colossians 3:16 “*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*”

The Trinity Library has a treasure of music related resources in CD's, DVD's, and books. Our congregation is fortunate to have recently received a collection of classical music



AT RIGHT: We've made some changes to our Heritage Chapel to allow for flexibility in using the space for choir rehearsal, weddings, worship, funerals and more. (The pews that were removed from the Chapel are in storage at Trinity.) We look forward to the expanded use of this special space.



Continues in December...

Adult Lifelong Learning:
The Story of the Bible with Professor Luke Timothy Johnson

Sundays at 10:30 a.m. in the Living Room
What's the story behind the Bible? How did it evolve? Join us as we learn from Professor Luke Timothy Johnson followed by stimulating discussion led by Trinity lay leaders. In December we'll begin the study of all the different translations. Bring your questions; all levels of learners are most welcome to join us! This month we'll meet on December 4 and 11. For more information contact Kristie Anderson at jkjsa@hotmail.com.

Special Sock Offering

Collected December 18

Most of us take socks for granted as we “walk to the manger” and go about our everyday lives. But this isn’t true for everyone. Heidi White, Trinity’s Missions Outreach Board Leader of “local outreach,” informs us there are adults and children in the St. Croix Valley who need basics — including socks. So the children of Trinity invite everyone who is able to bring a new, unopened package of socks (any size/color) to the special 10 a.m. Advent Event for All Ages presented at the December 18 Worship Service. Heidi will share all the socks collected with Valley Outreach Closet where they will be distributed. Thank you in advance!



During their communion instruction, this group of students and parents learned to bake communion bread with Susan Carr and Wendy Klemz as their guides (November 13, 2016).

RETIRED MEN



Retired Men's Group &
Active Women Events (AWE)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please join us!



Retired Men's Group invites you to **The Secret of Christmas with the Croix Chordsmen Chorus**

Saturday, December 3 at 2 p.m.

Worship Center at Trinity, \$8

Always a favorite at Christmas time, please join the Retired Men's Group in attending *The Secret of Christmas* presented by the popular Croix Chordsmen Chorus—right here at Trinity. A wonderful way to spend the afternoon. Please RSVP to Roger Bosmoe at 651-439-9423.

Active Women's Events (AWE) invites you to **lunch and tour of Martin Luther Art and the Reformation**

Wednesday, January 4 at Noon

Minneapolis Institute of Art, \$15

Trinity member Sheila Marie Untiedt will be docent for this private tour of the very popular Martin Luther Art and the Reformation exhibit at the MIA. Sign up now in the Commons. Questions? Contact Debe Erickson at 612-269-2829.

Martin Luther: Art and the Reformation at Minneapolis Institute of Art Friday, January 6, 2017



Join the Retired Men's Group and AWE for a private, docent-led tour of this very special exhibit. **Sign up now in the Commons or Church Office.**

Tour at 1:30 p.m.
Meet at Trinity at
12:15 p.m. to car pool
Cost: \$10
Space is limited.

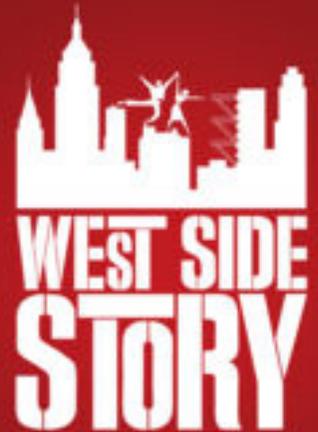
Event questions?
Contact John Hodler at
johnhodler@gmail.com
or 651-343-4638; or Joan
Fogelberg at joan@123m.
com or 715-755-2487.

**COMING THIS
SPRING!**

West Side Story at Ordway Music Theater Thursday, April 13, 2017

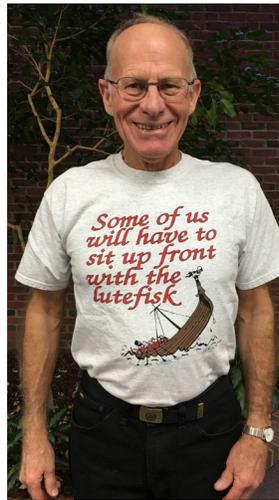
SIGN UP NOW!

Join AWE at the Ordway for this landmark Broadway musical that is one of the theater's finest accomplishments. **Sign up now in the Commons or Church Office.**



Show at 7:30 p.m.
Car pool from
Trinity details will be
determined
Cost: \$45
(Discounted rate.)

Event questions?
Contact Joan Fogelberg
at joan@123m.com or
715-755-2487.



Can you believe this many people WAIT IN LINE for lutefisk?



CELEBRATE THE TRADITION
Lutefisk
 MEATBALL DINNER



Henry Lawrence – age 13 – CONFIRMATION STUDENT -- with his 5th platter of lutefisk, which he thought was a record until that same table ordered a 6th platter!

A huge **THANK YOU!**

To everyone who helped make the Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner on November 3 a success. Approximately 738 people enjoyed this wonderful Scandinavian meal and, whatever your part, YOU made it possible to carry on this Trinity tradition. The proceeds from the dinner will be used to help people in need and we are so grateful for your willingness to join together in this effort.

Gud velsigne deg (God bless you—Norwegian) and Gud välsigne dig (God bless you—Swedish)!

Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner Co-chairs,
Jeannie Wendorf, Kelly Klein, Joannie Simonson

CORRECTION: In the meatball article in the November 2016 Trinity Today, I stated the meatball rollers (2015) rolled 30 pans with 66 meatballs each; however, Tom Evensen, one of the meatball bakers, told me it was actually 72 pans of meatballs for a total of 4,752 meatballs—that's A LOT more meatballs than I gave them credit for! – Jeannie Wendorf



Thank you!

A special thank you to all who embroidered dish towels that were sold at the Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner. The sale brought in an all-time high of \$1,227 which will go to the Sunshine Fund. In appreciation!
 – Norma Swanson



Raising a meatball in memory of Wilma Edhlund who died in September. Wilma spent many years and countless hours helping to coordinate the Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner.

Christmas Concerts at Trinity

There are a plethora of concerts that you are invited to enjoy at Trinity this Christmas season. We are blessed to have these events right here — right at Trinity. Bring your family and friends; there is convenient parking and wonderful restaurants to round out the evening.

Saturday, December 3, 2 p.m.
The Croix Chordsmen Chorus proudly presents The Secret of Christmas
 Tickets: \$10 General Admission, Children 12 and under FREE
www.eventbrite.com
 or call Ted at (651) 308-5775

Saturday, December 10, 7:30 p.m.
Come and join Stillwater's own Peter Mayer in a solo concert
 Tickets: \$20 General Admission
www.brownpapertickets.org
 or (800) 838-3006
 Peter will be performing old favorites as well as a few news songs.

Friday, December 16, 7:30 p.m.
Christmas on Copper Street with the Copper Street Brass & Trinity Choir
 Tickets: \$20 Advance; \$25 at the Door
 Groups of 10 or more, call for \$10 rate
Sales@copperstreetbrass.org
 (612) 772-3667

Saturday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.
Christmas with Cantus
 Tickets: Buy at the door or in advance at www.cantussings.org
 or call (612) 435-0055
 With holiday favorites, Biebl's beloved "Ave Maria" and music from across five centuries, Cantus explores the meaning behind traditions and the wonder anew in those experiencing it for the first time.

Saturday, December 31, 6 p.m.
Sing In the New Year with Jack Swanson & Clark Weyrauch
 Singing your favorite holiday classics, show tunes and standards!
 Tickets: \$10 for students; \$20 for adults
 Cash or check at the door
SingInTheNewYear@gmail.com

Christmas on Copper Street



Christmas on Copper Street
Copper Street Brass & Trinity Choir
Friday, December 16, 7:30 pm
 This is a concert for the entire family! Familiar carols, a sing-along and the beyond ordinary playing of the Copper Street Brass.
 See ticket information at right.



Sing in the New Year

Please join us for a special concert as

Jack Swanson & Clark Weyrauch

sing your favorite holiday classics, show tunes and standards accompanied by a festive group of young talent.

New Year's Eve at 6 p.m.
 Trinity Lutheran Church
 115 4th St. N in Stillwater

\$10 for students
\$20 for adults
 Cash or check at the door
SingInTheNewYear@gmail.com



Hospitality

What joy to welcome a new baby into the world! Imagine how the shepherds and magi must have felt.

What joy to welcome people to worship on Sunday mornings! Imagine how new people and old friends appreciate your warm greetings.

What joy to welcome Pastor Chris a few weeks ago! I think that we all felt called, gathered, enlightened, and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Warm thanks for stewarding your time on Sunday morning to provide hospitality with joy and thanksgiving!

Check your calendar and let me know when you can usher, greet, or serve coffee. It is a joyful opportunity.

Ann Wolff

Hospitality Coordinator
651-260-3855 (cell)
wolff701@msn.com

If you would like to serve Communion at 9 a.m. worship, contact Sylvia McCallister (sylviamccormack@hotmail.com or 651-275-3600). If you would like to serve Communion at 10:30 a.m. worship, raise your hand when the pastor asks for volunteers.

Men's "Over 30" Basketball

Thursdays, 7:30-9 p.m., Trinity Gym

Now through April

Get your game on with a friendly game of hoops.

Questions? Contact Monty

Lysne at mlylsne@trinitylc.org or 651-439-7400, ext. 324.



You are invited to an...
Advent PAUSE
Peace And Understanding —
a Season to Embrace

The season of Advent is the beginning of the story that leads to Jesus. It is a story that transforms lives, and gives purpose, and hope.

Created for women of all ages: for friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, and more! Come join other women at a small, relaxing gathering. A variety of dates and locations are offered to fit your schedule. Gather with a warm beverage in hand, pause, and reflect on the wonder of the season.

Advent P.A.U.S.E. gatherings are December 4-10.

Sign-up at church in the Commons or online at www.trinitylc.org then select > CONNECT then > Groups & Teams then > Women (scroll to bottom).

Questions? For more information, contact Karen Gieseke at kgieseke@live.com or 651-492-6610.

A wonderful opportunity to meet new women or gather with those you already know. Give yourself a gift of time to pause!

BAPTISMS

- Margaret Marie Martin, daughter of David & Chandra Martin
- Corbett Lucille Walling, daughter of Donald & Abby Walling
- Paisley Jo Ehlenz, daughter of Anthony & Heidi Ehlenz

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To Jennifer and Jake Allison on the death of their father.
- To the family and friends of Lloyd Goble.
- To the family and friends of Michael Wagner.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

October 30 9 a.m. 298 10:30 a.m. 195	November 20 9 a.m. 257 10:30 a.m. 232
November 6 9 a.m. 326 10:30 a.m. 151	November 27 9 a.m. 265 10:30 a.m. 202
November 13 9 a.m. 237 10:30 a.m. 216 2 p.m. Veteran's Service..... 103	

From the Kitchen

By Linda Flood,
Food Service Manager

Chocolate Espresso Cookies

Crispy and addictive, not really a bedtime snack though. And not for children!

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup flour	3 Tbsp margarine, at room temp
½ cup cocoa (dark is best)	½ cup + 2 Tbsp sugar
½ tsp soda	½ cup brown sugar
½ tsp salt	1 ½ tsp instant espresso powder
3 Tbsp butter, at room temp	1 large egg white
	1 tsp vanilla

DIRECTIONS:

Mix/sift first four ingredients. Beat butter/margarine until creamy. Mix in sugars, espresso and vanilla until blended, then mix in egg white. Add dry ingredients and mix until combined. Knead until smooth. Form into a log 2 in. x 14 in. (use parchment paper to make this easier). Refrigerate for one hour, then cut into ¼ in. thick slices. Bake at 350° for about 14 minutes.

NOTE:

You can substitute finely ground coffee beans for the instant espresso powder.

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WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday Worship
9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Watch Worship on Valley Access
Channel 18

Wednesdays: 1 p.m., 7 p.m.

Thursdays: 1 a.m., 7 a.m.

Fridays: 4 p.m., 10 p.m.

Saturdays: 9 a.m.

Sundays: 11 a.m.

TRINITY TODAY

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CALENDAR DECEMBER 1-31, 2016

Thursday, December 1

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:30 a.m. Seated in the Presence Chair Yoga: Garden Room
- 2 p.m. Healing Hearts Group: Room 108B
- 7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 30" Basketball: Gym

Friday, December 2

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, December 3

- 8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall
- 2 p.m. Croix Chordsmen Christmas Concert: Worship Center

Sunday, December 4-Advent 2

- 9 a.m. Sunday School (4 yrs.-Grade 2): Garden Room
- 9 a.m. Worship, Communion, Nursery: Worship Center
- 10:30 a.m. Worship, Communion, Nursery: Worship Center
- 10:30 a.m. Adult Ed Story of the Bible: Living Room

Monday, December 5

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 8:45 a.m. Bridge for Trinity: Garden Room
- 1:30 p.m. Commodity Food Distribution: Valley Outreach
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells: Heritage Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, December 6

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
- 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
- 4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
- 6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion Flow: Garden Room

Wednesday, December 7

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms: Lower Level
- 11 a.m. Celebrating Seniors Worship & Christmas Luncheon: Heritage Chapel, Garden Room
- 5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Room
- 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Room
- 6:15 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-6): Lower Level
- 6:15 p.m. Confirmation: Worship Center
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 7:30 p.m. The River (Gr. 9-12): Youth Center

Thursday, December 8

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:30 a.m. Seated in the Presence Chair Yoga: Garden Room
- 1 p.m. Martha Circle: Living Room
- 1:30 p.m. Dorcas Circle: Members' Homes
- 7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 30" Basketball: Gym

Friday, December 9

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, December 10

- 8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Peter Mayer Concert: Worship Center

Sunday, December 11-Advent 3

- 9 a.m. Sunday School (4 yrs.-Grade 2): Garden Room
- 9 a.m. Lessons & Carols Worship, Communion, Nursery: Worship Center
- 10:30 a.m. Lessons & Carols Worship, Communion, Nursery: Worship Center

- 10:30 a.m. Adult Ed Story of the Bible: Living Room
- Noon Mexico Missionaries & Adult Leaders Meeting: Garden Room
- 7 p.m. Women's Book Group: Kowalski's

Monday, December 12

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 1 p.m. Rebekah Circle: Library
- 4 p.m. Congregational Council Meeting: Office Conference Room
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells: Heritage Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, December 13

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
- 9:15 a.m. Leah Circle: Narthex
- 10 a.m. Good Samaritan Sr. Communion
- 10:45 a.m. Greeley Sr. Communion
- 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
- 4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
- 6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion Flow: Garden Room

Wednesday, December 14

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:30 a.m. Boutwell's Landing Senior Communion
- 1 p.m. Oakridge Apts. Senior Communion
- 5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Room
- 5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Room
- 6:15 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-6): Lower Level
- 6:15 p.m. Confirmation: Worship Center
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 7:30 p.m. The River (Gr. 9-12): Youth Center

Thursday, December 15

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:30 a.m. Seated in the Presence Chair Yoga: Garden Room
- 7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 30" Basketball: Gym

Friday, December 16

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
- 7:30 p.m. Copper Street Brass & Trinity Choir Concert: Worship Center

Saturday, December 17

- 8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Cantus Concert: Worship Center

Sunday, December 18-Advent 4, NOTE: Worship time change (one service only at 10 a.m.)

- 8:30 a.m. Christmas Breakfast Sponsored by Children, Youth & Families: Garden Room
- 10 a.m. Advent Worship Event: Worship Center

Monday, December 19

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 6 p.m. Jubilate Bells: Heritage Chapel
- 6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
- 7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tuesday, December 20

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
- 8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
- 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
- 4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
- 6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion Flow: Garden Room

Wednesday, December 21-No Wednesday Learning or Confirmation

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms: Lower Level
- 10:15 a.m. Linden Sr. Communion
- 1 p.m. Marion Circle: Members' Homes
- 5 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
- 6 p.m. The ChRiver (Christmas River) (Gr. 9-12): Youth Center
- 7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Thursday, December 22

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 9:30 a.m. Seated in the Presence Chair Yoga: Garden Room
- 10 a.m. Knitting Ministry: Narthex
- 7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 30" Basketball: Gym

Friday, December 23

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, December 24-Christmas Eve

- 8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall
- 10 a.m. Live Nativity: Trinity Lawn (corner of 3rd St. & Myrtle St.)
- 11 a.m. Worship for Children & Their Families: Worship Center
- 3 p.m. Festive Worship with Trinity Choir, Organ & Instruments: Worship Center
- 4 p.m. Festive Worship with Trinity Choir, Organ & Instruments: Worship Center
- 5 p.m. Festive Worship with Vocal Ensemble, Organ & Instruments: Worship Center
- 9 p.m. Festive Worship & Communion with Trinity Choir, Organ & Instruments: Worship Center

Sunday, December 25-Christmas Day (No Sunday School), NOTE: Worship time change (one service only at 10 a.m.)

- 10 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

Monday, December 26-Staff Holiday Building/Office Closed

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

Tuesday, December 27-No Women's Bible Study

- 7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
- 9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
- 1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
- 4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
- 6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library

Wednesday, December 28-No Children's Choir, Wednesday Learning, Confirmation or River, No Trinity Choir

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 10:30 a.m. Oak Park Sr. Living Communion
- 11:30 a.m. Supporting Women As Professionals (SWAP): Off-site

Thursday, December 29

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 30" Basketball: Gym

Friday, December 30

- 7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Saturday, December 31

- 8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
- 8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall
- 6 p.m. Sing in the New Year Concert: Worship Center

Sunday, January 1-New Years Day (No Sunday School), NOTE: Worship time change (one service only at 10 a.m.)

- 10 a.m. Worship, Communion: Worship Center

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 Stillwater, MN
 55082-0339



Trinity's Christmas Garden & Local Benevolences Gift Opportunities

Form and payment must be turned in by **Sunday, December 18, 2016**



In the spirit of honoring/memorializing loved ones this Christmas, we welcome donations toward a Christmas Garden. However, we would love to have the majority of the honors/memorials directed toward Local Benevolences such as St. Croix Chaplaincy, Valley Outreach Emergency Fund and Food Shelf. Donor names will be available at Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services and in the January issue of *Trinity Today*. Please fill out the form below and either bring it to the Church Office, mail it, or place it in the offering plate.

Local Benevolences \$ _____

Christmas Garden (suggested donation \$15) \$ _____

In memory of _____ In honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone # (_____) _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____