

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Volume 13, Issue 12

December 2017

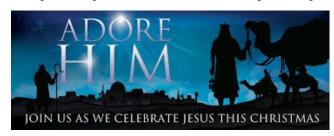
CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

OTHER WHICH CO

140 N. 7TH AVE. WEST BEND, WI 53095 www.trinitywestbend.com

NO WORSHIP SERVICES SATURDAY PM (12/23) OR SUNDAY AM (12/24)



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

December 24th

3:00 p.m. The Children and Family Service

It is a time that focuses on the children and their need to hear the Christmas message, but also speaks to the child within all of us.

5:00 p.m. The Created to Praise Christmas Service

It has contemporary elements that our congregation has grown to love and will include communion as part of the worship.

7:00 and 9:00 p.m. The Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Come and share in a traditional service of communion and candlelight. The services conclude with the light from the Christ Candle moving out through the congregation as each individual candle is lit...until the entire church glows with the Light of Christ.

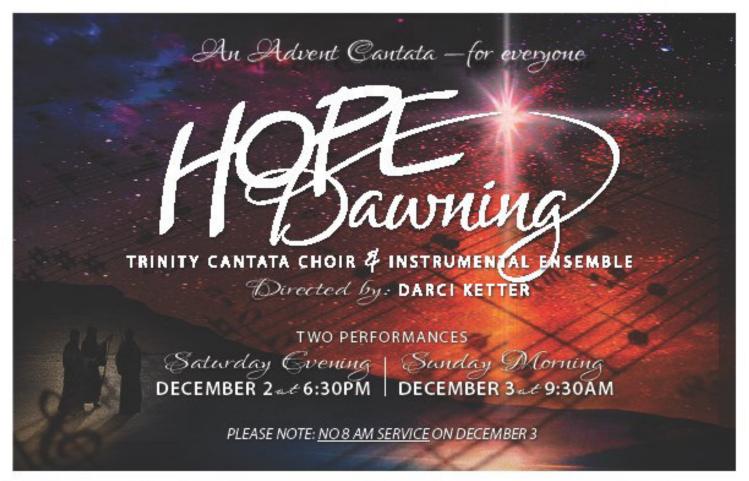
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CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

December 25th

9:30 a.m. The Service of Carols and Communion

In the quiet of Christmas morning, we gather to sing and hear the word, and to share in the Sacrament, remembering that the one who came as a babe in Bethlehem, brought us the promise of new and everlasting life.



YOU ARE INVITED TO

Trinity Children's Ministry Christmas Program

Program Rehearsals

3K, 4K, Kindergarten Practice December 10th 10:45 -11:00 am

December 10th 10:45 -11:00 am

Grades 1-6 PracticeDecember 9 **AND** December 16 9:30 am -12 pm

Volunteers Needed: http://signup.com/go/RkgWLfD

Christmas Program Times and Dates

December 16th, 6:30 pm (part of the worship service)- 3K, 4K, Kindergarten Program

December 17th, 4:00pm (Children arrive by 3:30) - Grades 1-6 Program





Welcome the New Year with Us
December 30 at 6:30 pm
December 31st at 8:00 & 9:30 am
(NO Children's Ministry)

On December 30th and 31st our worship services will focus on preparing for the New Year. There will be times for guided meditation reflecting on the year past and for looking forward with expectation to the year to come. The focus of the worship will be to give each person time to prepare themselves for the gift they are about to receive. This service has become meaningful for many people and we hope you can join us.

Pastor's Letter/Mitten Tree, Giving Tree and Poinsettias

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Please forgive me in advance because this pastors letter is dealing with my own issues. However, I'm betting that many of you struggle with the same issues.



I went into a store the day after Halloween, and there, on a big sign. was "55 days till Christmas". I wanted to scream. My life has been kind of full lately. There are a lot of things going on at home and work - and sometimes keeping up seems to drain me. In my wider family, some of the people I love are struggling through some pretty difficult times. Their needs are constantly on my mind and in my prayers. Also, there are so many more in my wider Christian family that I carry around in my heart as well. Every day the news of the world draws my attention and my thoughts and my prayers. To be honest, put it all together and there is a lot going on inside.

And then there was this sign. Another thing to worry about! 55 days until Christmas. I'd better start getting it together. Another thing to carry around. Even the peace of Christmas turns into another thing to fill up my mind and heart.

The sign has been counting down each time I go into the store. But now it's o.k. That sign made me stop and think. Christ comes into this world, into this craziness we call life to remind us that God is here. God is here to help lift those burdens that threaten to overwhelm. God comes to bring life when we need it most. The Gospel of John tells of Christ's coming with this powerful image:

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it".

Christ has come!! We celebrate his coming each year. We know that Jesus never leaves us and so that light is always ours. The adult Jesus gave us words of comfort: 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

Now I just edit the sign in my mind whenever I see it: **0** days till Christmas. Christ is here with us now - wow that takes a load off my mind and heart.

Peace and Joy, Pastor Dave

MITTEN TREE

The Mitten Tree is up again this year for your generous gifts to those in need.

Suggested items are gloves, caps, socks, stuffed animals and baby items of all kinds. Any items you donate (new, handmade or gently used) will be great for some child.

The items will be delivered to West Bend Schools, Ginger Bread House and others we know who need a little help.

The deadline to get your items in is December 10th.

GIVING TREE

The Family Giving Tree outreach program is dedicated to fulfilling holiday wishes of kids and adults who would otherwise be without gifts. If you wish to sponsor a family, check with Shirl in the church office. Wrapping paper, bows, tape and gift bags will also be appreciated.

We will be sharing gifts with Samaritan Home Residents, and the Gingerbread House families. Gifts are to be placed under the tree wrapped. Then hang a snowflake on the tree when you place your gift.. Plan to shop early as all **gifts need to be brought to the church by December 10th.**



POINSETTIAS

Each year at Christmas, we invite members of Trinity to make a contribution to the glory of God, in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone by purchasing a poinsettia for display in the Sanctuary. This is not only a fitting way to honor those we love, but these gifts

make it possible to decorate the church in a festive manner for Christmas services.

Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information on price and deadline. Forms will be available the last weeks of November into December for you to order (payment must accompany the order form and checks should be made payable to Trinity Lutheran Church indicating Poinsettias in the memo section) and can be placed in the offering or dropped off at the office. The **deadline to order is December 10th.**

ACTIVITIES AT TRINITY

December Bible Study

Only one Bible study day in December. On **December 12th at 1:00 or 7:00 pm** I invite people to join in reading and discussing the Christmas stories. No, that is not a misprint, **stories. Three gospels give their unique vision of the coming of the Christ child. Intrigued?** Then come and join the discussion.

| December Book Study

On **December 12th at 1:00 and 7:00 pm** you are invited to discuss the book **Martin Luther's Christmas Book** by Roland Bainton. This combines our 500th anniversary of the reformation with the holiday season. This is a combination of music, sermons and thoughts about Christmas that Luther shared during his life. Come and share the holiday spirit with Martin Luther.

Prayer Concerns

Please keep in your prayers this month:

- Pray for the peace and joy of Christmas to touch the lives of all people.
- Pray for those who have to be away from home during the holidays. Pray that the love of Christ might surround them.
- Pray for those who are traveling during the holidays that their travels would be safe.
- Pray for those who are shut-in that the Christ coming will bring them a special hope and joy. Pray that Christ would come as he always does to the place where joy and hope are needed most.
- Pray for those who have to work on Christmas. Pray that they might serve with the spirit of love and peace.
- Pray that in the world Christ might work through all of us to bring 'Peace on earth and good will to all those whom God loves.'
- Pray that we all keep in our hearts the true meaning of this blessed holiday and that all might enter into the New Year with peace, hope, faith, and love.

Christmas Green

I found an Australian website that offered these interesting thoughts:

I have taken to sending mostly email greetings on Christmas Eve every year. I usually jazz it up a bit and include some photos of the kids and the dog in their Christmas gear so it's a bit more special! You can even **Elf Yourself** and give the rellies a bit of a laugh.

If you still want to send cards, purchase some eco-friendly Christmas cards,

Make sure all your cards go in the recycling bin after Christmas or donate to your local childcare, kindy or school for crafts. Alternatively, you could keep them and upcycle them into **various craft projects** next year. These are some great ideas.

Trinity Evening at West Bend Cinema – Monday, December 4th , 6:45 pm

All are welcome to join the Trinity family as we watch this family-friendly animated movie called **The Star** (PG). It is about the First Christmas, told from the perspective of the animals.

What a great way to open the conversation of the birth of Jesus, in a fun way.

All Trinity members, friends and guests will get a reduced ticket price of \$6.50. And Monday is "Free Popcorn night". We will meet at the West Bend Cinema - Off Paradise (next to Meijer) at 6:30 pm in the lobby. Simply RSVP on Trinity's facebook or on the sign-up sheet in the



Heritage Room to let us know you're coming.



THE CHILI COOK-OFF IS COMING

Our annual Chili Cook-off is coming on **January 28th after the 9:30 am service**. We are giving you lots of notice so that you can get your recipe together if you have dreams of being this year's champion cook. If you are not entering a recipe, circle the date so you can come and taste some of the best chili around. Don't forget- January 28th. Are you ready for some chili?

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YOUTH NEWS

F.I.S.H. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



December 10th -

Advent Event. In Fellowship Hall from

11:00 am to 12:30 pm

- Snow Tubing Party at Sunburst: January 14th 12:00 pm
 2:30 pm OR IN CASE OF WEATHER ISSUES
 Epiphany "Glow" Party in Fellowship Hall from 11:00am
 12:30 pm
- ♦ Valentines' Day Party: February 18th 11:00 am-12:30 pm **OR_ALTERNATE SNOW TUBING DATE at** Sunburst from 12:00pm 2:30pm

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR F.I.S.H. ACTIVITIES ON THE "YOUTH BOARD" OUTSIDE THE YOUTH ROOM OFF FELLOWSHIP HALL.

SENIOR HIGH Please Join us for_Senior High First Sunday

Recenter, Reconnect, Recharge

When?? December 3rd from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm at Trinity

This is a monthly opportunity to get together, share a light meal, and take some time to renew yourself as a child of God.

- * Connect or reconnect with friends.
- Re-center yourself with a short, interactive worship experience
- * Recharge your passion for compassion

Next 1st Sunday date: January 7th, 2018

Senior High Youth Mark your Calendars



RETREAT AT PINE LAKE
FEBRUARY 2ND - 4TH, 2018
COST: %90.00

INTERESTED??? LET US KNOW!!

SIGN-UP ON THE YOUTH BOARD
OR BY TEXT (262-483-0792),
Facebook (Trinity West Bend),
or email cschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Confirmation Schedule - December 2017

Wednesday, **December 6th**:

Topic - Apostles' Creed – Article 2

Snacks - Larsen Anderson

Wednesday, December 13th:

Topic - Apostles' Creed – Article 2 - Christmas Story

Snacks - Brooke Buechler

Wednesday, **December 20th**:

Topic - Article 2 – The Christmas Story

Snacks - Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 27th: NO CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, January 3rd:

Topic - Apostles' Creed – Article 2/Parables

Snacks - Melanie Porter



"SOCKTOBER" 2017

The 6th grade celebration of "Socktober" has surpassed their goal of 100 AND 200 and ended up collecting 317 pairs of socks for homeless and patients in one section of the veteran's hospital. One might say the class was very SOCK-CESSFUL!! Way to go, group!!



CONFIRMATION BOWLING 2017





THANK YOU TRINITY!!



Thank you to everyone who celebrated together on consecration weekend. Thank you to everyone who has made a financial commitment to Trinity for the coming year. Your pledge helps us in our planning for ministry in the 2018.

If you still wish to make a commitment for the coming year please send your commitment card to the office. If you need a commitment card you can contact the office to receive one. We are the church and each of you is a vital part. Thanks be to God.



MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS



David VandeBoom – married Kristel Kirchner in April of this year, David keeps busy as a mechanical genius at Tennies Hardware!





Victoria
Homuth & her
adorable
daughter Myra
have been
married to
Mark since
Sept. 30! She is
a barista at
Starbucks —
stop in and see
her!



The Disterhaft Family – have finally "legally" joined Trinity! Joe & Leah have 5 gorgeous daughters-only 4 are visible in this picture! I tried very hard to catch #5, but she was too quick for me!!



Karen Wald –
came to us
originally
through Family
Promise and
liked it so much
she's
stayed! She
enjoys reading
books and loves
volunteering
anywhere she's
needed.

BIRTHDAYS

Evan Beekman	12/1	Jack Odness	12/18
Steven Crass	12/1	Paul Sulik	12/18
Kevin Davis	12/1	David VandeBoom	12/18
Ashlee Geib	12/2	Natalie Granger	12/19
Jacob Myrhum	12/2	Katelyn Schicker	12/19
Natalie Rineck	12/2	Kaitlin Sparks	12/19
Ethan Schicker	12/2	Daniel Brehmer	12/20
Kristin Anderson	12/3	Joscelynne Clark	12/20
Nancy Goschey	12/3	Jeffrey Esselmann	12/21
Dylan Kenworthy	12/4	Madysen Schlosser	12/21
Lori Kurer	12/4	Joyce Fischer	12/22
Gustave Mog	12/4	Payton Pretsch	12/22
Edna Sepersky	12/4	Charlotte Speener	12/22
Evelyn DeLuka	12/5	Xavier Omernick	12/23
Jeffrey Spaeth	12/5	Jeffrey Schibline	12/23
Kristen Nelson	12/8	Charles Hillman	12/24
Emily Schmitt	12/8	Nicholas Theisen	12/24
Avis Wallesverd	12/8	Bradley Pierce	12/26
Dustin Laatsch	12/9	Glenn Pietschmann	12/27
Leah Shulka	12/9	Jerad Yapp	12/27
Morgan Doede	12/10	Ryan Wojtalewicz	12/28
Darlis Wilfer	12/10	Bruce Abel	12/30
Ralph Seymer	12/13	Susan Gilbertson	12/30
Keith Downer	12/15	Joseph Hoppenjan	12/30
Harper Kenworthy	12/16	Caleb Naumann	12/31
Melissa Klatt	12/16	Myra Olson	12/31
Christopher Odness	12/17	Dawnmarie Spaeth	12/31
Jeffrey Fink	12/18	ī	

PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12/26 TO 12/29. In case of an emergency call Pastor Dave at 483-0791.

WOMEN OF TRINITY/OWL'S

Women of Trinity Bible Study December 4th at 6:30 pm.

We hear the story every year: Joseph and Mary set out for Bethlehem. Unable to find shelter, Mary gives birth and lays the baby Jesus in a manger. Angels proclaim the event to the shepherds in the fields, who "make haste" to meet Mary's newborn child. Herod sends the magi out to find the baby Jesus. The magi are led by a star to the place where the baby lies, and the sight overwhelms them. They are brought to their knees with joy. Joy. When the Christmas season approaches, is joy your first reaction? When you hear this story, are you overcome with hope and wonder?

For many, Christmas can certainly be a happy, if not complicated season—filled with prayer, planning, gift-buying, cookie decorating and sometimes deep grief and sorrow for those who won't be joining the festivities. For others, the meaning of the Christmas story may seem distant. More than 2,000 years later, how can we connect with that same sense of joy that caused all creation to give joyful praise?

This December, we'll reflect on Luke 2:9-14 with meditations from Karen Craigo, Violet Little, Denise Rector and Prairie Rose Seminole.

The 2017 OWL's Christmas...

will be celebrated with a group lunch this year! Everyone is invited to meet at Cedar Ridge on **Dec. 5th** at 11:30 am. Please sign up in the Heritage Room by Friday Dec.1. We will need to let them know how many to expect for table set-up! It will be lots of delicious fun so please come!!



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2017

Comm Setup NO Communion

Counters Linda Amacher, Anita McClain

Saturday, Dec 2, 6:30 pm

Ushers Tom Peters, Arlyss Speener Greeters John & Renee Haugen

Sunday, Dec 3, 8:00 am NO SERVICE

Coffee Hour Hosts: Joan & Frank McCuen Food Providers: Barb & Myra Gunnare

Sunday, Dec 3, 9:30 am

Ushers Pauline Lentz, Amanda & Danica Daley,

Aryonnia Seitz, Kevin Schmitt, Sam Laatsch

Greeters Deborah Brooks, Cindy Tikusis

Nursery

Comm Setup Suzanne Mildbrandt, Cheryl Hay

Counters Dawn Spaeth, Judy Ehmke, Kathy A. Kershaw

Saturday, Dec 16, 6:30 pm

Ushers Cindy Stracka, Delores Kilby Greeters Lynn Guerndt, Laurie Beth

Reader Arlyss Speener

Comm Asst Ruth MacDonald, Diane Ferstadt

Sunday, Dec 17, 8:00 am

Ushers Ron & Rosemary Fink,

Mary Immekus, Joan Rudd

Greeters Reader

Coffee Hour Hosts: Victoria Homuth, Krista Thorin

Food Providers: Avis Wallesverd, Sue Beekman, Denise Riederer

Sunday, Dec 17, 9:30 am

Ushers Jeff Spaeth, Anita McClain, Jerry Schmidt

Daniel Schmidt

Greeters Rob & Alyssa Brockman

Reader Mark Rineck

Nursery

Comm Asst Dee Washa, Mike Tikusis, Linda Amacher

Comm Setup Shirl Curreri, Tammy Nelson Counters Jody Schilling, Toni Shubat

Saturday, Dec 9, 6:30 pm

Ushers Mark Sergeant, Debbie Burns

Greeters Bev Ritger
Reader Taylor Loomans

Comm Asst Mark Sergeant, Debbie Burns

Sunday, Dec 10, 8:00 am

Ushers Dale, Myra, Cory, Cary & Kyle Gunnare

Greeters Carol Peters
Reader Greg harding

Coffee Hour Hosts: Shirl Curreri, Gene & Barb Sass,

Jon & Kelly DeLuka

Food Providers: Dorothy Barnes, Bonnie Opperman

Sunday, Dec 10, 9:30 am

Ushers Glenn Pietschmann, Nick Laatsch,

Mike Kozlowski

Greeters Taylor Loomans, Lenore Holcomb

Reader Linda Amacher

Nursery

Comm Asst Haley Kordosky, Deborah Brooks,

Comm Setup Delores Harder, Shirl Curreri,

Donna Hallada, Arlyss Speener

Counters Rich Hills, Jay Nelson

Sunday Dec 24, 3:00 pm

Ushers Ron & Rosemary Fink, Jay Nelson, Carol Peters

Reader

Sunday, Dec 24, 5:00 pm

Ushers Jeff Spaeth, Anita McClain,

Jerry & Daniel Schmidt

Reader Sam Laatsch

Comm Asst Linda Amacher, Chris Budoff,

Larry & Mercedes Loomans

Sunday, Dec 24, 7:00 pm

Ushers Dale, Myra, Cory, Cary & Kyle Gunnare

Reader Mark Rineck

Comm Asst Lynne & Eric Thorin, Pam Frank, Lindsey Yapp

Sunday, Dec 24, 9:00 pm

Ushers Mark Sergeant, Deb Burns

Reader Robin Jung

Comm Asst Donna Hallada, Virginia Laatsch,

Mike & Cindy Tikusis

Monday, Dec 25, 9:30 am

Ushers Cindy Stracka, Delores Kilby, Eleanor Muraski

Reader Eleanor Muraski

Comm Setup Linda Amacher, Virginia

Laatsch

Counters Cindy Tikusis, Kathy M.

Kershaw

Saturday, Dec 30, 6:30 pm

Ushers Mercedes & Taylor

Loomans

Greeters Delores Kilby

Reader Arlyss Speener

Comm Asst Cindy Stracka,

Arlyss Speener

Sunday, Dec 31, 8:00 am

Ushers Jay & Denise Riederer,

Arlene Pierog

Greeters Ron & Rosemary Fink

Reader Darrell Blair

Sunday, Dec 31, 9:30 am

Ushers Dan & Susan Pawlowski,

Greeters Chris Pamperin
Reader Christa Thorin

Nursery

Comm Asst Shirl Curreri, Barb Sass,

Cheryl Bauer

DECEMBER 2017							
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1	2 Cantata 6:30 pm Cantata	
3 Cantata NO 8:00 am Traditional 9:30 am Cantata Children's Ministry 6:00 pm Sr High First Sun	4 2:15 pm Music Therapy 6:30 pm Women of Trinity Bible Study 6:45 pm "The Star" at the West Bend Cinema (by Meijer's)	4 11:30 pm OWLs Lunch at the Ridge 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	6 6:30 pm Confirmation	7 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	8	9:30 am Program Practice for 1-6 Grade 6:30 pm Traditional	
10 Deadline for Giving Tree, Mitten Tree and Poinsettias 8:00 am Traditional 9:30 am CTP Children's Ministry 10:45 am Program Practice for 3-5 Yr Olds 11:00 am FISH Advent Party	11Newsletter Articles Due 1:00 & 7:00 pm Book Study	12 1:00 & 7:00 pm Christmas bible Study 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	9:00 am Quilters 6:30 pm Confirmation	14 6:30 pm Property Team 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	15	9:30 am Program Practice 1-6 Grade 6:30 pm Traditional w/ 3-5 Year Olds Program	
8:00 am Traditional 9:30 am CTP Children's Ministry 4:00 pm 1–6 Grade Program	18 2:15 pm Music Therapy 7:00 pm Council	19 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	20 6:30 pm Confirmation	21 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Meeting 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	22	23 NO Worship	
24 Christmas Eve 3:00 pm Family 5:00 pm CTP 7:00 pm Candlelight 9:00 pm Candlelight 31 New Year's Worship 8:00 am Traditional 9:30 am CTP	9:30 am Carols & Communion Worship	26 Office Closed 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	27 Office Closed 9:00 am Quilters NO Confirmation	28 Office Closed 7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous	29 Office Closed	30 New Year's Worship 6:30 pm Traditional	

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 N. 7th Ave. West Bend, WI 53095

Change Service Requested

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Prepared Especially For:

Volume 13, Issue 12

Published 12 Times a Year

PARISH DIRECTORY

Pastoral Staff

Worship Schedule

Parish Office

Council

President Seth Bergerud
Vice President Leah Rineck
Secretary Jim Anderson
Treasurer Katie Martin

Committees

Finance	Katie Martin
Community Building	Travis Thorin
Out Reach	Renee Holcomb
Stewardship	Leah Rineck
Property	Bryan Johnson
Faith Development	Candace Anderson
Tech	Jim Anderson
Worship	Linda Amacher,
	Dorothy Barnes
Invitation	Sandy Poenitsch
Ministry Support	Seth Bergerud