

**VOLUME 20, ISSUE 12** 

**DECEMBER 2024** 

All this took place to fulfill what the Jord had said through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" which means "God with us". When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Jord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. - Mathew 1:22-25

Normally we turn to the story of Jesus birth in the book of Luke. It is so much more familiar to us—the baby, the manger and the shepherds. It is beautiful and captivates our imagination.

But, in some ways, Matthew's version takes us to the heart of the matter by offering two names for this child. Emmanuel. God is with us. How often have we wondered about whether God really is with us? There seems to be so much that happens in the world that gives us cause to wonder. But God sends this incredible child as the assurance that God is with us. In all that happens, in every moment, and in every need we encounter—God is with us.

Jesus is the name Joseph gives the child—it means "God saves". From all our brokenness, from all our sin, when everything seems lost—God saves us. God claims us and makes us new.

And in saving us God returns to the first promise—for we become the signs of God's presence to those who doubt and are unsure. God gives us the gift of the Christ child and then makes us gifts to the world.

**God is with us and God saves us.** This is the heart of Christmas, and this is the heart of the Christian faith. May this reality fill and shape our joyous celebration. May the light of Christ in us outshine the other lights of the season so that all the world might know that God is here.

Joyous Christmas,

and Cust **Pastors Dave and Cristy** 



## Malmark

BELLCRAFTSMEN

#### **Choirchime™**

Chiming in with Gratitude

A huge "Thank You!" to everyone who participated in the dedication of the Choirchimes last Sunday, November 10th—from all who performed with the chimes to the generous families whose memorial funds made their purchase possible.

Music has a unique capacity to lift spirtts, provide comfort, share joy and bring people together, and our worship and lives are richer for all the ways we can share it. I celebrate this wonderful addition to the worship music at Trinity and this new way for music lovers who might not be singers to become involved.

I'm sorry that I wasn't able to stay after the service due to a prior commitment, but I want to express my gratitude for your support over the past many years and I look forward to many more years of Trintty's musical messages!

God bless you all for your loving spirits. Hazel



On the weekend of November 9/10 we gathered in praise and thanksgiving to dedicate the addition of Choirchimes to Trinity's Music Ministry. The chimes were given in celebration and honor of more than 33 years of passion and service to **Trinity's Music Ministry** by **Hazel Griffin**.

The purchase of the Choirchimes was made possible by memorial funds given in memory of three of Trinity's Saints: Joyce Albrecht | John Abel Sr. | Joan Rudd The addition of the Choirchimes will expand and help ensure this important ministry that Hazel so passionately lead, will continue to grow, reaching and impacting countless hearts in new and beautiful ways.





During the dedication on Sunday, Charlie Hillman read a poem he wrote in Hazel's honor back around the time of Trinity's Centennial (when Hazel first indicated she was wanting to retire). A group of singer/choirchime players, directed by Darci Ketter introduced the Choirchimes to the congregation through two songs; Amazing Grace and For the Beauty of the Earth, with lyrics of verse 3 written in honor of Hazel's service.

For her music shared in love.
Hazel's vision and her skills,
We give thanks to God above,
Years of ministry fulfilled.
Hazel now to you we raise
This our song of thanks and praise.



# An Invitation to all trinity members

We are fast moving toward the end of the year and things have been very tight financially here at Trinity. As of the end of October we were still meeting expenses—but just barely. We need the commitments and generosity of the Trinity congregation to help us end the year with a bit of a cushion as we enter the new year. We invite each of you to offer a special gift to our life together. Trinity's ministries are incredibly vibrant and life giving. Trinity's music and worship provides strength and guidance for our daily lives. Our children find joy in the relationships they are building as they learn the stories of the Bible together. People in our community are helped as we tackle issues of homelessness and hunger. We reach out to those in prison. This is exactly what Jesus calls us to do:

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

We take this call seriously. May our work continue in the new year. Thank you in advance for your response.

Postor Dal School

WORSHIP DECEMBER 1 — DECEMBER 22

Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the coming of the Christ child.

This year, our special Advent worship reflections in December will center on the themes of Advent presented in word and special (cantata style) music.

Sunday morning worship will feature live special music interspersed with scripture and reflection. Saturday afternoon worship will include prerecorded pieces presented live by our congregation members the previous week.

Please join us in this important season of preparation.

Christmas



#### CHRISTMAS EVE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

**3 PM** | Family Worship Service

**5 PM** Created to Praise Candlelight

**7 PM** Traditional Candlelight

9 PM | Traditional Candlelight

CHRISTMAS DAY
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:30 AM | Christmas Carol Service



#### SENIOR HIGH FIRST SUNDAY

SUNDAY | DECEMBER 8 6 PM - 7:30 PM

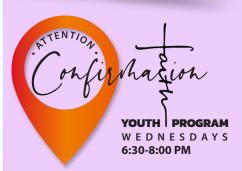
Recenter. Reconnect. Recharge.

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
- Recenter yourself with a short, interactive worship experience
- Recharge your passion for compassion

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR JANUARY'S FIRST SUNDAY:

January 5th, 2025 6 PM – 7:30 PM New Year's Gathering



**DEC 04** | 4th Commandment SNACKS: Vayda Falconer

**DEC 11** | 4th Commandment SNACKS: Andrew Hull

**DEC 18** | Confirmation CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC 25 | NO CONFIRMATION Christmas Break

JAN 01 | NO CONFIRMATION New Year Break

JAN 08 | 5th Commandment SNACKS: Charley Harshburger

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SHARING THE LOVE AND PROMISE OF GOD WITH KIDS FROM AGE 3 UP TO 6TH GRADE!

SEEIT. MAKEIT. TASTEIT. MOVEIT. TELLIT.

**SUNDAYS 9:30 AM - 10:45AM** 

If you haven't registered your child yet, you still can—they are always welcome!

December 01 NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Thanksgiving Greak

December 08 | Christmas Rotation | Mary and Josepgh

December 14 | 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM | Christmas Program PRACTICE!

December 15 | 9:30 AM | Children's Ministry 11:30 AM | 'Twas the Night Before Christmas Program

> If you are interested in helping with the Christmas Program contact Alyssa.

December 22 NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Menry Christmas!

December 29 NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Happy New Year!

January 05 | The Parables Rotation Begins



#### You are needed

WE ABSOLUTELY NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS!!!

There are many available spaces in the upcoming Children's Ministry schedule. Everything is provided for you and it is generally just a 3-week commitment. **Our kiddos are well worth it!** Check out the schedule on the bulletin board just outside Fellowship Hall or contact Alyssa—**TODAY!** 



Pine Lake Camp is offering a

FOR KIDS IN GRADES 3-8

JANUARY 31- FEBRUARY 2

Join in on the fun!—a handful of Trinity kiddos have signed up to go! Parents, please be aware, there will be no bus to and from camp. Travel and sign up for this Winter Retreat Camp is on your own. Direct questions to Alyssa.



#### F.I.S.H. 2025 SAVE-THE-DATES

January 12th | Snow Tubing at Sunburst | NOON-2:30 PM

IN CASE OF WEATHER ISSUES Epiphany "Glow" Party in Fellowship Hall | 10:45 AM

February 9th | Valentine's Day Party 10:45-NOON OR ALTERNATE SNOW TUBING DATE at Sunburst | NOON - 2:30 pm

RSVP to F.I.S.H. activites via text or Email to Pastor Cristy | 262-483-0792 cschoob@trinitywestbend.com



5 PM FRIDAY, NOV 1 - | 4 PM SUNDAY, NOV 3

**Confirmation Fall Retreat** Pine Lake Camp

History of the Commandments and the 1st Commandment







TOPIC











Fifteen of our 7th and 8th grade confirmation students spent a weekend together, disconnected from the demands of daily life and connected through relational activities and a general history of the Commandments



















# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

THE JOSEPH ROTATION

During our JOSEPH Rotation in MAKEIT we made Dream Catchers for Joseph the dreamer. While we worked with our hands, we talked about our feelings and how there were many different feelings towards Joseph from his 11 older brothers—especially anger and jealousy.

In **TELLiT** the kiddos walked through the range of emotion that was part of the Joseph story—from the anger and jealousy that contributed to his brothers selling him into slavery, to the admiration and happiness that came to Joseph as people saught out his insight to the meaning of thier dreams. Joseph was able to interpret Pharaoh's dream, and was made governor of Egypt.

In **MOVEIT** we played games that took us in all kinds of directions, including one that included using grain (donated by Annie Wiedmeyer) because Joseph rationed the country's grain to prepare for famine.

BELOW: In **TELLiT**, Paxton portrayed Joseph falling into the well

















































**Trinity's 4th - 6th Grade F.I.S.H. Youth Group** enjoyed an afternoon of fun, activity and pizza when they tried their hand at bowling during the annual **F.I.S.H. Family BOWLING** event on November 17th!























# Thank you to my november volunteers

Susie Kelnhofer **Ashley Bungert Charlotte Butzler** Jennifer Walth **Kristin Robinson** Joan Hanson Sue Pawlowski **Dane McIntire Amelia Walt** Mia Hanvey Siena Scaffidi **Makiyah Rouse** Victoria Kenworthy **Lucas Doede** Morgan Doede Mitchel Doede Jayden Hanvey **Kennedy Butzler** 

#### Interested in teaching a rotation?

Check out the schedule posted on the board in Fellowship Hall or contact Alyssa!



BELOW: Our Little Lambs began the Christmas Rotation fir by making a Christmas/Advent Wreath. WREATHS are constructed of evergreens, representing everlasting life brought through Jesus and the circular shape represents Godwith no beginning and no end.





# BLESSINGS

ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, GOD DANCED, ANGELS SANG AND THE STARS ALIGNED. WE HOPE THAT YOUR BIRTHDAY WILL BE A HAPPY CELEBRATION FILLED WITH BLESSINGS.

Evan Beekman	12	01
Steven Crass	12	
Kevin Davis	12	
Jacob Myrhum	12	02
Ethan Schicker	12	02
Kristin Anderson	12	03
Dylan Kenworthy		04
Lori Kurer		04
Evelyn DeLuka	12	
Brendon O'Shea		07
Therese Rosenthal	12	
John Omernick		80
Kristen Nelson		80
Avis Wallesverd	12	
Morgan Doede	12	
Daniel Schmidt	12	
Sophia Reno	12	
Ralph Seymer	12	
Craig Doede	12	
Keith Downer	12	
Harper Kenworthy	12	
David VandeBoom Paul Sulik	12	
	12	
Augustus Brockman	12	
Jaley Bungert Natalie Granger	12 12	
Katelyn Schicker	12	
Kaitlin Sparks	12	
Joscelynne Clark	12	
Jeffrey Esselmann	12	
Jeffrey Schibline	12	
Jayden Hanvey		24
Charles Hillman		24
Lucca DelCampo	12	
Christie Boden	12	
Suzanne Barker		26
Bradley Pierce		26
Diane Solberg		26
Mia Hanvey		27
Glenn Pietschmann		27
Kristen Robinson		28
Bruce Abel		30
Sue Gilbertson		30
Monty Hull		30
Dawn Spaeth	12	31

## Remember Kaori

Trinity congregation members support sponsorship of our Compassion International child, *Kaori Rosalina Ramos Benito*.

**Kaori is now 11 years old**, her birthday is February 10, 2013. She lives in the a very poor coastal community of Pueblo Joven Huascar-B (PERU) with her parents and 3 brothers. Before COVID, her father is sometimes employed as work is available. Her mother is not employed. Kaori helps her family by cleaning around the home.

We ask for your prayers and donations to support Kaori and her family.

All Trinity members are encouraged to help support Kaori and her family through your designated financial offerings.

You can drop a donation specified for Kaori at Trinity or scan this QR code (look for the Kaori box) to give right now!







bringing in your aluminum can pop tabs to benefit The Ronald McDonald House | Keep them coming! They add up and make a difference for families served by Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. House-shaped boxes are in the Heritage room to collect aluminum pop tabs all year long!

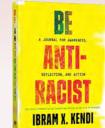
The Wilson family delivers all the tabs each year on 'Tab Toss Day' in mid-May.



#### ANTI-RACISM BOOK STUDY MONDAY | JANUARY 27

In between the busyness of the Christmas holiday and anticipation of the new year, I invite everyone to take time to get a copy of Be Anti-Racist by Ibram X. Kendi. It is a guided journal to begin your own anti-racist journey.

Please take some time throughout December and into January to begin the journey that Kendi lays out. Then, on **Monday January 27th** I invite everyone *wherever they are in their journey* to gather together and share insights. We will begin at 7:00 PM. I hope you will begin your own anti-racist journey and receive the gifts that the journey offers.





#### LUKE 1:26-2:40 MATTHEW 1:18-2:23

Because there are so many opportunities for time with friends and family and we encourage you to embrace those times—there will be no Wednesday night Bible Study gatherings in December. But on your own, take time to read the Christmas stories from Luke 1:26-2:40 and Matthew 1:18-2:23 with your family and let them encircle you with the wonder and the joy of God's love.

We will gather together again after the new year on Wednesday evenings to look at the Bible in a casual and open format. All are welcome and invited to come with their curiosities and questions.



**Project RETURN** grew out of a volunteer base that believed men and women returning from incarceration deserved a second chance. It offers a variety of support for those returning from incarceration.

The winter months have arrived and **Project RETURN** is looking for warm clothing. All ADULT SIZES (from Small to 5x) of the following are needed:

- Coats | New and gently used
- Hats. Scarfs. Gloves.
- **Boots** | most needed are larger size boots— up to a size 13.
- Sweatshirts. Sweatpants. Hoodies.
- Warm Socks.
- Warm blankets. Pillows.
- Sleepwear.
- · House Shoes.
- Gift Cards | Stores. Gas. Bus.

Any questions, please contact Nate Shubat: nateshubat@gmail.com



#### SEEKING PEACE

The Christmas season is in full swing! Houses are decorated with festive lights, gifts are under the tree and Christmas music seems to be playing wherever you go. With all of the hustle and bustle that comes with Christmas, it may seem as though real life is put on hold for a while.

However, for some, Christmas brings about challenges. When we are faced with tough circumstances during the holiday season, life may seem to be anything but peaceful. For example, you might feel the pressure to accommodate difficult family members or buy things you cannot afford. Or, you may even struggle with feelings of loneliness during the holiday season.

No matter what your circumstance may be, remember that the only way we can find true peace is through Christ. John 16:33 says, "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

In addition, it is important to acknowledge the challenges others may be facing during this season. The best thing we can do for those who are struggling is to show them Christ-like love when they need it most. John 13:34-35 says, "So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples."

In the end, it is important to focus on the real meaning behind the Christmas season. Remember that while situations here on Earth may cause us stress, we can find true peace when we turn our focus to Christ and His great love for us.

NOW MAY THE LORD OF PEACE HIMSELF GIVE YOU HIS PEACE AT ALL TIMES AND IN EVERY SITUATION. THE LORD BE WITH YOU ALL.

2 Thessalonians 3:16

December 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
ADVENT WORSHIP 9:30 AM  NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	2	7 PM   NA	CONFIRMATION 4 6:30-8 PM	1 PM   TLC COMFORTERS	6	ADVENT WORSHIP 4 PM
ADVENT WORSHIP 9:30 AM  CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  FIRST SUNDAY   6 PM	Citizen Advocates  BUNGO  3:30 PM	10 7 PM   NA	CONFIRMATION 6:30-8 PM	12 1 PM   TLC COMFORTERS	13	ADVENT WORSHIP 4 PM CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE   9-11 AM
ADVENT WORSHIP 9:30 AM  CHILDREN'S MINISTRY  CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 11:30 AM	16	17	CONFIRMATION 4 6:30-8 PM	19 1 PM   TLC COMFORTERS	20	ADVENT WORSHIP 4 PM
ADVENT WORSHIP 9:30 AM	23	CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP 3 PM Family Service 5 PM CTP Candlelight 7 PM Traditional Candlelight 9 PM Traditional Candlelight	CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP Christmas Carol Worship   9:30 AM	26 7 PM   NA	27	28 Liturgical Worship   4 PM
29 CTP WORSHIP   9:30 AM NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	30	31 7 PM   NA	New HAPPY TRINITY OFFICE CLOSED			

> Pastor Cristy Schoob 262-483-0792

262-483-0/92 cschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Pastor David Schoob 262-483-0791

dschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Office Hours......MON - THURS | 8:00 AM - 3:30 PM FRIDAY | 8:00 AM - NOON

**Sue Walker**......*Parish Coordinator* swalker@trinitywestbend.com | 262-334-2125

**Heather Peters**......*Music Ministry Coordinator* peters.heatherj@gmail.com | 262-305-7338

**Karen Sparks**......*Financial Clerk* ksparks@trinitywestbend.com

**Sandy Poenitsch**......*Communication Coordinator* spoenitsch@trinitywestbend.com | 262-388-1616

Phil Wagner ...... Facilities Manager

#### **Congregation Council Members**





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