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# Trinity Lutheran Church

504 South Westnedge Avenue

Kalamazoo MI 49007

www.tlckzoo.com T: 269-344-6181

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### **Trinity Staff**

Pastor

Outreach Pastor

Organist/Director of Music

Director of Family & Youth Ministry

Office Administrator

Hospitality Host

Bookkeeper

Custodian

Rev. Ken Johnson

Rev. Jake Lehman

Nathan Mattson

Heidi Albertson

Katie Grubaugh

Margaret Stevenson

Terri Schmidt

Bob Koenes

### **Church Council**

President

Secretary

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Christian Education

Congregational Life

Facilities

Service Ministry

Stewardship & Finance

Worship & Music

Julie Peterson

Holly Wohlfert

Christina Adams

Jerry Molitor

Ashley Wineland & Sally Morris

Paula Sportel & Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino

Max Wineland

Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace

Steve Morris & Steve Bittner

Jennifer Gatz

## **Trinity's Sunday Schedule:**

***Worship with Holy Communion  
at 8:30 and 11:00am***

Choir at 9:25 in choir loft

Children's Sunday School classes 9:45

Confirmation 9:45

Youth Sunday School 9:45

Adult Bible Study 9:45

## November 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3</p> <p>Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 &amp; 11am</p> <p><i>All Saints Sunday</i></p> <p>Sunday School classes 9:45 Parent small group 10</p> <p>VASA 1-5</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Prayer Shawl</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves &amp; Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>P.E.O. 10-3</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Youth @ Charge</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Violin Ensemble 4-6</p> <p>Kazoo Folklife Benefit Concert 5-9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 &amp; 11am</p> <p><i>Thanksgiving Sunday</i></p> <p>Choir 9:25</p> <p>Sunday School classes 9:45 Church Council 12:15 Sons of Norway 2-5</p>	<p>11</p> <p>C.F.T. 6pm Sacred Harp 7-8:30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves &amp; Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p> <p>Green Team mt. 10-11</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 7am Ladies Lunch 11:30</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Meeting of the Men 5-6:30 Meeting of the Women 6-8</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 &amp; 11am</p> <p>Choir 9:25</p> <p>New Member Orientation 9:45 Sunday School classes 9:45 Parent small group 10 Family Ministry 12:30-2</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves &amp; Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 &amp; 11am</p> <p>New Member Reception Choir 9:25</p> <p>Sunday School classes 9:45</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Sacred Harp 7-8:30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Loaves &amp; Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am</p> <p>Thanksgiving Worship Service 6pm</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 7am Rebecca Circle 10am</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Violin Ensemble 4-6</p>

Please remember that articles for the Newsletters are due by the 16th of each month; articles for the Sunday bulletins are due one week in advance, by end of day Sunday.



# Youth Ministry

for all youth in grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

## Charge!!

This month our special activity is going to Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City



for our annual youth retreat—Charge! Those of you who are sign up will meet at Trinity on **Friday, Nov. 8 by 3:15pm**. We will leave at 3:30pm. I mailed out a letter about Charge in October, so if you didn't get it, please let me know. Get ready for an awesome weekend!!

## Confirmation & Senior High Sunday School

Calling all 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders!! Confirmation class needs your presence every Sunday from 9:45am-10:45am in the new Confirmation classroom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Pastor Jake will be there to walk with you on your faith journey and help answer all the questions about God that you're afraid to ask. 😊

As for you 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders, you meet in the Youth Room with Mr. Grubaugh from 9:45am-10:45am. Come talk about the highs and lows of being a teenager and a Christian in this ever-changing world.

## \*\*No Sunday School:

There will be no Sunday school on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend! There will also be no Sunday school on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>.

To get information about Youth Ministry activities and to sign up for events, please join our Facebook page—**TLC Youth Ministry**. If you're not on Facebook, you can also get info in the weekly church emails (make sure the office has your correct email), Sunday bulletins, the bulletin board outside the kitchen on the lower level, and Trinity's website. Email Heidi ([hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com)) with any questions.

## Upcoming FUN Stuff:

### Parents' Afternoon Out



Your help is needed on **Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from noon-5pm**.

This is the date of Family Ministry's Parents' Afternoon Out and we need youth to help us to care for the children. This is a service project, so if you need volunteer hours, then please sign up to help. Sign up is on our Facebook page or by emailing Heidi. We need all the help we can get!!!! 😊

### Progressive Dinner:

The Youth Group's annual Progressive Dinner is **Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 5pm-9pm**.

We decided that we will drive to different houses for this special evening for fun and food. We will also have a White Elephant gift exchange, so be sure to bring a gift. Sign up on our Facebook page or email Heidi if you can go.



### Hot Dog Fundraiser:

We need your help for a very special Hot Dog Lunch fundraiser on **Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon**.

This is the date for the Sunday school Christmas program and we are helping by providing lunch for the children, their families, and the congregation. During Sunday school time, we will decorate and prep the food. Then we need your help with serving and clean up. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Youth Ministry activities.





# FAMILY MINISTRY

All families with children infant through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join us!

## Family Service Project: Making Car Kits Together

Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm-2pm

Join us for an afternoon of making car kits for our friends at Samaritas! What are car kits, you ask? They are special baskets for children to use and play with. The baskets will be available to them when their caseworker drives them to appointments. After some yummy lunch, we'll get to work putting these baskets together. We'll need your help to make 20 baskets, so don't forget to sign up on our Facebook event page or email me at [hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com). ☺



### Sunday Morning opportunities coming in November:

Our schedule will be a little different this month, due to a youth retreat and Thanksgiving weekend. Hope you can join us for our two sessions in the Family Ministry room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor! \*Note: There will be no Infant/Toddler class this year.

**Parent Small Group:** All parents are invited to hang out together, discuss the joys & concerns of raising faith-filled children, and how God helps us with the adventure that is parenting.

**Dates:** Sunday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 10am-10:40am

**Note:** No Sunday school on Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> or Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>, due to holiday breaks.

## Coming in December...

### Parents' Afternoon Out

Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> noon-5pm

Drop your kids off at church and enjoy an afternoon for Christmas shopping, chores, relaxing, or lunch out with friends. The kids will be busy with crafts, games, and other fun activities. Lunch and snack will be provided. We will take children who are 1 year through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Sign up on our Facebook event page or email Heidi at [hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com). ☺



To get information about Family Ministry activities, please join our Facebook page— **TLC Family Ministry**. If you're not on Facebook, you can also get info in the weekly church emails (make sure the office has your correct email), Sunday bulletins, the bulletin board outside the Family Ministry room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, and Trinity's website. Email Heidi ([hmfuerst@aol.com](mailto:hmfuerst@aol.com)) with any questions.



*We had lots of fun making clay creations in October!*

## Worship and Faith Formation

### From our Christian Education Team:

Welcome to Sunday School! If you haven't had a chance to visit the Education Wing, try to find some time to see our newly revamped classrooms and library. The church is growing and we've had to find new spaces to gather!

Please mark your calendar for the special days this year. As always, keep our teachers and students in prayer and let us know if you are interested in teaching, subbing, or helping 'shepherd' one of our classes.

### IMPORTANT DATES:



- 12/1 No Sunday School – Thanksgiving Break
- 12/22 Christmas Pageant & Luncheon
- 12/29 No Sunday School – Christmas Break

### **Sunday School Classes Every Sunday from 9:45-10:45am!**

- **Adult Bible Study** will be in the Lounge with Pr. Ken. The class will be focused on a series by Max Lucado.
- **Confirmation** with Pr. Jake on the second floor of the education wing. Confirmation is for all youth 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade!
- **High School Sunday school** in the Youth Room with Mr. Grubaugh.
- **Elementary Sunday School** for K-5<sup>th</sup> grade students on the second floor of the Education Wing with Mrs. Wineland.
- **Preschool Sunday School** in the preschool room on the second floor of the education wing with Mrs. Wright.
- **Infant/Toddler small group OR Parent small group** with Heidi Albertson in the Family Ministry room on the second floor of the education wing

**Thanksgiving Worship Service** - Join us **Tuesday, November 26 at 6pm** as we celebrate our many blessings at our annual Thanksgiving Service. This service is a perfect way to take a step back from all the busyness of the holiday weekend and spend time in worship with our church family and friends.

**Choir has started up again at 9:25 a.m. in the choir loft.** If you are interested in joining the choir, please contact Nate Mattson ([nathan\\_mattson@hotmail.com](mailto:nathan_mattson@hotmail.com))

**New members:** If you are interested in becoming a member at Trinity, please contact the church office or speak with one of the pastors. We will be having a New Member Orientation on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 and New Member Reception on November 24 during the worship services!

**Men's Bible Study** - We will meet on November 13 and 27. We will be serving a light breakfast each time. We meet @ 7:00 AM and try to finish around 8:00 AM. All are welcome. "No experience necessary". We're just a group of men trying to apply what we read in Scripture to our present lives and to hopefully become a light for others.

**Rebecca Circle** Looking for a chance to participate monthly in a women's small group meeting for Bible study? Rebecca Circle is an excellent chance to make some new acquaintances while studying God's word. The next Circle meeting will be at Trinity on Wednesday, November 27 at 10am.

## Worship Assistants

Date	Time	Altar Guild	Welcome Team	Lectors	Acolytes
<b>Nov 3</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Teri Koretsky	Jeannie & Dave Grubaugh	Dave Runstrom	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	<b>11:00</b>	Gary Kent-Bracken	Rasma McMullen, Sheree Sorensen	Holly Wohlfert	Kiley Morris, Edith Wright
<b>Nov 10</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Joyce Magerlein	Teri Koretsky, Beth Belleville	Carol Knoch	Avery & Nolan Fowler
	<b>11:00</b>	Sheree Sorensen	Julie & Keith Peterson	Sheree Sorensen	Frederick Thurn, Emma Zimmermann
<b>Nov 17</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Karn Erlandson	Jen & Tim Gatz	Janet Gullickson	Avner & Jaxon Grubaugh
	<b>11:00</b>	Julie Peterson	Pat Mason, Greta Decker	Marianne Fuerst	Kaitlyn Albertson, Jacob Zimmermann
<b>Nov 24</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Karn Erlandson	Paula Sportel, Trudi Giffin	Arlen Gullickson	Avery & Nolan Fowler
	<b>11:00</b>	Julie Peterson	Joy & Tom Kuhs	Pat Mason	Miryam Greenman, Evelyn Sutherland
<b>Nov 26</b> <i>Thanksgiving Eve</i>		Joyce Magerlein			

### Service Ministry

**Thankoffering Sunday, November 10!** This is a tradition that Lutheran women have been observing for over 100 years. This service helps all of us stop and reflect on our ministries and on how we have all been blessed by God. During both worship services on November 10, there will be an opportunity to:

- \* Donate non-perishable food to Trinity's food pantry
- \* Give a donation to support WELCA and ELCA missions

After each Thankoffering service, all members of Trinity and guests are invited to a special Fellowship time where we will celebrate how grateful all of us are for the blessings we have as a family, a church and a community! Contact Connie Ruch if you would like to help.

**Thrivent Grant Request** - We are seeking Thrivent Grants! We have several needs between our Service Ministries, Christian Education, Youth and Family Ministries and Congregational Life Ministries that could use your help! With Thrivent Grants, we're able to continue to keep this time welcoming to all. Thank you!

**The TLC Prayer Shawl Ministry meets November 4 at 10am** We gather the first Monday of each month in the lounge at 10:00 to receive and pray over completed shawls, encourage one another as we work on new shawls, reflect on the gratitude of prayer shawl recipients, and, yes, socialize! Don't know how to knit or crochet? Here's your chance to learn—instruction will be provided! If you would like more information, please call Sidney Mueller at (269)806-0023.

**Personal Care Item Donations Needed** As part of our care for our neighbors in need, the Christ Clothes closet has expanded its offerings to include personal care items. Items needed are:

- Feminine hygiene products
- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Toothpaste

**Trinity's Loaves and Fishes Pantry Requests:**

Although basic food needs are being met, our pantry clients are most grateful for extras that are not often included in our Loaves and Fishes orders. Adding any of these items to your grocery cart would be appreciated. They can be dropped off in the church office.

- Granola bars or similar items
- Pop tarts
- Peanut butter or cheese crackers in wrapped packages
- Snacks (in small bags).
- Baked beans (pork and beans)
- Plastic grocery bags

**From Linda Ward: Christmas Child Shoeboxes due November 10<sup>th</sup>** I hope many of you already have a good start on your shoeboxes. Remember to include \$10 for shipping & handling. *I will be happy to fill a box for you. I could do this for a suggested total of \$30.* You can reach me with any questions at 344-8684 or email [thelaw1944@aol.com](mailto:thelaw1944@aol.com). Our goal is 60 boxes (stretch 75). There are boxes available in Fellowship Hall along with a list of suggestions and the label brochures for boy/girl and age intended. You may drop off your box at any time in the church office or bring them in on Sunday. What a wonderful way to show Christian caring for children who need to experience God's love!

**From the Scrip Table** As the holidays approach, please consider gifting cards from our Scrip Table! Please stop by and check out our retailer list. You can also order from Janet G. by calling 269-372-0081 Thanks for helping us help others!

**El Sol Elementary Outreach:** El Sol Elementary School is just a few blocks away from Trinity and as their partners in serving the neighborhood, we want to show our support for their teachers, students and families! We will be collecting all the items listed below at Trinity and will deliver to El Sol in the fall when school starts back up! Please drop off during the week or on a Sunday! Thanks for your help in building a stronger connection with our neighborhood school!

- Kids Clothes Needed - It's time to clean out your kids' closets! El Sol Elementary has asked for help with supplying some of their students with winter clothes and gear, new socks and underwear, sweatpants and leggings. Snowpants are a particular need! Will you consider helping us spread the word and donating your kids' clothes here?
- School Supplies - Backpacks, crayons, standard washable school markers (Crayola) and plastic two pocket folders. These donations will be collected at Trinity. Look for sales this summer!
- Teachers Breakroom - non-perishable items like chips, candy, granola bars, microwave popcorn, drinks, ground coffee, and K-cups.

**The Salvation Army Angel Tree** will be set up in Fellowship Hall to collect toys in **November through early December**. The tree has tags with age and sex of a child, with some suggestions for a gift, but you do not have to buy what is listed. We do suggest that for teenagers a gift card to a teenage-friendly store or activity is appropriate. There will be a small box on the SCRIP table for the cards. After selecting a tag from the tree, purchase an appropriate gift, and deliver the UNWRAPPED gift to the box by the tree with the tag attached. The Salvation Army has a "toy store" where parents come and choose an appropriate gift for their child. Any questions, call Rasma McMullen: 349-9429

### **Express Lane for the Salvation Army Angel Tree**

*For those who might prefer to give a gift without going shopping, here is an option:*

1. Choose a card from the Angel Tree
2. Bring it to the SCRIP gift card table in Fellowship Hall
3. Choose the retailer and amount you wish
4. Put both cards in the Angel Tree gift box on the SCRIP Table

*Thanks for supporting this annual event which brings joy to so many!*

**Helping Hands Needed at Quilters!!** No sewing required, please come and help with this project if you are looking for a place to volunteer and some conversation and coffee. Quilters take a break in November and December for the holidays but resume again in the new year! For more information, contact Teri at tkoretsky44@yahoo.com or at 269-567-4238.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

**WELCA is looking for volunteers/help!!** There have been several inquiries as to whether we will be having an "Advent Tea" type of event this year. We would love to do this and really feel it is a wonderful way to start the Advent season, which starts on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, but we need help to do this. Specifically, there is a need for someone, or more than one someone, to head this up and volunteers to help make the event happen. PLEASE prayerfully consider whether this is something you could do and then contact me, Holly Wohlfert (text 269-808-3889, or email, wohlfert@sbcbglobal.net), or any WELCA board member (Connie Ruch, Kathy Aivars, Sandy Wallace, Linda Ward) and we will help you get things started. Thank you in advance for your willingness to consider this.

### **Post-Pandemic Research Survey**

As part of the ELCA, Trinity has been selected to be a part of a nationwide survey aimed at understanding the effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic on faith communities around the country. All people who have attended Trinity are invited to respond even if you began attending after 2020. When the survey is completed, Trinity will receive a summary of the responses from our congregation that could be very informative and helpful as we consider how to navigate unique situations in the future. We are hoping to get a majority of our members and visitors to respond so that we can gain valuable information about our congregation and contribute to the overall understanding that this survey seeks to bring.

The survey takes only about 15 minutes to complete and can be found at the link below.

[https://covidreligionstudy.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9GYI89a3NMOwuFw?congregation=20076](https://covidreligionstudy.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9GYI89a3NMOwuFw?congregation=20076)

More information can be found at <https://www.covidreligionresearch.org/attender-survey/>

Thank you for your input!



**Come and learn about the Kalamazoo Gleaners organization!** Arrangements have been made for members of Kalamazoo Gleaners to share information about the program and to answer questions that you may have. They will be joining us on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> (which is also Thankoffering Sunday) at about 12:20 pm with a short presentation (about 15 minutes) and then a Q&A time. We would love to have lots of people in attendance to show our support!

**Sign up for Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers!** Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community! Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to provide flowers or host fellowship time for the coming months. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events. *(And if you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a fellowship host!)* \*Altar flowers are \$ 20 per bouquet and should be ordered one week in advance. **Call or email the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to put altar flowers on for a Sunday.**

**Please keep these people in your prayers:**

Ruth Krueger, Beth Latshaw, Sandy Eschelbach, Vicky Phillips, Linda Ward, David Mason, Judy Morison, Marge Bateman.



**Green Team Meeting!** The next meeting will be Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-11am at Trinity. Anyone is welcome to attend!

**Opportunities from the TLC Green Team**

The Green Team continues to seek a leader for this group. We have many ideas and just need someone to help organize us. It's a great group of people, come check us out!

**Recycling Update from the Green Team**

The Green Team is busy working to improve the ways that Trinity can foster a culture of environmental education and stewardship. To this end, you may have noticed the new blue trash bins that are marked for recycling. Please put only clean paper, magazines, empty and dry plastic bottles and containers, aluminum and steel cans, glass bottles and jars and flattened cardboard in these bins. Put items loosely in the bin: not bagged. If you are unsure if your item is acceptable, refer to the posted information sheet near or on the bin.

Do not put trash or garbage in these bins as it will contaminate everything.

What to do with all the other plastic coming into your home? Plastic film is everywhere!! This film includes produce bags, store bags, ice bags, Ziploc and other reclosable bags, cereal box liners, case overwrap (think of that raft of toilet paper or paper towels or multi-water bottles), bread bags, newspaper sleeves, bubble wrap, and air pillows (deflated). Phew!! That is a lot of plastic! Watch for new bins at Trinity for these items or collect them in grocery store bags and return them to D&W, Meijer, Walmart or Target yourself.

Let's all work together to take care of the world that God has entrusted to us.

### **Trinity's Solar Panel Overview from the Green Team**

Our solar panel system is on track to generate ~22kWh for the year 2024. With the system now paid off, this generation translates to ~\$3,500 in savings on our electric bill (this savings essentially cuts our bill in half). 22kWh of generated solar power saves ~18,500 lbs of CO2.

To put that into perspective one (1) kWh provides enough power to cook in an oven for 30 minutes, run a dishwasher for 1 hour, run a refrigerator for 3 hours, power a Playstation for 7 hours, or watch a 50" LED TV for 20 hours. One (1) MWh provides enough energy to power a home for 1.2 months, drive an electric vehicle 3,600 miles, power two 60-watt lightbulbs non-stop for a year, smelt 137 pounds of aluminum, toast 89,000 slices of bread, run a pool pump for 5 months, or run two refrigerators for a year. NOW THATS A LOT OF POWER!

**Visiting Writer Series:** This summer the KNC brought author Robin Wall Kimmerer to Kalamazoo for a well attended talk based on her book, Braiding Sweetgrass. Kimmerer's interests include not only restoration of ecological communities, but restoration of our relationships to land. She is returning to KVCC for their Visiting Writers Series. Two different free presentations will occur in the KVCC auditorium on November 6th at 10am and 2:15pm. Tickets are required and can be found on KVCC's website. There will also be a free community book discussion at Kalamazoo Valley Museum on Nov. 2, 2024 at 1pm.

### **Fellowship Events**

**Ladies Lunch will be November 13 at 11:30am at Rooster's Call** (6050 Gull Rd.). We hope to have a large group of old friends and new for some fun and fellowship. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Julie Peterson with questions: 269-249-6141.

**Meeting of the Men!** Meeting of the men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation and a great opportunity to get to know one other guys who call Trinity home! We'll plan to gather at Bell's Brewery on Thursday November 14th from 5:00-6:30pm for a relaxed time of fellowship and conversation.

**Meeting of the Women** – All women of all ages are invited to join us for a relaxed time of fellowship and friendship. On November 14 from 6-8 we'll gather at Thunderbird (701 E Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo). Come as you're able and stay as long as you like!

**K'zoo Folklife Loaves and Fishes Benefit Concert** On November 9th, the annual Loaves and Fishes benefit concert is back at Trinity. Doors open at 5pm, concert starts at 5:30pm and put on by K'zoo Folklife Organization with a variety of great acts! They'll be collecting food donations or monetary gifts for Loaves and Fishes. Everyone is invited to come on out!



Trinity Lutheran Church sends out weekly emails to update our congregation on upcoming events, ongoing projects, volunteer opportunities, changes to our schedule, and links to our online services. Sign up with our QR code for the most up to date information available!



# POINSETTIA ORDER FORM 2024

Each Christmas season we place poinsettias in the church as part of our decorations. Please use this form, along with a check to Trinity Lutheran Church (indicating payment for poinsettias) for your order. The cost is \$15.00 per plant. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 1.

Due to limited supply and color availability, all orders will be "Florist Choice". Please place your check along with this order in the offering plate or mail to the church office. Plants may be picked up following the late service on Christmas Eve, December 24.

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of poinsettias—florist choice

Please **circle** honor or memory:

In honor/ memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope number (if available): \_\_\_\_\_



**Thank you to everyone who came out to Trunk or Treat!  
It was a great night - we went through 60 pizzas and there wasn't a piece of candy left on the property!  
Our unofficial count was over 700 people!  
Extra special thanks to all those who brought trunks, served pizza, and helped out in any other way!**



**There will be a congregational meeting on December 8th**

**immediately after the 11:00am service** where we will vote on the Annual Budget for 2025. All members are encouraged to be a part of the meeting to voice their vote. Please make every effort to be at this meeting!



## Trinity 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**“I was glad when they said to me, ‘let us go to the House of the Lord!’” Psalm 122 v.1**

On the first Sunday in Advent, December 4<sup>th</sup> 1904, 30 charter members gathered in a rented room over a store on North Burdick Street to share the Word and Sacrament as Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized and founded. Over 4 or 5 generations and 120 years have passed, and still the Good News of Jesus Christ remains central to our mission.

In 1904 the population of Kalamazoo was about 25,000. Heritage Hall at WMU was built the same year. K College had a total of 219 students. Gibson Guitar was only 2 years old. Teddy Roosevelt had just been elected President. A historic flood had deluged the downtown (some things never change). In 1906 a chapel on West Cedar was dedicated, and in 1928 our present church was dedicated.

Some other facts in the US from 1904:

- the average life expectancy was 47 years
- the American flag had 45 stars
- 8,000 cars in the whole country, only 144 miles of paved roads
- only 14 percent of homes had the luxury of a bathtub
- only 8 percent had a telephone
- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa and Tennessee were more populated than California
- the population in Las Vegas was 30
- More than 95 percent of all births took place in the home
- Most women only washed their hair once a month, and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo
- only 6 percent of all American adults had graduated high school
- the Eiffel Tower was the tallest structure in the world

**“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.” Hebrews 13:8**

Obviously much has changed in the past 120 years, but Christ remains the same. Our culture, even language is ever evolving. Trinity has been nimble in adapting and creating new ministries. Not many congregations make it to 120 years. This is not just an acknowledgment of the past, but a celebration of both present and future possibilities and ministry opportunities. We give thanks for the generations before us, pray for our parish and outreach today, and prepare for new dreams and visions in the future. May the peace of Christ be with us all! Pr. Ken

**120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship Celebration  
Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> 8:30am & 11:00am  
Bishop Craig Satterlee preaching  
Western Michigan Brass**