

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent devotional materials, prayer booklets for adults, families, and children, are available in the Fellowship Hall. This is a wonderful way to help keep our focus on Christ during this Advent season and the holy days of Christmas.

Volunteers Needed! There are two upcoming opportunities to help with Christmas decorations at Trinity: **Monday December 9** at 10:30am - We need help installing wreaths, hurricanes, candles, swags and greens in the sanctuary and gathering space. The trees will already be up, so no heavy lifting for us!

Monday January 6 at 10:30am - We need to take down and put away all Christmas decorations. *If you can help, please contact Jen Gatz at gatzjen@gmail.com or 269-993-2301 (text/call).*

Please note that Poinsettia Orders are due by December 1! If you wish to have poinsettias in the church as part of our Christmas decorations, please fill out a form located near the entrances to the sanctuary and return with payment to the church office.

120th Anniversary Worship Celebration Sunday December 8th 8:30am & 11:00am Bishop Craig Satterlee preaching West Michigan BrassWorks

Children's Christmas Pageant and Hotdog Lunch - Mark your calendar for Trinity Lutheran's annual Sunday school Christmas Program on Sunday, **December 22 for the 11am Service!** After the program, our youth group will host a hot dog luncheon at noon. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit the youth ministry activities. Please plan on joining us!

Advent Beer and Hymns! December 10 from 6-8

Need a little holiday cheer? Have no fear! Beer and Hymns is back this year! On Tuesday December 10th from 6-8, O'Duffy's Pub (804 W. Vine St.) is opening especially for us! We'll celebrate the season with a time of singing, fellowship, fun, and more singing all in the cozy atmosphere of this wonderful neighborhood pub! Invite your friends and be sure to join us for this wonderful evening! (**note - if you were crowded out last year, please give it another shot! The pub is opening specially just for this event this year, so there should be a little more space ;)*)

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'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)

From the SCRIP (gift card) Table: We hope you will take advantage of the gift cards our Service Ministry has available at the SCRIP Table; they are a perfect fit and easily mailed! We have cards for eating out, DIY needs, gasoline, groceries, clothing shoes, and cosmetics. The cards are also a easy way to make a gift to the Salvation Army Angel Tree. (See below for Express Lane directions.) Profits this year have been used to match the Youth's Battery Project collection (\$404.25), for needy individuals and families, and for Ministry with Community BINGO prizes. Please stop by the SCRIP table or call Janet Gullickson (260-372-0081) to buy or order cards and support our work. Thank you!

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
3. Choose the retailer and amount you wish
4. Put both cards in the Angel Tree gift box

The Salvation Army Angel Tree will be set up in Fellowship Hall to collect toys in **November through December 15**. 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

If you have access to Thrivent Grants, please consider using one to help purchase needed items and supplies for church outreach and events! Contact the church office if you are looking to find out more.

2025 Pledge Cards! If you haven't done so already, take a moment to fill out a Pledge Card for next year. Extra Pledge Cards are available near the entrances to the sanctuary or from the church office.

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, Soap, Toilet paper & Toothpaste.

Men's Bible Study - We will meet on Wed November 27 & December 11. 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".

Christ Clothes Closet: The Closet needs donations of women's underwear size 6 & 7 and socks, and winter coats for all as they continue to give away cold weather gear throughout this season.

EMM invites Trinity to A Baroque Noël on December 1, 2024 – 3 p.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. To celebrate the Christmas season, Early Music Michigan presents the *Messe de Minuit pour Noël* (Midnight Mass for Christmas) of Marc-Antoine Charpentier. This special mass from 1694 is based on ten beloved French Noël's, which we will feature in settings for organ and Baroque chamber ensemble. To that end, we will be joined by Michigan-based historical performance ensemble "Les Écuries du Roy," an oboe band who will perform with us on reproductions of seventeenth-century instruments. Pay what you will for tickets!

Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers: Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community by providing snacks for our coffee hour. 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.

Refugee Families in Need! Trinity is working with Bethany Christian Services to sponsor several new refugee families for the holiday season. We currently have 5 families that have a list of practical needs and wish list items and as a congregation we would like to be able to fulfill those needs! If you are interested in helping with this project with individual items, or wish to sponsor and entire family, please contact the church office or Pr. Jake.



**Advent Wednesday Evening Prayer using
the Holden Village Vespers service:**

December 4 - 6pm
*with music provided by
Jenny Parnaby on the dulcimer*

December 11 - 6pm
*with music provided by Negar Afazel and Jon
Barnes on violin and cello*

December 18 - 6pm
*Service of Healing with music provided by
Gabriel Renteria-Elyea on oboe*

Advent Season Sunday Services

- December 1** - First Sunday of Advent - 8:30 & 11am
- December 8** - Second Sunday of Advent - 8:30 & 11am
*Trinity's 120th anniversary
with West Michigan Brassworks*
- December 15** - Third Sunday of Advent
*Lessons and Carols 8:30 & 11am
With Trinity's Choir*
- December 22** – Fourth Sunday of Advent – 8:30 & 11:00
*Children's Christmas Pageant at the 11:00 Service
Hot Dog Lunch at 12pm - all are welcome!*
- December 24** – Christmas Eve - 5pm, 7pm & 9pm
- December 29** - 8:30 & 11am



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.