



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

115 4th St. N
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-439-7400
www.trinitylc.org

January 2021
volume 43, issue 1

trinity **TODAY**

Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world.



Living Nativity photos on Pages 8-9

...in God was life, and
the life was the light
of all people. The light
shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not
overcome it.

– John 1: 4-5



LEAD PASTOR **THE REV. DR. CHRIS BELLEFEUILLE**

Waiting

My first visit to Disney World was as a teenager with my family. We drove all the way from Eau Claire. Ted and I have taken our kids twice. It is visually astonishing, imaginary perfection. No detail too small to stamp with the Disney-verse brand—usually iconic mouse ears. The captivating color, creativity, energy, costumed characters and princesses make memories that last.

Among the less pleasant memories are the lines. (Eclipsed in memory only by the time our 11-year-old made it back to the hotel just in time to consecrate the carpet with an epic hurl.) Fortunately, one trip through Space Mountain was enough for me, so I haven't had to endure that epic line since I was 17. Still, waiting is part of the experience; what one expects and what one prepares their kids for. We were lucky. Stick a book in their hands and our gang were content to scooch slowly through the line without ever raising their eyes. Once achieved, the end of the line usually delivered on the promised excitement or enchantment.

Now, 2021 sparkles with Disney-like promise: The vaccine! The vaccine! Ooh, Ooh! Mom! Canwecanwecanwecanwe!?!

We give thanks for the tireless and ongoing effort of scientists who learned from the wisdom of those before them and churned out multiple vaccines in record time. We give thanks for logistics and transport and manufacturing who get vaccine into the hands of the nurses, pharmacists, doctors, and technicians who will administer billions of doses in the coming years.

And we line up and wait.

And not just for the vaccine. Not much has changed yet about how we must live in the coming months. We must still mask, distance and forestall in-person worship. When we do come back, it will be staged and slow. Because getting everyone vaccinated will take time. So, we will not “go from 0 to 60,” as they say. We will follow the best science, scooch along, and continue to worship remotely for some months to come.

Waiting is difficult and heartbreaking; lonely and strange. Everyone is worn out. And human beings have endured seemingly endless hard times before. During the depression, folks weren't given daily updates by their governors asking for patience, promising a not-too-distant end to their suffering. Wars would drag on as death tolls rose. Previous pandemics were much longer sieges than this one seems to indicate.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, accompanied by God, human beings have proven again and again that we have the capacity to surprise ourselves and each other. As the people of God, we are part of an ancient, millennia-long story of suffering, waiting and longing.

And then! In the incarnation, we are shown a God who enters fully into our suffering, waiting and longing with us. A God who shepherds us through. A God who redeems our murderous

intent and gives us God-breathed peace. A God who birthed the church amid fear, grief and oppression. We were, in a word, built for this. We have the tools we need: God, neighbor, Word, bread and wine, water and music. And technology. We have each other, even at a distance. We are walking this road as one Body. We wait, but we wait together. And we wait in God.

According to a little tool on the New York Times site, there are roughly 268,000,000 Americans in line ahead of me. So, I will be loading up on reading while I scooch my way through the line and wait for my turn on the ride to pandemic freedom. Some of you have a FastPass and will already be vaccinated by the time this goes to print. I would consider you lucky, but I know the risk it cost you to find yourself at the front of the line. So, thank you. And embrace the hard-earned ride.

Beloveds, we are nearly there and the end of the line doesn't move faster. Breathe in that God-given peace, pray for and offer patience wherever and whenever you can. And know that you are missed, loved, and eagerly awaited when the time comes to finally line up for time with each other.

Blessings in what promises to be a truly new year in Christ.

Pastor Chris

PLEASE NOTE: All Trinity staff will be “out of the office” Christmas Day through New Year's Day for some much needed time off. Pause & Pray on Facebook will not be provided that week. Pastor Chris and Bob Eiselt will be on call. Please call the church office at 651-439-7400 for emergencies. Thank you!

PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION
THE REV. PETER WESTON MILLER



This is what we are for

Christ is Born!

Christ is Born for us, indeed! Merry Christmas!

Wow, it feels so good to be turning another yearly calendar page into 2021, even as it still feels very much like the same days over and over again.

I often take time in January newsletters to reflect on the last year and what have been the highs and lows.

And even as I have treasured and pondered in my heart so many things from this last revolution around the sun, it is still so hard to fully realize how much we have been through.

It's been different for everyone, but we will all remember 2020, probably like no other year.

Which is why for me, it has been so important to name and to be the church. To be the Body of Christ.

As we continue to look to the manger in this Christmas season, we are reminded that God's work for us in the world happens in such unlikely and amazing places.

Breaking and birthing through vulnerable moments of incarnation.

God's grace and love covers this lowly holy family.

All of the stars and the sparkle and the lights of Christmas dance with impossibility.

Really? After a year like this? God is still moving? Doing something new even?

Well, yes. Even still.

For years both unlike and similarly disruptive.

God's people were always urged, no matter what the year was, to keep coming back to the same amazing impossibility of life.

Of Good News, when we have been through so much.

Of service, when we are at our exhausted wits end.

Of emphatic praise, when our cries are sometimes all that comes.

Of beloved community, when we can't even breathe the same air together.

This is what we do, as every year turns.

This is what are for in the world.

To hold fast to the truth that God's love incarnate always has the first, hopefully some of the middle, and certainly the last word.

As we enter these new minutes and hours and days in 2021, may we continue to be God's people as we always have, for we have been made for this.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Peter



TrinityCast:
An En-Courage-ing Word
Q & A with Pastor Chris and
Pastor Peter

Wednesday, Jan. 6

6:30-7:30 pm on Zoom

We have had an amazing response to TrinityCast (like hundreds of downloads) and we would love to hear your comments, questions, and ideas from this first series on the Bible.

We are also eager to hear from the Trinity community about what other topics we might explore together and what we might learn through this interesting medium. Thank you for your interest and for following along with this conversation. It has been so much fun!

FIND THE PODCAST SERIES:

On Buzzsprout: **<https://trinitycast.buzzsprout.com/>**

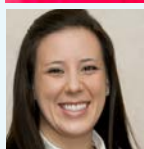
Or on our web site: **<https://trinitylc.org/learning/adult/podcast/>**

On Apple Podcasts: **<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/trinitycast-an-en-courage-ing-word/id1540124079>**

Congregational Council

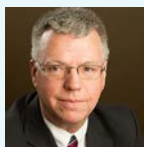


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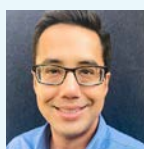
Open
COUNCIL TREASURER
To be appointed



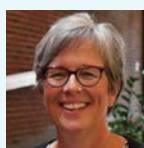
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To reach all members of council, send email to council@trinitylc.org. More information including minutes and reports at <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/council/>.

STEWARDSHIP RESOLUTIONS

By Claudia Swendseid, Stewardship Team

I recently read that only 25 percent of people stay committed to their New Year's resolutions beyond one month and only 8 percent accomplish them. I Googled "2020 New Year's Resolutions" and got 29,300,000 results. Of those millions, the most common concerned improving one's health—such as exercising more and eating more healthily—and improving one's money habits—specifically saving more and spending less.

Many of us have optimistically made resolutions at the beginning of a new year—I've made my fair share. Most resolutions deal with the most important aspects of our lives, and they usually go to the heart of our care and concerns. But they also tend to be self-oriented, at least if Google results are to be believed.

What if instead our resolutions for 2021 were other-oriented? And what if we rebranded them Stewardship Resolutions? Would creating other-oriented resolutions lead to a fuller stewardship way of life? Have you ever created a concrete plan to help someone else? Jesus had a plan. It was a plan that was undeniably other-oriented. Jesus approached those on the fringes. Jesus embraced the abandoned. Jesus served the poor. Jesus comforted the sorrowful. Jesus listened, prayed, and consoled those in need. Jesus was intentional. What would resolving to develop such an other-oriented plan look like for us? Who around us is in need of assistance, love or forgiveness? Maybe they need physical assistance around the house or maybe they just need someone to listen and pray with them. These are some examples of resolutions that lead to intentional discipleship.

This year consider rebranding your resolutions as Stewardship

Resolutions—goals that aren't merely tests of will power, but are also exercises of faith. Goals that take on a deeper meaning because you are making resolutions as an act of discipleship. After all the challenges we experienced together in 2020, resolutions that focus on loving our neighbor concretely may be meaningful enough to keep us committed.

As we enter into the Epiphany Season, let us keep the warmth and light of Jesus' birth at the forefront of our minds. Let us spend the start of the New Year in prayer. Let us ask God to guide our resolutions, to show us how you can manifest God's love in our community, with the aim of creating lasting transformation not only in our lives, but in the lives of others.

The New Year's Resolutions that change us the most are the ones that we fully embrace as God's call to us. With God's help, let us live out resolutions that transform the world in the light of God's love. I have made my share of New Year's resolutions over the years as I'm sure you have too. This year let us resolve, like the Magi, to take a journey to a deeper relationship with Jesus by practicing a stewardship way of life.



Trinity Financial Update

November Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2021

	This Year	Last Year	'21 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	255,771	266,588	1,326,000	19%
Other Income	54,092	99,495	422,761	13%
Total Income	<u>\$ 309,863</u>	<u>\$ 366,083</u>	<u>\$ 1,748,761</u>	
less: Expenses	373,186	401,951	1,747,358	21%
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>\$ (63,324)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (35,868)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,403</u></u>	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,346,629	3,410,152
Increase (Decrease)	<u>(21,628)</u>	<u>(20,950)</u>
Long-Term Debt - End of November	<u><u>\$ 3,325,001</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,389,202</u></u>
Line of Credit Balance - November 30	\$ 30,000	\$ 26,000

Financial Highlights

November 2021

Financial results for November 2020 are off compared to November of 2019. Program Registrations, Fees & Payments and Building Rental Income are all off vs. last year, showing the continuing effects of the pandemic and reduced activity in our building. The 2021 budget contemplated this and some emergency PPP funds were designated to help with this shortfall. We will be applying some of those funds to revenue but, as of now have not had to access them. As well, the timing of receipt of some annual Contribution gifts fluctuates every year, causing a shortfall in Contributions YTD. Expenses are also down vs. 2019, reflective of lower insurance costs and reduced programming costs.

November 2020 results place us behind last year at this time, showing a total deficit YTD of \$63K, v. a deficit of \$36K in 2019. Contribution Income of \$94K for the month of November 2020 is \$9K less than November 2019, reflective of the timing of annual gifts I referred to earlier. Total Income for the month is \$24K less than November 2019. YTD, Fees & Payments Income is \$29K less than 2019, and Building Rent is also down \$9K vs. last year. Learning programs expenses are correspondingly down by \$26K YTD compared to 2019. Overall YTD Operating Expenses are \$35K less than YTD November 2019.

Our Line of Credit Balance is now at \$30,000. Last year we had a \$26,000 balance against the line at this time.



Trinity Mission Funds in Partnership

By Michele Hermansen, Outreach Mission Ministry Team Lead

Mission funds raised through the past golf tournament continue to help us reach out to our mission partners in need. Thank you for your ongoing financial contributions to Outreach Missions!

In December we were able to respond positively and promptly to a proposal from Good Samaritan Society nursing home in Stillwater and we provided \$600 through their Chaplaincy program for one of five weekly lunches for their 50 staff members, along with a shared prayer. Staff members at Good Samaritan, like at so many care facilities, have experienced significantly increased stress in recent months due to the increase in COVID-19. And of course, health rules prohibiting visitors applies to outside pastors as well, so the Chaplain also carries a heavier load of spiritual services for all internal residents during this time.

Trinity has had an ongoing relationship with the Anuak community who

have escaped genocide in East Africa, primarily Ethiopia and South Sudan. The community is led by the Rev. Gilo Agwa. We have partnered in these efforts with First Presbyterian and Our Saviour's Lutheran.

The economic effects of the pandemic have hit the Anuak community especially hard. Since May First Presbyterian has provided food assistance to 55 families, delivering packaged rice, lentils, flour, beans and other foods most used in their cooking at a cost of \$2,200/month for their bulk purchase of this food.

In December Trinity provided \$2,200 from Outreach Missions to assist in the food support for the Anuak community through First Presbyterian. This was authorized by the Outreach Mission Team from golf tournament funds. We are also exploring ways in which we can become more actively involved in relationship with the Anuak families.

NEW RESOURCE IN
OUR COMMUNITY >>

FREE MEAL BAGS AVAILABLE

- Free for all families
- No qualification requirements
- No contact information collected



EVERY MEAL

For more information and food pickup locations visit:

www.everymeal.org/winter



ADULT FAITH FORUM

Sundays at 11 am
Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83989674185>

How Can I Help? Outreach Missions Series

By Penny Catlin, Faith Forum Coordinator

2020 was a challenging year, more for some people than others. We're now in a new year with hopes and prayers for things to get better—control and healing from COVID-19, relief from loss of loved ones, jobs, and homes, and justice for the oppressed and forgotten. Being able to connect with each with hugs and visible smiles. And the questions come, "How can I help? What should I do?" Below is one person's story who told me, "I'm not really that religious, but I just felt God telling me I need to do this."

At the end of June a person posted on our neighborhood Facebook page that he had made a supply run to the Powderhorn Park tent community. It was his childhood neighborhood park and it was full of people without a permanent place to live. He wrote that there were so many children there that he just had to do something! Since that first week he has been collecting blankets, clothes, food, water, tents, boots, hats, mittens, sleeping bags, toys and more. And every weekend, with truck and trailer loaded, he and a small team of friends and acquaintances make a trip to Minneapolis and St. Paul, wherever people are living unsheltered. Every single weekend! But the greatest gift he has given, is making connections. He spends time with them, listens to them, sits down with them to share stories, and gives them hugs. When they were being evicted from one location he would help them move to a new place where they felt safe. He looks for them each week, hoping to see them but also not, because he really wants them to be living in a safer place. He even has given out his number so they can let him know how they are doing and what they may need. He never asks, why do you need it, but responds: I'll get it for you!

I share his story because it so touched me and connects to our theme this month for Adult Faith Forum. If you want to check out more of the story or help, lookup Minneapolis Displaced Weekly Run on Facebook. Make sure you have some Kleenex ready!

January Adult Faith Forum

How Can I Help? Outreach Mission Series

Jan. 3: Michele Hermansen, chair of Trinity's Outreach Mission Team, will talk about Accompaniment—a lens for mission and how it fits with the other initiatives within our church. Accompaniment, or walking alongside, is the "why and how" of mission engagement locally and globally for both Trinity and the ELCA. She will share examples of both accompaniment and non-accompaniment mission work and how they differ.

Jan. 10: To be determined, watch for update in the bulletin and "This Week at Trinity" weekly email newsletter.

Jan. 17: Gabrielle Clowdus, CEO and Co-founder of Settled, will overview "Sacred Settlements" which are an innovative, research-based way to address chronic long-term homelessness by developing holistic tiny home communities in cooperation with a faith community.

Jan. 24: Colleen Diemer is Sacred Settlement Project Team leader at Faith Lutheran Church. Colleen will explain the discovery and project development process Faith Lutheran is undertaking to determine its involvement in the Settle organization's Sacred Settlement homeless solution.

Jan. 31: Julie Jeppson, Stepping Stone Emergency Housing Executive Director. Stepping Stone is providing emergency services to the homeless currently housed in Washington County hotels. She will discuss the social-economic drivers for the creation of "The Invisible Class."

Please join us in Adult Faith Forum on Sundays this winter. Questions? Contact Penny Catlin at pccatlin@juno.com. For more information and to view recent sessions visit: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/adult/adult-ed/>.

January 2021 • trinity.today.



Virtual Family Movie Night Sunday, Jan. 3 at 5 p.m.

Wear something cozy, pop the popcorn, and settle into your favorite spot on the couch for a virtual Family Movie Night with Sarah Olson on Sunday, Jan. 3 at 5 p.m.

Here's how to participate:

- 1) You need to have access to a Netflix account on a computer (so you can use Teleparty).
- 2) Download Teleparty (formerly Netflix Party) to your computer at www.netflixparty.com. Teleparty synchronizes video playback and adds group chat to Netflix so we can all watch the same thing at the same time!
- 3) Let Sarah know you plan to participate by emailing her no later than by 4:30 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 3 so she can send you the link and directions to join the Teleparty.

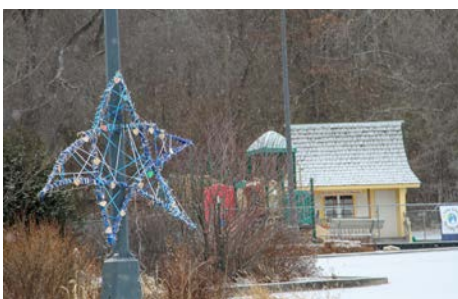
We'll watch *Mary Poppins Returns* (or a similar alternative, depending on Netflix offerings in January). "See you" at the cinema!

Please see Page 15 for One & Done Book Group details, discussion resumes on Monday, Feb. 1 at 6:30 p.m.





Eighty cars came out on the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. 13 to drive by six vignettes depicting the events surrounding the Christmas story. Special thanks to Sheila-Marie Untiedt for coordinating and the many volunteers and animals who made the afternoon special. Enjoy these photos from "Bethlehem!"



WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship Texts

Below are the scripture texts from the Revised Common Lectionary that will be used on the date listed to prepare the message for worship.

Jan. 3	John 1:(1-9), 10-18
Jan. 10	Mark 1:4-11
Jan. 17	John 1:43-51
Jan. 24	Mark 1:14-20
Jan. 31	Mark 1:21-28



Drive-in Worship UPDATE!

Worship will be online only (no drive-in worship) at 9 a.m. on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3. Then drive-in worship resumes on Sunday, Jan. 10, again weather permitting. Please check www.trinitylc.org each week for updates.

Sunday Worship

Online at 9 am

Outdoors at 10 am

On TV at 11 am

9 a.m.—Livestream and Online Worship from our Sanctuary

Facebook Livestream>>
facebook.com/trinitylcstillwater/

Online Worship>>
trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/online-worship/

10 a.m.—Outdoor Drive-in Worship in Houlton, WI weather permitting and with safe worship restrictions

Drive-in Worship>>
trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/drive-in-summer-worship/

11 a.m.—Watch on TV channel 18

Worship from our sanctuary is rebroadcast on channel 18 through Valley Access Channels. Also available at these times throughout the week:

Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday Noon & 6 p.m.

Thursday Midnight & 6 a.m.

Saturday 11 p.m.

Worship Helps

Download bulletin and announcements for Sunday worship to view or print at home.
trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/bulletin-helps/

PHOTOS AT LEFT: Hasty Nativity on Sunday, Dec. 13 during both worship services. Thank you to Tracy & Monty Lysne for leading and all who participated. Watch it on our YouTube channel at: https://youtu.be/4XV-azXlp_8.

Local Benevolences

IN HONOR OF:

Trinity Staff..... Don & Gayle Lobitz
 Children, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren Fred & Dee Hertenstein
 Rebekah Circle..... Carolyn Minor
 Our Family..... Jerry & Arlene Herbst
 Pastors & Church Staff..... Jim & Michele Hermansen
 Our Children & Grandchildren Doug & Kathy Karnuth
 Trinity Staff and Volunteers..... Chuck & Joan Newman
 Rose Mapps – Great-Grandma..... Jackson, Audrey, Mom & Dad

GIVEN BY:

IN MEMORY OF:

Dave Goulette..... Eric & Larry Loyer-Trosdahl
 Fred & Lillian Hertenstein; Alma Langness..... Norma Langness Johnson
 Loved Ones..... Don & Phyllis Paulson
 Henry Brochman..... June & Family
 Dave Goulette & Dwight Pederson Jon & Joan Fogelberg
 Phyllis Goldin Eric & Larry Loyer-Trosdahl
 Susan Mikkelsen..... Richard Mikkelsen; Mark Mikkelsen & Mary Curoe Families
 Sabine Bugs & Ken Erickson Ute Erickson
 Lloyd F. Wendorf His Family
 Helmuth & Marcella Reinke; Bob & Irene Huber..... John & Pat Reinke
 Skip Welke..... Welke & Rogness Families
 Loved Ones..... Gary & Lynn Schurrer
 Donavan Jacobson Dolores Jacobson
 Bob Minor Eric & Larry Loyer-Trosdahl
 Robert Parent..... Darlene Parent
 Ed & Lois Studtman..... Sally; Nancy & Family
 Carole Zempel Jeannie
 Dick & Audrey Jeans Randy Jeans
 Mike Erie-Dalziel Eric & Larry Loyer-Trosdahl
 Our Parents..... Fred & Dee Hertenstein
 Family Members Doug & Kathy Karnuth
 Charles Aslaksen & Robert Minor Carolyn Minor
 Lloyd Wendorf Eric & Larry Loyer-Trosdahl
 Loved Ones..... Marianne & Glenn Anderson
 Reno & Marlene Carlson; Ralph & Sally French John & Pat Reinke
 Nicholas Haase Jackson, Audrey, Mom & Dad
 Jane Trosdahl Eric & Larry Loyer-Trosdahl
 Nils C. Johnson Richard & Diane Johnson

GIVEN BY:

Christmas Carden

IN HONOR OF:

Trinity Staff and Volunteers..... Chuck & Joan Newman
 Rose Mapps – Great-Grandma..... Jackson, Audrey, Mom & Dad

GIVEN BY:

IN MEMORY OF:

Reno & Marlene Carlson; Ralph & Sally French John & Pat Reinke
 William Nelsen..... Barbara Stene
 Arnold Steinmetz & Butch Schroeder Families..... Don & Sandi Steinmetz
 Nicholas Haase Jackson, Audrey, Mom & Dad
 Helmuth & Marcella Reinke; Bob & Irene Huber..... John & Pat Reinke
 Loved Ones..... Marianne & Glenn Anderson



HIGHLIGHT: Pollinator Friendly Alliance

By Sheila Maybanks, Green Team

Remember the phrase “Think globally, act locally.”? Still true and so needed in our world. A new year, hopefully a better year for all.

Please consider a New Year’s Resolution of supporting and/or volunteering for Pollinator Friendly Alliance; a very active and innovative LOCAL organization. Pollinator Friendly Alliance (PFA) started five years ago when a group of students, University of Minnesota experts, and local people worked with the city of Stillwater to decrease use of neonicotinoid pesticides which are devastating to so many pollinators—bees especially.

Since then the PFA has set goals of expanding pollinator habitat, creating pollinator “corridors,” and educating residents and land managers on best practices for promoting pollinators. PFA, with local volunteers, has helped restore hundreds of acres of former farmland to pollinator-friendly native plantings. PFA has presented many programs for land managers and for all the rest of us on best practices for promoting pollinator friendly gardens, lawns and public areas.



Below is a link to the organization’s web site and to their new magazine with articles on land restoration, pollinator friendly lawns, the bur oak, our keystone prairie species and other compelling articles on protecting and enhancing our world, caring for God’s creation.

www.pollinatorfriendly.org

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59fcf40ab1ffb6ee9911ad2a/t/5fc7ca6a2b4aac184474ad03/1606929198199/Pollinator+Magazine+2021+Final.pdf>



Glow/Awe Update

The Glow / Awe team continues to evaluate when to schedule future activities based on Minnesota’s COVID-19 statistics and recommendations.

We are disappointed to have to cancel the Christmas Stroll & Pizza Supper, originally scheduled for Dec. 10, then postponed.

We want you to know that we are very eager to schedule some outdoor activities. However, we also realize that current guidelines are not in our favor. So until COVID-19 numbers decline and science tells us gatherings are safe, we will not schedule any further activities at this time.

We do continue to be hopeful. As soon as we sense a green light we hope to organize some winter hikes/snowshoe and ski events. So stay tuned, but more importantly, stay well.



Come and meet other singles and join this faith-based group where friendship and support are our mission. Each week we send a newsletter to members with fun and valuable information. To receive the newsletter, or if you would like more information, please send an email to: SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com.

Wishes for a blessed and happy 2021. Hoping we can all be together soon.



Meeting & Bible Study Wednesdays at 10:30 am Meeting on Zoom

The Retired Men’s Group continues to meet via Zoom each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. for a one-hour Bible study led by Pastor Steve Hokonson. Here is the Zoom meeting access information.

Zoom.us > Join a meeting
Meeting ID: 872 5512 6414
Password: 964596

More information about this group at:
<https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/retired-mens-group-rmg/>

Walking in the footsteps of our Trinity retired brothers on our journey with God!



The Light in Me sees and honors the Light in each of You

YogaDevotion Chair/Flow Combo Class

Thursdays 9 – 10 am | Meeting on Zoom

January 7 – February 25 | \$72 for 8 classes

All classes meeting on Zoom. Register to receive the link. 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 women and men of all skill levels and abilities. Beginners welcome, no experience needed!

Register and pay online at <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/care/yoga/>
Questions? Contact Sue Peterson at toddinsue2@aol.com.

Feeling lonely? Disconnected? Worn down? Spiritual Direction Groups forming now

Soothe your soul by joining a small group of Trinity friends in group spiritual direction.

Group Spiritual direction may be for you if...

- you want to tend to your faith life in a deeper, more intentional way...
- you sense that God is doing something new in your life...
- you long for accompaniment or to accompany others in their faith journey...
- you are struggling to discern the presence of God in your world...
- you are willing to make a disciplined commitment.

Each of our spiritual journeys are unique to us alone, but growth and blessings come when we share those journeys with one another.

Groups are now forming and will meet for an hour every other week, for 10 weeks.

Participants must have access to a computer, a commitment to attendance and confidentiality, and a willingness to share, be vulnerable and deeply listen to one another.

Contact Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org if you are curious, want to find out more or are ready to jump in to this beautiful experience of group spiritual direction.

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GROUP spiritual direction

"In group spiritual direction the goal is not to answer life's questions. The goal is to draw closer to God in the midst of the questions." – Alyce Fryling



Reading in All Circumstances

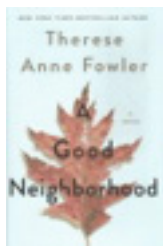
By Norma Wilson, Library Volunteer

...in God was life, and the life was the light of all people.

– John 1: 4-5

Learn to Bring Life & Light to Others

Faith, forgiveness, community, reconciliation, humanity, and racism are among subjects presented in the fiction and non-fiction books listed below. Ann Wolff, One and Done Book Group leader, will circulate these books for you. If you are interested in reading one of these choices, please contact Ann at: wolff701@msn.com or 651-260-3855.



A Good Neighbor (FIC FOWL) Fowler's novel, to be released in March, "asks the big questions about life in America today – what does it mean to be a good neighbor? How do we live alongside

each other when we don't see eye to eye. ...It explores the effects of class, race, and heartrending love in a story that's as provocative as it is powerful." (St. Martin's Griffin Press) Starred review Library Journal and Kirkus.

America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, And the Bridge to A New America (305.8 WALL) "Bestselling author and leading Christian activist Jim Wallis shows how Christians can work together to overcome the destructive and pervasive nature of racism in American society." (Brazos Press)

A Wind in the Door (FIC L'EN) This is the second book of the fantasy series, *A Wrinkle in Time* (FIC L'EN) Quintet. L'Engle is a Christian, who writes a story about three children who wrestle with the forces of evil for character Meg's father who is a physicist. "Evil manifests itself in small actions—moments



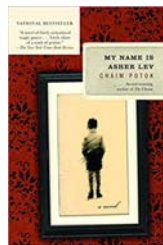
of jealousy, anger, fear, and hate that grow exponentially if not confronted. The book and the film demonstrate that it's up to each of us to counter evil with the kind of risk-taking, passionate love that is the one thing that can defeat it." (Professor Donald Hettinga)

Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation (241 MORR)

Morrison is a leading advocate for racial reconciliation. She calls "for Christians to move toward relationship and deeper understanding in the midst of a divisive culture. It is time for Christians to become the leaders in the conversation on racial reconciliation." Prayers and discussion questions are included.



Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents (305.5 WILK) Wilkerson, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns*, "points forward to ways America can move beyond the artificial and destructive separations of human divisions, toward hope in our common humanity. Beautifully written, original, and revealing, *Caste* is an eye-opening story of people and history, and a reexamination of what lies under the surface of ordinary lives and of American life today." (Random House)



My Name Is Asher Lev

(FIC POTO) Chaim

Potok writes about a Hasidic Jew "who keeps kosher, prays three times a day and believes in the Ribbano Shel Olom, the Master of the Universe. Asher Lev is

an artist who is compulsively driven to render the world he sees and feels. ...In this stirring and often visionary novel, Potok traces Asher's passage between these two identities, the one consecrated to God, the other subject

only to the imagination." (Anchor Books)

New Children's Books

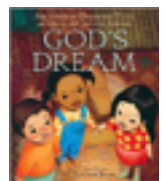
This Little Light of Mine (E L) Sing

along to this picture book, an African-American spiritual dating to the days of slavery.

This music is included so you can play it and shine your light for all to see.



God's Dream: Everyday Feelings (E T) Archbishop Tutu shares God's dream of people sharing, caring, forgiving and joy in this delightful and colorful board book.



To arrange checkout and pickup or delivery, please contact Norma at dwilson804@aol.com.

ONE & DONE BOOK GROUP

BOOK: *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell Monday Feb. 1
6:30 pm on Zoom

Dear Readers: **The One & Done Book Group invites you to an engaging discussion of a beloved classic: *The Sparrow* by Mary Doria Russell, Monday Feb. 1 at 6:30 pm on Zoom.**

One and Done includes men and women of all ages interested in a thought-provoking, challenging, faith-based discussion of a chosen book. The last three choices were from the Trinity Library's substantial collection of books on racism. What we read, learned, and discussed was eye-opening and painful. Where is the light in these stories of darkness? The light shines today in you and in me.

Contact Ann Wolff at wolff701@msn.com or (651) 260-3855 for the Zoom Link, for more information, or to borrow books from the Trinity Library.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Nov. 22	Dec. 6
Live viewers..... 92	Live viewers..... 84
Views/week..... 372	Views/week..... 314
Drive-in..... 87	Drive-in..... 134
Nov. 24	Dec. 13
Thanksgiving	Live viewers..... 76
Live viewers..... 31	Views/week..... 335
Views/week..... 282	Drive-in..... 134
Nov. 29	
Live viewers..... 90	
Views/week..... 374	
Drive-in..... 112	

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- Livestream on Facebook at 9 a.m.
- At the Drive-in at 10 a.m.
- Watch on TV at 11 a.m.

Watch Worship on local channel 18 through Valley Access

Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday Noon & 6 p.m.

Thursday Midnight & 6 a.m.

Saturday 11 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To family and friends of **Dwight Pederson**
- To family and friends of **Konrad Koosmann**
- To family and friends of **Grace Marquardt**
- To family and friends of **Muriel Nestrud**
- To family and friends of **Dean Sonnee**

trinity TODAY

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why trinity?

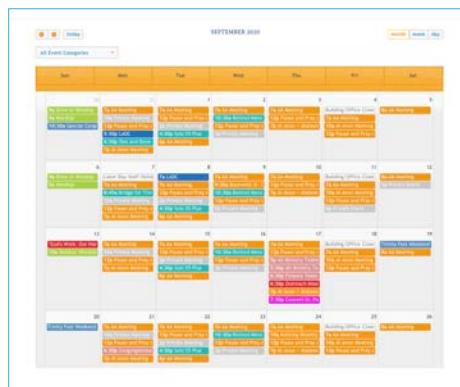
Because God
first loved us,
we live as Jesus in the world,
loving God and
loving neighbor.

core values

Exceptional Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Faith Formation
Compassionate Action

welcome

To read our full welcome state-
ment please visit our web site at
www.trinitylc.org > WELCOME >
WHO WE ARE > RECONCILING IN CHRIST.



CALENDAR

Please see the calendar on our web
site for events, meetings and other
happenings at Trinity. The calendar has
been updated with online events. Thank
you for your patience as we keep it up to
date in an ever-changing time. Please
let us know at info@trinitylc.org if your
group or event is not listed. View the
calendar at: <https://trinitylc.org/calendar/>



Trinity's 150th Anniversary Calling Trinity History Buffs!

The Archives committee is seeking help as the congregation prepares to celebrate it's 150th Anniversary. This would be a great winter activity! There are numerous archive boxes to help us understand our past and the impact of our congregation in our local and worldwide community.

We are grateful to Marie Liberda for her preparation with the Pastor Archives of our church, and to Michele Hermansen for her willingness to help us learn about Trinity Missions. The Music Archives are capably in the hands of Carol Carver and Phil Kadidlo.

Did you know Trinity had a Correspondence Committee for Trinity military during WW II? In anticipation of Trinity's 150th Anniversary, we need someone who is able to help the congregation learn about the Correspondence Committee by reviewing archives and letters written by many Trinity Military.

Sept. 17, 1945 the Correspondence Committee wrote: "With a thankful

prayer to God, we, with you, welcome the news of peace with Japan on Aug. 14th, the official day of surrender, Sept. 2, 1945. After consulting with our Pastor, Dr. Benson, and the members of the Correspondence Committee, we feel that our work is done."

Do you want to know more about the structural history of Trinity Lutheran Church? Did you know the Trinity Lutheran Church School Building was dedicated in 1954? You can help the congregation learn about the phases of construction by viewing the Building Archives and through pictures and words share an understanding of how we grew to be the church in all circumstances.

We look forward to this 2021 celebration. If you have items you would like archived for Trinity or to donate just for this event, they would be welcomed!

Please contact Norma Wilson at dwilson804@aol.com or 651-470-5124 to volunteer.



PHOTO: Glendon Bieging