

Trinity Lutheran Church  
PO Box 37  
Tea, SD 57064  
Return Service Requested



★ Christmas

★ Music ★



Dec 8 - 6:30pm Men Sing, Bells Ring, Choirs Sing  
Dec 11 – 6:30 pm Men Sing, Bells Ring, Choirs Sing  
Dec 15 – 10:30am Sunday School Christmas program



Dear beloved of Trinity,

Psalm 23 says that our cup runs over with blessings. November is a reminder to look at our blessings and give thanks, even though we don't reserve one month to show God our appreciation of his undeserved grace and love in our lives.

The example was set with the early settlers who gave thanks after their first harvest. God had been good to them.

Yes, God is good.

My daughter, who lives in Bratislava, Slovakia and I were facetimeing one day and she had me listen to her son, Odin, sing a song in Slovak. I said I recognized the song as one that I had learned at Bible Camp when I was a kid. She was surprised by this and asked Odin if he knew the words in English. In order to understand the humor of the next part you have to understand that only one of Odin's teachers speaks English and when she does, it is with a thick accent.

So when Odin sang the song in English, it sounded something like this, "Yeees, Goad izz goot."

No matter how we say it, God is good! We end our worship services boldly proclaiming this fact. God fully understands us and unconditionally loves us. He is our creator and redeemer. A thankful attitude opens the lines of communication with God. In the devotional book, Jesus Calling, Sarah Young writes, *"Thankfulness is not some sort of magic formula; it is the language of Love, which enables you to communicate intimately with God. A thankful mind-set does not entail a denial of reality with its plethora of problems. Instead, it rejoices in Jesus, our Savior, in the midst of trials and tribulations. I am your refuge and strength, an ever-present and well-proven help in trouble."*

Take time to purposefully thank God. Intentional ask family members to name 5 things they are thankful for. Voicing our gratefulness for God's abundance is acknowledging God's faithfulness to all generations.

I am so grateful for this congregation; for your support; your love; your commitment to becoming disciples of Christ. Together we are the body, ready to serve.

"Yeees, Goad izz goot."

In Christ's name,  
Deacon Christie

## All Saints Sunday—Nov. 3—For the dead and the living in Christ

At the morning worship services on November 3rd, we will remember that we are the body of Christ, united to both the living and dead in Baptism. With thanksgiving, we will remember all the faithful departed, especially those who have died since last All Saints' Day. There will be candles that may be lit during communion for loved ones who have died. Then too, we will recognize those who have been baptized at Trinity this past year with small candles on the altar.

### Milestone Moment

Milestones are a way for parents and caring adults to keep the promises made at Baptism. Milestones are "*steps along the way*" on a lifelong journey of faith. They give us the tools we need for the road ahead.

God's promises are always kept, and grace is a gift we receive through Baptism regardless of what we do. Milestones help parents and children *live into* this gift and use it everyday.

We completed our **4<sup>th</sup> grade** Milestone on Oct 13. They learned that stewardship is the good management of all God has given us – our time, our possessions and our money.

### Angel Tree

This is our second year of coordinating with the Tea Area public schools and the Angel Tree program. There will be needs of children on tags on a Christmas tree that you will be able to take. Also, we will be creating cleaning baskets for recipients. Watch for further information to come.

### God's Work, Our Hands

God's Work, Our Hands is an opportunity for us to recognize one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service is one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans. We love God and love others. In the past, God's Work Our Hands has been a whole congregational event. This year our 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and Senior High will participate in the activities on November 20. We thank them in advance for their willingness to be a part of this important ministry. Also, thank you to those who donated items towards the project that were collected in early September.

**A big Thank You goes out the Hansen family and all the volunteers that were able to put up our new playset for our preschool children!**



## **New to the Bible: A nonthreatening Bible study for Men**

Dear Men,

For years, I faked my way through professional baseball conversations. I didn't know the American League and National League from the Little League, so I finally bought a *Baseball for Dummies* book and learned how to watch baseball. Since then I have learned to love watching baseball. So, if you are a man and are ready to learn something about the Bible, I've created a simple course just for you. Instead of *The Bible for Dummies*, I'm calling it *New to the Bible: A nonthreatening Bible study for Men* (Same concept, more polite title.)

Beginning on Wednesday evening, **November 20, at 7:15** I'll be teaching a Men's Bible study on the gospels. This class will begin with the basics of the Bible that you never learned but want to know. There are no stupid questions, and we'll have a good time getting to know each other better. We'll meet two Wednesdays each month, and I guarantee you'll be surprised at how much you will learn.

We'll meet in my office following Wednesday evening worship because I have more comfortable chairs that we have in most of the other rooms. Each study will be about an hour long. If you have questions, please let me know.

Best wishes, Pastor Tom



Many of us have financial hopes for the future that include being generous. How do I best make that happen? Many are working to be financially generous right now. Are there some ways of giving smarter than others?

To help answer these questions, the Board of Stewardship and the Trinity Endowment Committee have invited Kathy McHenry from Lutheran Planned Giving of South Dakota to speak at two workshops to be held in November.

When? Where?

**Wednesday, November 6 at 7:15 in the Drama Room in the Sunday School wing**

**Sunday, November 10 at 9:10 in Pastor Tom's office**

Here is a snapshot of some of the things you will learn.

### **Top Ten Planned Gift Options**

**“Writing a check is usually the least tax-efficient gift someone can make.”**

1. Appreciated Stock/Bonds/Investments – Make a gift of appreciated stock to eliminate capital gains tax.
2. IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution – For donors over 70 ½ - use RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) for charitable gifts. No tax, meets RMD requirements.
3. Bequest – Specific named gift in will or trust
4. Beneficiary Destination- Life insurance, annuity, retirement account
5. Payable on Death/Transfer on Death – Checking, savings, CD investments
6. Grain/Livestock – straight off the truck
7. Donor Advised Fund – multiple years' anticipated gifts funded in one year, distributed periodically at discretion of donor
8. Real Estate
9. Give it Twice Trust AKA Charitable Remainder Trust
10. Charitable Gift Annuity – donor needs interest income now but would consider leaving balance to your organization.

This is a very interesting and helpful workshop. Please attend.

# What Is Stewardship?

## The Whole of What We Are



The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains,  
the world, and those who dwell (Psalms 24:1)

# Are You a Good Steward of God's Gifts?