



Trinity Lutheran Church
605-498-2343
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TRINITY CONNECTION

JANUARY 26, 2024

Dear friends in Christ,

When I was a young father and pastor, I saw a one frame comic that I've never forgotten. In the frame is a nervous-looking man holding a Bible and a box of donuts who stands outside a Sunday School room marked, "4-year-old class." The caption went something like this, "Armed only with a Bible and a box of donuts, Mr. Smith prepares to do battle with the forces of darkness."

I laughed because the comic captured what I was experiencing with the intense inquisitiveness and near constant movement of young children. And I knew the wonder of seeing those little people absorb so much information through the seeming chaos. One of the reasons I so enjoy the buzz of ministry on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening here at Trinity is the blessed sounds of children and young people experiencing and learning about faith together.

Thank you to parents and grandparents who wrangle children in the pews at worship. Thank you to Sunday school teachers and Wednesday mentors who tell the stories of the Bible and listen closely as children speak. The multi generational experience of being a church community together shapes us all so deeply.

I've been thinking about these things because the other day I received a letter from my home congregation, the Lutheran Church of Dell Rapids. In September they will be celebrating their 150th anniversary, so each of the sons and daughters of that congregation who grew up to serve as pastors and deacons was asked to write an autobiographical sketch of their lives and ministry. When I wrote mine, I mainly wrote about the adults in my childhood church who had influenced my life. Sunday school teachers, high school youth leaders, and choir directors, some of whom died decades ago, still live in my memories and my personal stories of how I came to believe in the promises of Jesus Christ. I'm grateful to all those who told the old, old story then and those who do so now.

The comic strip is sometimes accurate, but the rewards of walking through that door are well worth it.

Peace and best wishes,
Pastor Tom Opoien

Church Calendar

Tuesday, January 30

6:30 pm: Men's Breakfast
8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)

Wednesday, January 31

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)
5:45 pm: Band Rehearsal
6:30 pm: Worship, Kindergarten Milestone
Celebration
7:15 pm: KFC - 6th Grade, Confirmation,
High School Youth, Wednesday Men's
Group, Bell Choir Practice

Thursday, February 1

8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)
11:15 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery
5:30 pm: TOPS

Friday, February 2

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Sunday, February 4

8:00 am: Worship,
9:15 am: Coffee and Cookies; Sunday School;
Adult Bible Study, 1st Grade Milestone
10:30 am: Worship (online and in person);
6:30 pm: Financial Peace University

Monday, February 5

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Tuesday, February 6

6:30 pm: Men's Breakfast
8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)
9:00 am –5:00 pm: Bloodmobile
6:30 pm: VBS Committee Meeting

Upcoming Important Dates

Feb. 14: Ash Wednesday
Feb. 17: Chili Bingo
Feb. 19: Church office closed due to the holiday

Attendance

Wednesday, Jan 17 Sunday, Jan. 21

6:30 pm: 112 8:00 am: 57
10:30 am: 166

Church Finances

Week of January 21, 2024

Total Operating Cost: \$13,205
Actual Total Giving: \$13,726
Difference of: \$ 521
January Globe Offering \$ 347

Total operating cost represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Margaret Larsen at 605-351-8561.

Ways to Give

Envelopes: In-person or Mail to the church

Online Giving: www.teatrinity.org/donate

Venmo: teatrinity

January Globe Offering

LUTHERAN OUTDOORS

Prayer Requests

- Gordon Fritz ▪ Sharon Nelson ▪ Bonnie Wolthuis
- Sonia Ensz ▪ Ken Kahl ▪ Greg Myrmoe ▪ Ray Kelly
- Debbie Jensen, Jacob Jensen's mother
- Melva Hilmoe's brother & Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Gordon & Dorothy Fritz's son Carl
- Delores Wells' brother-in-law, Jerry Boellaard
- Amy Kuhnert's family member, Jeremy Josephsont
- Melva and Sara Hilmoe's friend, Corey Stephens
- Sara Hilmoe's friend, Randi Van Der Sloom
- Doug Mette sister and brother-in-law, Gene and June Neises
- Dawn Arp's mother, Darlene Sheeler
- Rex and Clem Boyd's sister-in-law, Dodie



Quilters Group

**Wednesday, February 7
9:00 am
in the Fellowship Hall**

Join us as we continue to work on putting together more quilts together. No sewing or quilting experience is necessary. All are welcome.

Milestone Ministry

**Kindergarten Milestone—Learning to Pray
Celebration:
Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 6:30 pm**

1st Grade Milestone—The Lord's Prayer

Sunday, Jan. 28, 9:15 am—Lesson #1

Sunday, Feb 4, 9:15 am - Lesson #2

Celebration: Sunday, Feb 11 at 8:00 or 10:30 am

Join Deacon Christie and learn the Lord's Prayer and why we pray it!

Trinity Lutheran Blood Drive

**Tuesday, February 6
9:00 am - Noon and 1:30 - 5:00 pm
in the East Parking Lot**

We will be hosting a Blood Drive once again. The blood bank is looking for a big turnout to boost their low levels. Call the church office to signup!



Christian Wear Fundraiser

Place your order by Wednesday, February 7

Trinity's high school youth is selling Christian inspired clothing to raise funds for their National Youth Gathering Trip to New Orleans in July! Multiple designs and colors to choose from. Adult and youth sizes are available. Call the church office for information on how to order.

2024 Offering Envelopes

Available to pickup in the Gathering Space!

If you are not able to pick up your offering envelopes please contact the church office at 605-498-2343 and we can mail it to you.



7th Annual Chili Bingo

Saturday, Feb. 17
4:00—6:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

Chili: \$1 | Hot dogs: \$1 | Bingo: \$0.50 per card/per game. Bring your friends and neighbors and join us for a fun evening with bingo and chili! All proceeds go towards the youth that attend summer camps and National Youth Gathering in New Orleans!



Trinity Lutheran Preschool registration now open!

3 & 4 year olds
Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 11:00 am

4 & 5 year olds (Pre-K)
Monday/Wednesday/Friday
8:30 - 11:30 am

Trinity Lutheran Preschool 2024-2025 registration is now available. We are a Christ-centered preschool with play based learning program. Our themed lessons and virtue focus will enrich the whole child by incorporating all learning styles and senses. Learning outcomes will enhance a child's spiritual, social-emotional, physical and intellectual development.

Call the church office for more information or to register.

Winter gear is available and accepting donations!

- Items most in need:**
- Adult coats (sizes XL, XXL, XXXL)
 - Kids boots (all sizes)
 - Kids coats and snow pants (all sizes)



Board of Outreach is collecting new and gently used cold weather gear in the east entrance of the church and is available to the public. We are currently collecting coats, jackets, snow pants, hats, gloves, and boots that will be made available to our neighbors in the community. Used items are accepted, but please launder before you drop them off. We accept new items as well. Simply drop off the items in the bin in the Gathering Space. If you have questions, contact the church office at 605-498-2343

January Food Pantry Donation: Cake Mix and Frosting

With the raising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when shopping to help those in need! In the month of January we will be collecting cake mix and frosting. Donations can be dropped off in the Gathering Space. If you have questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact the church office or call Ruth at 605-321-7325.

**Join Over 55 the 4th Tuesday of every month!
This month they enjoyed a short meeting, devotion
bingo and a potluck lunch. All are welcome!**

