



Trinity Lutheran Church
605-498-2343
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www.teatrinity.org

TRINITY CONNECTION

DECEMBER 1, 2023

Dear friends in Christ,

This past Sunday I gave a presentation about the time my wife and I spent in Jerusalem and Bethlehem last January. When we gave the first presentation about our Holy Land trip last spring, we showed pictures and videos of Galilee and the Jordan river. At that time, I told the group that I needed more time to think about how to present my rather jarring experience of moving back and forth between the West Bank city of Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Moving through checkpoints and the security walls brought the experience of the Biblical sites into sharp contrast with modern political tensions.

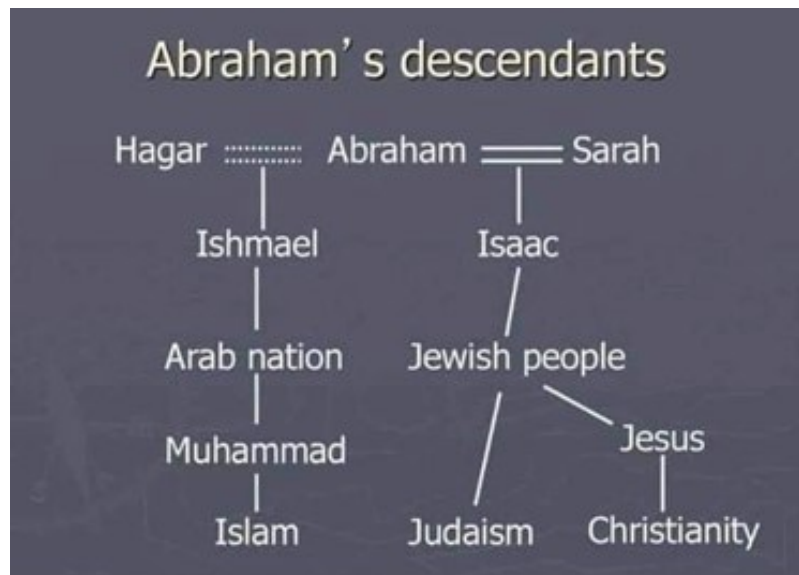
Like many of you since the war began, I have been following the tragic news of the deaths of Israelis and Palestinians with deep sadness and prayer. I am grateful that I had the experiences last winter to help me think through the challenges facing a place that is sacred to

three world religions,

Christianity, Islam, and Judaism. All three religions share a family tree with roots in Genesis and branches that reach into the modern-day conflicts. If you are available, I hope you can attend.

Peace and best wishes,

Pastor Tom Opoien



Church Calendar

Tuesday, December 5

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast
8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)
7:00 pm: Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 6

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

Thursday, December 7

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

Friday, December 8

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Sunday, December 10

8:00 am: Worship
9:15 am: Coffee and Cookies; Sunday School
Rehearsal for Christmas Program;
Adult Bible Study
10:30 am: Worship (online and in person) and
Sunday School Christmas Program

Monday, December 11

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Tuesday, December 12

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast
8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)
6:00 pm: Church Board Meetings
7:00 pm: Church Council Meeting

Upcoming Important Dates

Dec. 15: Shopping Night Daycare
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service 3:00, 5:00 & 6:30 pm
Dec. 25: Christmas Day office is closed
Jan. 1: New Years Day office is closed

Attendance

Wednesday, Nov. 22 **Sunday, Nov. 26**

No worship due to the holiday 8:00 am: 74
10:30 am: 145

Church Finances

Week of November 26, 2023

Total Operating Cost: \$13,205

Actual Total Giving: \$14,761

Difference of: - \$ 1,556

Outstanding Expenses: \$35,674

November Globe Offering \$ 471

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

December Globe Offering

GLOBAL BARNYARD

Prayer Requests

- Stan Oltmanns ▪ Bonnie Wolthuis
- Sonia Ensz ▪ Ken Kahl
- Greg Myrmoe ▪ Ray Kelly
- 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 Josephson
- Melva Hilmoe's friend, Fred Carpenter
- Doug Mette sister and brother-in-law, Gene and June Neises
- Dawn Arp's mother, Darlene Sheeler
- Shirley Oltmann's brother, Kevin Schoffelman
- Rex & Clem Boyd's sister-in-law, Dodie



Quilters Group

Wednesday, Dec 6

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.

Fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering: Shop Night Daycare

Friday, Dec. 15

6:00 - 10:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

Free Will Donation

Registration deadline: Wednesday, Dec. 13

Get your Christmas shopping done, wrap presents or simply enjoy a night out and support Trinity's Youth! All proceeds will go toward the youth attending 2024 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We welcome kids ages 1-12 year olds. Food will be provided from 6:30-7:00 pm. Contact the church office for more information or to signup.

Christmas Eve Services

4th Sunday of Advent Sunday Morning Worship

Sunday, Dec 24

9:00 am

Candle Light Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, Dec 24

3:00 pm | 5:00 pm

6:30 pm (Live-stream)



Help us decorate with poinsettias!

We invite you to bring a poinsettia to the church to share. These beautiful holiday plants will be used to decorate the sanctuary and gathering space. After Dec 25, you are welcome to take them home with you. We can't wait to see our sanctuary decorated!

Winter gear now 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

December Food Pantry Donation: Canned Fruit

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 December we will be collecting canned fruit. 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.

The Board of Outreach packed and sent out 60 college care packages to Trinity's college students!



Over 55 Group enjoyed a wonderful trip to the Nora Store this past week!

