

TRINITYnews

JANUARY 2018

VOLUME 24 ■ ISSUE 1

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

203 East Main Street
PO Box 188
Spring Grove, MN 55974

507.498.5291
www.trinitysg.org



Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove

Office hours:

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wed: Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Sundays at Trinity

9:15 a.m. Worship
10:15 a.m. Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School,
Babel in Belfry

Listen live on KVIK 104.7 FM.

STAFF

Jim Scaife, Interim Pastor
trinitysr@springgrove.coop

Lane Zaffke, Visitation Pastor
lane.zaffke@gmail.com

Bekah Leafblad, Youth & Family Coord.
bekah@trinitysg.org

Marlene Deschler, Admin. Pro./
Communications
trinity@springgrove.coop

Stewart Storlie, Admin. Pro./
Bookkeeping
stewart@trinitysg.org

David Myrah, Custodian
Scott Solberg, Choir Director
Rachel Storlie, Organist
Jean Ellingson, Pianist

Dear People of God,

Happy New Year!

As one year draws to a close, it is customary to make resolutions for the coming year. Some find this helpful and others an invitation for failure. It is well to note that as people of faith we engage in **spiritual PRACTICE**, *not* spiritual achievement.

There are many practices: prayer, meditation, study, fasting, confession, forgiveness, worship, justice, giving, kindness, and so on.

Instead of a resolution this year, consider choosing something to practice in the coming year. **Practice will improve your skill, but more importantly it will improve your relationship with God.** And you can't fail at practice!



Peace to you,
Bekah Leafblad
Youth & Family Coordinator



Annual Report Team Reports due	Wednesday, January 3, 12:00 p.m., Office
Special Congregational Meeting	Sunday, January 7, 10:20 a.m., Sanctuary
Youth Gathering Meeting	Sunday, January 7, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Empty Bowls Meal	Sunday, January 14, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Annual Meeting	Sunday, February 4, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

SUNDAY SCHOOL

A huge thank you to all Trinity members who have taught Sunday School so far this year!

We still have a few spots to fill with rotational Sunday School teachers, so if you would like to volunteer, please contact Bekah, bekah@trinitysg.org or the church office, 498-5291. Thank you!

OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO "SHOPPED FOR THE WORLD" AT TRINITY'S ALTERNATIVE GIVING FAIR

Your generosity totaled \$5,822! This translated to the following:

2 fruit tree seedlings	8 honeybee hives
4 vaccinations for children	22 sets of school supplies
18 months of penicillin for a medical team	7 mosquito nets
11 sets of supplies to install a water pipe	300 baby chicks
4,550 doses of medicine for Myanmar	15 pairs of eyeglasses
11 gifts of clothing for refugee children	5 bikes for Africa
3 scholarships for African women	20 books for Ethiopia
11 sets of farming tools	12 water pumps for Africa
12 clinic visits for children	15 bilingual books for India
12 gifts to feed a refugee family	2 four-month scholarships for 12 th grader (India)
8 weeks of medical supplies for a clinic	1 scholarship for Conservation Program (Guatemala)
2 weeks on the road for a mobile computer lab in India	1 scholarship for a woman in Agro-ecology (Guatemala)
5 solar-powered lanterns for Africa	

Giving alternatively transforms you into a global helper, aiding the poor, the marginalized, and the sick in ways Jesus asked of us, while also honoring those you love. Your actions are bringing change to the world, one gift at a time.

Thank you for your gifts!!

RETURNING OUR GIFTS FROM REVERSE ADVENT CALENDARS

We are excited that so many participated in our Reverse Advent Calendar ministry. Thank you to everyone for your gifts of LOVE! Every box of crackers, pair of socks, or money donated looks like love to us!

If you still have your gifts from the Reverse Advent Calendars, look for the spot in the Fellowship Hall to **drop them off by Sunday, January 7**. We will be using a representation of these gifts as part of the celebration of Epiphany during worship that day.

Thank you so much for your participation and gifts!

~ The Outreach Team

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE MUSICAL OFFERINGS THIS ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON!

We had so many beautiful offerings that enhanced our worship services.
We are very thankful for all that shared their musical talents with us!



Make a joyful noise unto the Lord

BLESSINGS

STOCK SALES

Make sure to answer your phones on the evenings of **January 18, 22, and 23!**

Why, you ask? The 27 youth who are traveling to Texas this summer for the ELCA Youth Gathering will be calling YOU and asking if you would like to buy "shares of stock" in Trinity's youth program. These are not real shares of stock, rather a way to support the youth at Trinity in their travels to Houston next June for the Youth Gathering. Each share of stock is \$15 and stockholders can purchase as many shares as they would like.



"Stockholders" will be invited to a meal served by the youth in which they will hear wonderful stories of our adventures during the ELCA Youth Gathering. Questions? Contact Bekah Leafblad at bekah@trinitysg.org or call the church office, 498-5291.

HEY YOUTH AND ADULT LEADERS GOING ON THE ELCA YOUTH GATHERING!



We have a meeting on Sunday, January 7 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Topics we will cover: Bible study to mentally prepare for our trip, rooming assignments, covenant, fundraisers, and medical forms. It is crucial that you make an attempt to be at this meeting. Thank you!

Contact Bekah with any questions, bekah@trinitysg.org, or 498-5291.

**** Parents of youth are not required to attend this meeting, but please make sure you send the completed medical forms with your child(ren). Thank you! (Adult leaders do need to attend.)**



BIBLES AND BOOKS WITH BEKAH

Do you like Harry Potter?
Do you want to know how
Harry Potter is related to the
books of Matthew, Mark,
Luke, and John in the New Testament?!

If you answered YES to either of these questions, come to Bekah's house (231 1st Avenue SW) at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, January 21, for a Bible study at which we will study the Gospel according to Harry Potter and relate how we can live out the good news of Jesus in our everyday lives.

Harry Potter treats will be provided. Bring your Bibles and any HP gear you have!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

VBS for 3-5 year olds and
Day Camp for youth entering
1st-6th grades will be June
18-21!

More details and information will be coming in the upcoming months!

CLASSES RESUME

- Confirmation classes resume Wed., Jan. 3
- Sunday School resumes Sun. Jan. 7

See you then!

YOUTH NEWS

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, January 7, immediately following worship, the Council has called a Special Congregational Meeting for the sole purpose of seeking approval to list the second parsonage for sale. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary.

An appraisal was completed on the second parsonage (located at 135 2nd Avenue NE) in August. The value of the home from the appraisal is \$104,000. The Property Team has recommended the sale of this property as Trinity will have only one pastor. There are no outstanding loans on the property.

The 2,655 square foot home sits on a large lot with mature trees. It has four bedrooms, 1-3/4 bathrooms, a large 2-car newer garage, hardwood floors and carpeting. It is newly painted. A dishwasher, refrigerator, and range are included.

ANNUAL MEETING

Trinity's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 4 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We'll worship at 9:15 a.m. and begin the Annual Meeting at 10:30 a.m. Refreshments will be available in the Sanctuary before the meeting begins.

Annual Reports will be available to the congregation on January 21. Remember, all confirmed members of Trinity are eligible to be voters at the meeting!



EMPTY BOWLS MEAL

When we feed the hungry, We feed You, Jesus. *Matthew 25:35-40*

Please join us following worship, for the Empty Bowls meal, on **January 14th**, from **10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**, in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be sharing a variety of delicious homemade soups and breads. We ask for a freewill offering, which will be given to local and world hunger supports.

If you would like to help prepare for or serve this ministry, please call Mary Zaffke, 498-5823, Karen Fried, 498-5611, or the church office, 498-5291. We would be delighted to have your help! But most of all, please come and share this meal!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

November 1-30, 2017 *Total income: \$28,257.76 Total expense: \$30,074.75*

January 1–November 31, 2017 *Total income: \$270,096.55 Total expense: \$324,635.54*



Beautiful music at the Trinity Choir Christmas Concert. ◀



New carpet was installed near the south entrance. ▲

Confirmation students sang Christmas carols and shared gifts with the residents at Tweenen Care Center. ▶



December at Trinity in pictures



Sunday School students told the Christmas story through song and readings. ▲ ▼



Youth Christmas Party included games, food, and laughter! ▶



PHOTOS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Happy New Year! Office closed	2	3 Team Reports due for Annual Report 1:00p Release Time, TC 4:00p Staffing Team, GR 5:00p Worship Team, MR 6:00p Confirmation and dinner, FH 7:00p Handbell Choir 8:00p Choir	4 5:30p Educ. Team, MR 7:00p Stewardship, GR	5	6 5:00p Worship/ Communion
7 9:15a Worship/Communion 10:20a Congregational Meeting (sanctuary), Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School, Babel in Belfry 11:30a Youth Gathering meeting, FH	8 7:00p Dartball, GR	9 4:00p Finance Team, GR 7:00p Support Team, GR	10 2:00p Release Time, TC 6:00p Confirmation and dinner, FH 7:00p Handbell Choir 7:45p Council, GR 8:00p Choir	11	12	13 10:00a Praise Band practice
14 9:15a Worship/Praise Band 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School, Babel in Belfry 10:30a-12:30p Empty Bowls 11:30a Tweenen Care Ctr.	15	16 2:30p Phoebe, GR	17 2:00p Release Time, TC 6:00p Confirmation and dinner, FH 7:00p Handbell Choir 8:00p Choir	18 9:30a Communion/ Manor 5:30-8:30p Youth Stock Sales	19	20 5:00p Worship/ Communion
21 9:15a Worship/Communion 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School; Babel in Belfry; Outreach Team, Pastor Jim's office	22 5:30-8:30p Youth Stock Sales	23 5:30-8:30p Youth Stock Sales	24 1:00p Release Time, TC 6:00p Confirmation/ Fellowship Night, FH 7:00p Handbell Choir 8:00p Choir	25 9:30a Communion/ Tweenen 10:30a Communion/ Assisted Living	26 9:00a Love Day	27
28 9:15a Worship/Communion 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School; Babel in Belfry	29	30	31 6:00p Confirmation and dinner, FH 7:00p Handbell Choir 8:00p Choir			

VOLUNTEERS

	JANUARY 7	JANUARY 14	JANUARY 21	JANUARY 28
LECTOR	Bekah Leafblad	Willy Leafblad	Fred Arnold	Carolyn Olson
ACOLYTE(S)	Tysen Grinde Paige Jahnke	Nick Lawson	Hunter Holland Rachel Krenzke	Olivia Mendez
COMMUNION SERVERS	Janna and Len Myrah Milly Halverson	N/A	Teresa Holland Kris Rud Janice Messner	N/A
ALTAR GUILD	Judy Dahle (chair) Rachel Olerud, Joyce Bergrud, Peggy Landsom, Judy Bratland, Missy Bratland			
USHERS	Dean Wiste (captain) Scott Bingham, Al Frydenlund, Mark Schroeder, Bruce Bergsgaard, Ken Heim			
COFFEE HOSTS	Samantha and Danny Neuzil, Michelle and Wayne Jahnke	Kristi and Phil Griffin, Deanna and Mike Solum	Terry Holland, Kris and Jeff Rud, Jen Wedmann, Bobbi Sue Holland	Marilyn and Karl Sylling, Dawn and John Sylling
498-AMEN	Dec. 31-Jan. 13: Lori Wilhelmson	Jan. 14-27: Milly Halverson		Jan. 28-Feb. 10: Judy Bratland

HAVE YOU.....

....moved?changed phone numbers?changed email addresses?

If so, please let the office know so that we can update our records. Thank you!

LET US KNOW.....

If you have a loved one ill or hospitalized, you have a new baby, you would like a pastoral visit, or if any pastoral need arises.

REMEMBER.....

We have a prayer chain. If you have a prayer request, please call the church office and we will start the prayer chain. (Please make sure you have permission from the person being prayed for before calling.) There is power in prayer!

CONTACT TRINITY..... (507) 498-5291, trinity@springgrove.coop



203 East Main Street
PO Box 188
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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The year "2018" is formed by arranging red pomegranate seeds on a light-colored wooden surface. The seeds are arranged in a way that the numbers are clearly visible and aesthetically pleasing. The background is decorated with snow-covered evergreen branches and pinecones, creating a festive winter scene.

2018

Prayer for the New Year

Thank you Lord for giving me the brand new year ahead.
Help me live the way I should as each new day I tread.
Give me gentle wisdom that I might help a friend.
Give me strength and courage so a shoulder I might lend.
The year ahead is empty, help me fill it with good things,
each new day filled with joy and happiness it brings. Amen