

# TRINITY *news*

DECEMBER 2022

VOLUME 28 ■ ISSUE 12

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

507.498.5291 • [www.trinitysg.org](http://www.trinitysg.org)



Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove



Instagram

[trinitylutheransg](https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheransg)  
[trinityyouth203](https://www.instagram.com/trinityyouth203)



YouTube

Trinity Lutheran: Spring Grove

### Office hours:

Mon - Fri: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### Sundays at Trinity

9:15 a.m. Worship  
10:15 a.m. Fellowship  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School

Listen live Sundays on KVIK 104.7 FM

[www.kvikradio.com](http://www.kvikradio.com)  
and on Facebook Live

**Saturday Worship** 5:00 p.m.  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays each month

### STAFF

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Gary Wilhelmson, Custodian  
Rachel Storlie, Organist/Pianist  
Scott Solberg, Choir Director  
Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist  
Mark Udstuen, Praise Band Leader  
Rick Sundet, Technology Lead

## Looking for gifts that make an impact? Gifts that help make a difference in others' lives?

Then Trinity's Thankful Gifts Catalog is just what you need! These gifts are always the right size!

Catalogs are available in the office, in the sanctuary, or view it on our website.

How to order gifts: Fill out the order form and return it to the office with payment (checks to Trinity Lutheran with Impactful Gifts on the memo line). Greeting cards and inserts describing the gift are available in the office for giving to the recipient.

**Please have gifts purchased by  
Monday, December 19. Thank you!**

*God's love in Jesus is a gift.  
Giving gifts like these is just one way  
to share that love with others.*

Trinity Lutheran Church  
**Thankful Gifts Catalog  
2022**



Looking for gifts that make an impact?  
That help make a difference in others' lives?  
Then this catalog is just what you need!  
These gifts are always the right size!

God's love in Jesus is a gift.  
Giving gifts like these is just one way  
to share that love with others.



- Every day during Advent (Nov. 27-Dec. 23) ▪ Facebook Live @ 5 devotions
- Wednesdays 6:30 p.m. ▪ Midweek Advent Worship ▪ "Holy Disruption"
- Sun., December 18 ▪ 9:15 a.m. ▪ Sunday School Christmas program  
▪ 7:00 p.m. ▪ Christmas Concert  
(on KVIK 104.7FM and Facebook Live. Thank you to sponsors: Spring Grove Communications, Shooting Star Native Seeds, Lee Auto Body & Auto Sales, Spring Grove Family Chiropractic.)
- Sat., December 24 ▪ Christmas Eve Worship ▪ 3:00 p.m. ▪ 8:00 p.m.(candlelight)
- Sun. December 25 ▪ Christmas Day Worship ▪ 9:15 a.m.
- Sun. January 1 ▪ Service of Lessons and Carols ▪ 9:15 a.m.

*“The Spirit helps us in our weakness;  
for we do not know how to pray as we ought,  
but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.  
And God, who searches the heart,  
knows what is the mind of the Spirit,  
because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”*  
Romans 8:26-27

Dear people of God,

We at Trinity typically begin our worship services by taking what I call a “Deep Cleansing Breath” to breathe in the Spirit of God, and to breathe out all our cares and anxieties as we prepare to worship. It’s a way of centering ourselves, of letting God into our very beings. I don’t know about you, but I sometimes find myself taking additional Deep Cleansing Breaths throughout the week! And now we’re preparing for Advent and Christmas, and again, if you’re like me, you might find yourself needing to take even more Deep Cleansing Breaths in all the hustle and bustle of the season.

I am so grateful (and I’m writing this on the day before Thanksgiving) that we are back to “normal” here at Trinity. This year, we are able to have worship and sing and be together in ways we haven’t for nearly three years during Advent and Christmas. We will celebrate each of the four Sundays in Advent with special song while one of our young families lights a candle on the Advent wreath. We’ll have a Sunday School program and Trinity Christmas Concert (both December 18), along with services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.



This year, we are also getting ready for Christmas with Wednesday evening Advent services at 6:30 p.m. The Theme is “Holy Disruption” (you may have received a postcard in the mail describing all our services), and each week we take a step in our journey to Christmas: Breathing, Releasing, Receiving, and Rejoicing.

Advent carries two simultaneous visions of our expectations: We await again the birth of the babe in the manger and we also await Christ’s coming again to fulfill all things. We often prepare for Advent by “getting ready”: planning, organizing, and ordering supplies for various gatherings and worship services. Our Wednesday evening services will give us a chance to slow down, to take a Deep Cleansing Breath, to pray and sing together, to hear special music, and to pay attention to opening ourselves to the holy disruption of God’s inbreaking promise.

You’re invited to join us for some or all of these special activities.

God bless!  
Pr. Elizabeth



**MAPLE SYRUP**

**Looking for a sweet Christmas gift?** Maple syrup harvested from Zaffke’s maple woods makes a delicious gift! It’s not just for pancakes and waffles...drizzle it on yogurt, stir it into coffee, make ice cream with it, mix it into oatmeal, make salad dressing; the recipes are endless! A jar is \$10. Syrup is available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall or the office. Proceeds go to Trinity Youth.



**LION'S DEN CLOTHING CORNER**

*"The Lions Den has been tremendously successful and unbelievably utilized. Wow! Inventory is low and in need of winter items: long sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts, jackets, hats and mittens, and any youth items sizes 6-8,8-10,10-12. Spring Grove items fly off the hangers. Monetary donations would be great too. The school is extremely grateful. They are very pleased and appreciative."*

*~ Karry Thorson, Outreach Team member, Lion's Den Clothing Corner Coordinator*

The Lion's Den Clothing Corner is a FREE clothing shop at Spring Grove Public School! The items are available for students free-of-charge for whenever they need them.

**Wish List**

New or gently used and clean: t-shirts/tops, sweaters, sweatshirts (hoodies and zip), sets of tops/bottoms, sweatpants/wind pants, athletic wear, Spring Grove Lions gear, winter jackets, snowpants, new underwear, hats, mittens, scarves, and socks (children's, men's, and women's).

Sizes most needed: Youth 6/8, 8/10, 10/12, 12/14 (will take sizes: youth 4/5 through adult 2XL)

Monetary donations are also welcomed and can be used to purchase clothing items and items to help keep the space organized. Checks can be made out to Trinity with a memo/note attached specifying Lion's Den Clothing Corner. A drop box for donated clothing items at Trinity is accessible from the southwest entrance on Main Street, go up the stairs to the landing where a hamper is marked to place items (look for signs).

**TAKE WHAT YOU NEED, GIVE WHAT YOU CAN** Our Little Free Pantry has been a great success. If you'd like to donate non-perishable items (one serve chili, stew, ravioli, etc.; canned meats (chicken, tuna), potato packets, gravy; canned fruit, peanut butter, jelly, jello) please drop them off by the pantry – southwest door on Main Street, open 24/7, or add the items to the shelves in the appropriate spots placing new food at the back of each grouping. Monetary donations also help us shop for needed items. Donations can be dropped off or mailed to the office, please indicate "Little Free Pantry" on the donation. Thank you very much! ~ Care Ministry Team

**NOVEMBER 9, 2022 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Updates:

- Thanks to Trinity Lutheran on our outreach, will deliver 41 Christmas Cheer bags, only 7 are Trinity members.
- The HIP program is receiving donations from WELCA, Waterloo Ridge, and the Legion.
- Bag a Buck raised \$359.
- Stewardship met with Emily Carson, Assistant to the Bishop via zoom for Stewardship ideas.
- Budget was presented by Finance. There was a discussion around budget cuts.
- Winona Controls came to winterize the building for \$738 and Grove Plumbing installed a force heat furnace to keep the floor from cracking. The furnace will be a few hundred.

Motions passed:

- to have the buildings appraised as well as the lot with no buildings appraised.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.** Complete minutes are on Trinity's website.

**WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED TO TRINITY**



- **498-HOPE (4673)**  
-Friday updates for the week ahead
- **498-AMEN (2636)**  
-daily devotions
- **www.trinitysg.org**  
-news, updates, info
- **Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove**  
-updates, photos, worship, news
- **YouTube:**  
*Trinity Lutheran: Spring Grove*  
-video recordings of worship, and more!
- **Instagram**  
-photos, updates
- **KVIK 104.7FM**  
- Sunday worship service,  
- www.kvikradio.com

**Sunday School and Wednesday School schedule ▪ 3 year old - 6<sup>th</sup> grade youth**

Sunday, November 27, 2022	Christmas Program Practice	10:30 am - 11:30 am
Sunday, December 4, 2022	Christmas Program Practice	10:30 am - 11:30 am
Sunday, December 11, 2022	Christmas Program Practice	10:30 am - 11:30 am
Sunday, December 18, 2022	Christmas Program	9:15 am Worship
Sunday, December 25, 2022	Christmas - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	
Sunday, January 1, 2023	New Years Day - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	

TRINITY U ▪ Dec 7 ▪ Catechism Elective ▪ 7:00 p.m. ▪ in the Middle Room.

**ADVENT WORSHIP** ▪ Wednesdays Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21 ▪ 6:30pm  
 All youth are invited and encouraged to participate in Midweek Advent Vesper Services. Bring your parents, too!



**PRAISE BAND**

We are looking for more Youth to join our Praise Band here at church. The Praise Band sings/plays once a month at worship. Please contact Kerri Jahnke or Mark Udstuen (udstuenm@gmail.com) if you are interested!

**RELEASE TIME**

We have more than 100 kids in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade participating in Release Time this year!

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP**

Starts again in January! We will meet on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month at 6:00 p.m.** in the Youth Gathering Room. We will spend time in community, games, and deep faith conversation. This is for ALL 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade youth! Bring a friend with you! Youth do not need to be Trinity members to attend youth group.

**YOUTH LOCK IN** ▪ Friday, January 27 beginning at 9:00 p.m. until Saturday, January 28 at 7:00 a.m.

**ALL 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grade youth invited!** Bring a friend or two! Games, food, all-around-the-church challenges and games, stay up late, faith community, and time to worship our God!



**Questions about youth-related items?**

Contact Kerri Jahnke  
 cyf.trinitysg@gmail.com ▪ 498-5291

**THANK YOU!!**

“I just wanted to share my grandkids’ gratitude for the cheer boxes. They just got them and said “thank you so much”....the cookies are going to go fast!!”

~ Barb Gulbranson

*[Trinity’s Outreach Team sent out Cheer Boxes to young adults. The boxes were filled with snacks, laundry pods, lotion, and more! Including a note that people at Trinity were thinking of and praying for these young adults.]*

**DOING HOLIDAY SHOPPING? REMEMBER....TRINITY IS PART OF AMAZON SMILE**

**amazon smile** AmazonSmile is a simple way to **support a favorite charity (Trinity!)** every time you shop on Amazon, at **no cost to you!** When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices and selection just like on Amazon.com with the added benefit that Amazon donates 0.5% of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of the shopper's choice. There is no cost to the shopper for shopping through AmazonSmile and there is no cost to the charitable organization.

**Here's how to shop through AmazonSmile....**

- 1) Visit this website and it will automatically put Trinity as the charity that will receive the AmazonSmile donation: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-0724052>. Or you can simply go to: **smile.amazon.com** and search for "Trinity Lutheran Church" as the charitable organization you want to select.....**make sure to look for Trinity from Spring Grove, MN.**
- 2) Shop as usual! Tens of millions of products are eligible for donations. These products will be marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail page.

*Please note....if you have previously chosen a charitable organization through AmazonSmile, you can easily change it to Trinity....you can take turns selecting your favorite organizations to receive the donation!*



**SENIOR DINING AT THE AMERICAN LEGION FRONT ROOM** Meals are served at 11:00 a.m. Monday–Friday in the front room at the Spring Grove American Legion. There is a suggested donation of \$4-8 per meal. Please give a 24-hour advance notice when planning to attend. Call Annette at (507) 458-4046. Chair volleyball directly follows lunch on Thursdays, anyone is welcome and anyone can play!

On Wednesday, December 14, there is a Christmas event. The Spring Grove High School Choir of 77 members will be singing. There will be craft vendors and baked goods vendors. The goal is to give our elder community an indoor shopping experience for Christmas plus entertainment as well!

If you would like to be a vendor, please contact Annette, (507) 458-4046.

The choir will perform at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will follow at noon. Lunch will be Red's pork chop dinner with mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, and a dinner roll. **Reservations are REQUIRED.** A donation of \$13/meal is suggested. Call Annette to RSVP.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF TRINITY AND ITS MINISTRIES!**

Thank you so much for your continued support of Trinity and our ministries. We have several options to receive your offering:

- ➔ Electronically: via our website, [www.trinitysg.org](http://www.trinitysg.org). Click on the "Contribute" link on the right-side of the page.
- ➔ By mail: Trinity Lutheran Church, 203 E. Main St., Spring Grove, MN 55974.
- ➔ at worship—bring your offering to worship



**YEAR-END GIFTS** — Your financial support helps us do great things in God's ministry for the church. Please have any year-end gifts in the office by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 28. **Thank you!**



▲ Our Confirmation class of 2022



▲ All Saints worship with lighting of candles in memory of loved ones.

► Sunday School fun!





◀▼ A favorite event — Empty Bowls Meal was back this year! More than 16 soups were available for tasting along with a table full of bread. All proceeds went to Trinity's Little Free Pantry and the Houston County Food Shelf. Thank you to all who made items and attended.



◀▲▶ The youth made 80 Thanksgiving Pies as a fundraiser for their mission trip next summer! The church smelled so good all day long! Thank you to all who helped with the pies and all who purchased pies and supported our youth!



# REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
AFTER CHRISTMAS, DONATE THE CONTENTS  
TO A LOCAL FOOD SHELF.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans





Lectors	
Dec. 4	Mary Newgaard
Dec. 11	Terry Holland
Dec. 18	Michelle Jahnke
Dec. 24	3pm: Jess Sherburne 8pm: Kim Kapplinger
Dec. 25	Scott Solberg



Acolytes	
Dec. 4	Siri Konkkel Elle Berns
Dec. 11	Olivia Wedmann
Dec. 18	Callie Petersen Ruby Engeldinger
Dec. 25	Harper Myrah Jada Strinmoen

Usher Schedule



December Ushers
Christian Myrah, Chris Strinmoen, Gary Jahnke, Roger Stenhoff, Jerald Oakes

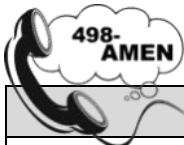


FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Fellowship	
Dec. 4	Laurie & Mike Moen Michelle Jahnke Kim & Doris Sherburne
Dec. 11	Terry Holland Jen Wedmann Kris Rud Bobbi Holland
Dec. 18	Amanda Ingvalson Sammy Eiken



Communion Bread Makers	
December	Karen Bingham
Communion Servers	
Dec. 4	Terry Holland, Kris Rud
Dec. 18	No communion / Sunday School Christmas program
Dec. 25	Kim Kapplinger, Carolyn Olson
December Altar Guild	
Linda Pierce (chair) Betty Dokken Doris Sherburne Marcia Holland Judy Roble	



498-AMEN

Nov. 17-Dec. 10	Nolie Kapplinger
Dec. 11-24	Deb Spence
Dec. 25-Jan. 7	Lori Wilhelmson

Christ in our Home devotional booklets and 498-AMEN instructions are located inside the southeast entrance of the church.

After your last reading, please contact the next person on the list to remind them to begin. Thank you!



Advent Candle

Dec. 4	Bob & Kelly Eilers family
Dec. 11	Josh & Autumn Wiste family
Dec. 18	Jeremy & Danielle Myhre family

Prayer Chain



Prayer Chain 1	Prayer Chain 2
Joyce Landsom	Karen Gray
Nolie Kapplinger	Bev Nelson
Terry Holland	Janet Wold
Bonnie Solberg	Jan Lochner
Dawn Hewitt	Ruth Johnsrud
Lynn Rostad Anderson	Judy Bratland
Milly Halverson	

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!

# DECEMBER HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>— 5:00pm Facebook Live @ 5 EVERY DAY through December 23 —</p> <p><b>FH</b> = Fellowship Hall (large room in basement)  <b>MR</b> = Middle Room (upstairs by offices)  <b>YGR</b> = Youth Gathering Room  (in basement near men's bathroom)</p>				<p><b>1</b> 4:00pm Cub Scouts 5:30pm Education Team, MR</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship/Communion</p>
<p><b>4</b> 9:15am Advent 2 Worship/Communion, 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Christmas Program practice</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> 12-3pm Release Time (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>) Heritage Ctr. 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Advent Vespers service 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p><b>8</b> 4:00pm Cub Scouts 7:00pm Finance Team</p>	<p><b>9</b> 5:30pm wedding rehearsal and dinner</p>	<p><b>10</b> 10:30am AA 9:00am pack Christmas Cheer bags 3:30pm Wedding (Sheehan/Vickerman)</p>
<p><b>11</b> 9:15am Advent 3 Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Christmas Program practice 11:15am Nursing Home service</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b> 9:00am Deborah 9:30am Anna 7:00pm Hannah, FH</p>	<p><b>14</b> 9:30am Adah, Tweeten Apts. 1-3pm Release Time (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>), Heritage Ctr. 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Advent Vespers service 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Council, FH</p>	<p><b>15</b> 9:30am Worship at Manor 4:00pm Cub Scouts 7:30pm SGHS Choir Concert</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 10:30am AA 5:00pm Worship/Communion</p>
<p><b>18</b> 9:15am Worship/Sunday School Christmas Program 10:15am Fellowship 7:00pm Christmas Concert</p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> 1:00pm Eve, Manor 5:30pm Handbells 6:30pm Advent Vespers service 7:00pm Choir</p>	<p><b>22</b> 9:30am Worship at Tweeten Apt 4:00pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p><b>23</b> January/February Newsletter info due in office</p>	<p><b>24</b> 10:30am AA 3:00pm &amp; 8:00pm Christmas Eve Worship</p>
<p><b>25</b> 9:15am Christmas Day Worship 5:00pm Facebook Live @ 5</p>	<p><b>26</b> <i>office closed</i></p>	<p><b>27</b> 10:00am Assisted Living service</p>	<p><b>28</b> Year-End Gifts due in the office</p>	<p><b>29</b> 2:00pm newsletter assembled</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b> 10:30am AA  <b>Welcome 2023!</b></p>

**Would you like to honor a special loved one with a gift to Trinity?**

My gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to

Trinity General Fund is ...

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

in appreciation of \_\_\_\_\_

My name: \_\_\_\_\_



Please turn this form in by Sunday, December 18 in order for the honorary name designation to be listed in the Christmas Eve and Day bulletins.

***Thank you!***



**Let's decorate the sanctuary for Christmas with poinsettias!**

I will provide one poinsettia (or more!) for the sanctuary.

My poinsettia is....

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

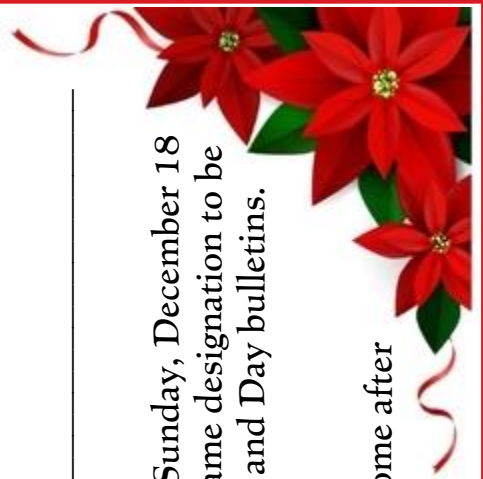
in celebration of \_\_\_\_\_

in appreciation of \_\_\_\_\_

My name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please turn this form in by Sunday, December 18 in order for the honorary name designation to be listed in the Christmas Eve and Day bulletins. Thank you!

Poinsettias may be taken home after worship on Christmas Day.



*Trinity*  
Lutheran Church  
203 East Main Street  
PO Box 188  
Spring Grove, MN 55974

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55974  
Permit No. 2

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*Again Jesus spoke to them saying,  
“I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will  
never walk in darkness but  
will have the light of life.”*

*John 8:12*