

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

3000 35th Avenue

Greeley, Colorado 80634

DECEMBER 2024



DECEMBER



*Trinity Lutheran Preschool
and Elementary Students
Wednesday, December 18th
10:00 am & 6:00 pm*

LWML Mite Sunday is December 1st



MITE SUNDAY - December 1st The first Sunday of each month the Mite box will be available for you to bring your Mites. (A suggestion would be to put your coins in a zip lock bag and keep your mite box).



Christmas Cards on Sale In the Church Narthex

Be sure to checkout the selection of Christmas cards that LWML will be offering for sale this season. Monies help fund LWML projects at Trinity.

Women's Advent Brunch
Oh Tannenbaum

Your bright green leaves with festive cheer Give hope and strength throughout the year

December 14, 2024
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Fellowship Hall

Food Friendship Music Service Craft

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear members and friends of Trinity Lutheran Church,

On Sunday, December 1st, we enter a new season of the church year and orient ourselves toward the coming of Christ, or in Latin, His *advent*. We desperately need him to come. Come quickly, Lord Jesus.

Jesus came wrapped in mystery. On the night of his birth, the news was enjoyed by a select few who made their way to the unnamed stable in which the Creator of all lay swaddled in a manger. The truth about the baby in the manger was revealed only through the Word of the Lord given by angels to Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. The truth was seen not with physical eyes but with the eyes of faith, which received the Word with joy.

During Advent, we await in darkness the coming of the Light. We remember and face our own darkness, turning to God in repentance, and we receive with joy and confidence the promise of God that the Light is coming. "The sun from on high shall break upon us" (Luke 1:78). Jesus will return to scatter the darkness and illumine his Church, to clear away evil and restore all things perfectly, to put an end to suffering and give us peace.

In the meantime, Jesus comes by faith. He lives in us by the power of the Spirit and turns confusion to understanding, despair to hope. "Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today" (O Little Town of Bethlehem). He shines in our hearts and scatters the darkness. May God give you grace to look to Jesus throughout this Advent season to be governed and enlightened by the one who comes to save us.

Peace in Christ our Savior,

Pastor Joshua Vanderhyde



CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR TRINITY STAFF

Christmas is coming! On December 1st, envelopes will be available for you to give a gift to our dedicated staff. The Elders and BOE are working on a list, I would expect the number to be around 18. Please consider an extra Christmas thank for all the serving hearts in our

mission here at Trinity. Please prayerfully consider a gift to show your appreciation for their tireless work.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 11/9/2024

**Trinity Lutheran Church and School
Greeley, Colorado**

Location: Narthex Lounge, 8:50 a.m.

Attendance: Quorum not established. Renee Ortado, Chair; Londa Polzin, Treasurer; Linda Klipp, BOE Co-Chair; Pam Clavir, BOE Co-Chair; Ken Clavir, Board of Elders Chair.

Non-voting members: Pastor Vanderhyde; Cheri Carsten, Business Manager.

I. OPENING The meeting opened with devotion and prayer by Pastor Vanderhyde.

II. OLD BUSINESS Minutes: October minutes approved.

III. REPORTS

Business Manager:

- Business Manager report was sent to Council members by email in advance. Discussion.

Treasurer:

- Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual and Balance Sheet financial reports emailed prior to meeting for review.
- Discussion. Not able to formally approve without quorum.

School Board:

- Report sent via email ahead of this meeting for review. Discussion and questions answered.

Pastor and Elders:

- Ken Clavir reported all but one of the current Board of Elders will stand for election.
- Family connection team plan was adopted and it will be presented at the Congregational Assembly.
- Pastor will be re-starting the confirmation classes soon. He is also teaching the Youth Sunday School class.

IV. POLICY REVIEW Church Council Policy Manual

- Sections 3.1 through 3.4 reviewed and approved without changes.
- Discussed change to section 2.10.4. It was approved to use the language from the By-Laws for consistency.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- Do we want to go back to mailing a print copy of the Tidings? Are there other ways to inform the congregation about upcoming events? This will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 10:00 a.m. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting is December 14, 2024, at 8:30 am. **POLICY REVIEW** Church Council Policy Manual: 3.5 – 3.8

Devotions for next meeting: Scott Chartier

Brenda Schmidt

Brenda D. Schmidt / Congregational Secretary

Advent

Hope · Love · Joy · Peace

*Prepare for the birth
of our Lord*



Advent begins Sunday, December 1st

Midweek Advent Services begin Wednesday, December 4th
with

10 am Morning Service

5 pm Soup Supper in the Church Fellowship Hall

6 pm Service in the Sanctuary

TLS Students will present their Program
on Wednesday, December 18th at both 10 am and 6 pm.

Christmas Eve is on Tuesday, with
an Evening Candlelight Service at 6 pm.

Christmas Day there will be a morning service at 9 am.

*(Look for the Sign up sheet for providing soups for
Midweek Advent Services in the narthex.)*

Happy December!

Here is the latest update from your Trinity Lutheran Business Manager keeping you informed about what is happening with our property and finances.

The members of the Property Team are very busy working together on the "PLAN". We now have estimated costs for that plan so we can better plan the future expenses for our aging buildings and systems. We have currently prioritized 3 projects.

1. The sprinkler systems and landscaping
2. Repair and renovate church doors
3. Replace church windows (except for Sanctuary)

During the summer, we replaced most of the sprinkler system in what we are calling the "native areas". These are the areas on the south and west side of the property watered by the pump in the ditch. We have now blown out the system and stored the pump for the winter. We have a filter for the pump to be installed next spring. That should keep the repairs to a minimum.

The sprinkler system fed by City of Greeley water is next on our agenda. This system waters the bluegrass areas around the buildings. The repairs to this system will also enable us to complete a landscape plan for the areas along 35th avenue. The work on this system has begun, it includes repairs and new installations to support our approved landscape plan. If you would like to see the plan let me know.

The second item on our list of priorities was getting the exterior doors of the church repaired and the third is replacing the windows in the church building. The doors have been repaired. We still need to find a vendor to refinish the wooden doors and we need to get better weather stripping on the metal doors. The window replacement project will begin in January.

Dan Swanson is working on upgrades to our sound, video and electrical systems in the sanctuary with support from the LWML Easter Love offerings. Please tell them THANK YOU!

The Finance Team continues to handle the payroll, benefits, bookkeeping, counting, deposits, scrip and other finance issues. Let me take a moment to ask you to join me in giving a BIG thank you to three of our long time team members who have retired. Please express your appreciation to Cathy Kruger, Karen Langhorn, and Joyce Einspahr. These ladies have devoted decades to our ministry at Trinity with their time and talents. Continuing to move towards our goal, Debi and Kristen are in the process of consolidating our bank accounts and our Quick Books accounts into ONE entity, ONE ministry. We have also been doing the record keeping for the scholarship program and other fund-raising efforts. Thank you for supporting the Scholarship Campaign and the sale of Butter Braids!

As always, I ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your giving of time, treasure and talent.

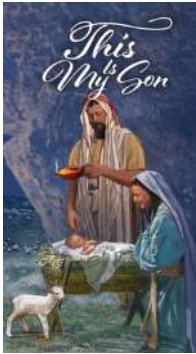
Cheri Carsten

School Happenings

Preschool & K-8

Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,

One of the things I love about Christmas is the music. I have a little guy in my class who sings "Jingle Bells" multiple times each day, so I'm ready to move on to another holiday song. I've been singing "All I Want for Christmas . . ." and replacing "my two front teeth" with "a new right hip." And my prayers were answered! I'm scheduled for hip replacement on December 16. I will be out of commission for a few weeks, but plan to be back when Christmas break ends or shortly thereafter.



Our students are already working on other Christmas music for our school program. You will have two options to attend a performance. There will be a "dress rehearsal" performance at the 10:00 a.m. Advent service on December 18; if you don't like to come out at night, this is a good opportunity to still see the program. That evening at 6:00 will be the final performance.

We added 3 new preschoolers and a new kindergarten student in November. We are anticipating at least 3 new preschool students in early 2025. Several of these are people who newly moved to northern Colorado. If you get new neighbors with children, make sure they know about Trinity as option for their child's education.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Scholarship **SCHOLARSHIP FUND** drive. Remember, you can contribute to the fund any time during the year. There are offering envelopes designated for scholarship or you can simply put the check/cash in any envelope and label it "scholarship". We were halfway to our goal in November; we will give an update at the Voters' Assembly meeting. Especially if you are planning your year-end giving, consider giving to scholarship and supporting the opportunity for children to experience a quality Lutheran education.

Blessings,

Gwen Marshall



Make December a Holiday to remember at Weld Food Bank!

We are also looking to collect shelf-stable food items. Along with some holiday staples, we are in need of some of the most requested items:

- Stuffing
- Canned Green Beans
- Canned Corn
- Soup
- Rice/Pasta
- Cereal
- Peanut Butter
- Tuna/Canned Meat

Help Reach Our Goal



Only 151 pounds to reach our goal of 1000 pounds!
You can do it Trinity, think canned foods.

Drop off your donations at the school M-F 8 am –4 pm or at the Church on Sunday mornings.
If you would prefer to give money (cash or gift cards) give that to Barb Perusek
or go to: weldfoodbank.org/donate. \$1 will feed 4 people and \$25 will feed 100
people. Prayerfully consider giving. Thank you, Trinity.



Weld Food Bank

Angels Among Us (aka the Trinity Quilters)

Our Trinity Quilters have been very busy this last year. After their biannual quilt auction last October, one might think they would take a break, but not our quilters. Some 40 quilters strong, they continually reach out to our community and in their own way promote Trinity. In the last 12 months they have made 9 baptismal banners as keepsakes for the children baptized at Trinity; 100 quilts for the City of Greeley's homeless division; 150 dog beds for Alpine Veterinary and other NO Kill dog sanctuaries; 60 quilts to the Victims Advocacy Group; 120 Critter blankets to the Fire Department; 6 quilts delivered by Cubby the Comfort Dog to the VA retirement home in Denver and 40 quilts for Longview Rehab Center. Just imagine being in need and receiving a warm, comforting quilt made by the Trinity Quilters. They have also made a quilt for these community fundraisers: Chamber of Commerce, Andrea's Run, the Festival of Trees, and Trinity School's Spring Fundraiser. Their Fall Bazaar this year brought 500+ people through our school and in addition to last year's Quilt Auction enabled them to gift Trinity \$20,000. Give thanks to God for the Angels among us!





Remembering Our Homebound Members

The following members of our church are currently either living at home or in a care facility and have limited capability of joining their church family at worship.

- *Richard Beitz-Home
- *Ellen Colegrove- Grace Point
- *Elaine Daubert-Home
- *Melanie Davis - Home
- *Teresa Detterer-Home
- *William Heldt-Meadowview
- *Rachel Einspahr- Grace Point
- *Mary Henneck-Home
- *Ruth McGhghy - Life Care
- *Ron Otto- Grace Point
- *Karen Rutt-Home
- *Dave Schonek –Home
- *Esther Specht-Daughter’s Home
- *Lorene Steele –Home
- *Don & Dixie Wacker –Home
- *Earl Weiss –Grace Point

Please keep them in your prayers and consider calling or sending cards or letters to let them know you are thinking of them. If you need an address or phone number, call the church office or pick up a directory at the church.

December’s Cook’s Night Out

Grab some food and help support Trinity Lutheran Church and School at the same time! Our December Cooks Night Out Fundraiser will be on Tuesday, December 17, from 10:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Panda Express located at 4542 Centerplace Drive in Greeley!



Pick up a flyer on Sunday, December 15th in the church narthex. Thank you for your support!

VOTER’S MEETING

Sunday, December 15th

11:45 a.m. (Immediately following 2nd Service in Sanctuary)

Agenda: Board reports & Elections

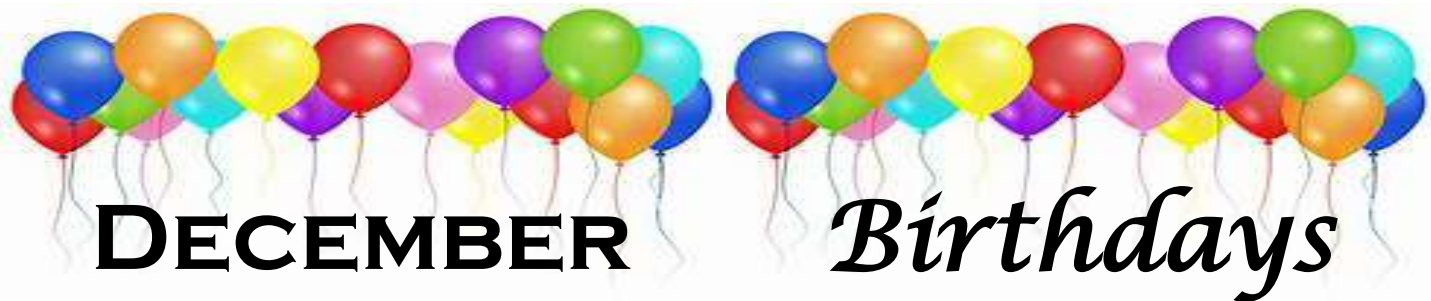
Open positions: Congregational Chairperson

Secretary

Elders—9

School Board Members—7





DECEMBER

Birthdays

- 2 –Donna Hanselmann
- 4 –Daniel Roohr
- 5 –Ruth Ann Hesse
- 5 –Heidi Klepper
- 7 –William Weber
- 8 –Nathan McKinney
- 8 –Candy Reed
- 9 –Jenna Sackschewsky
- 12 –Ryleigh Flesner
- 13 –Marcella DeLange
- 14 –Scott Butterworth
- 14 –Virginia Vanderhyde
- 15 –Connie Mapes
- 16 –Michaelene Powell
- 17 –Gretchen Thuener

- 21-Rider Russel
- 22 –Doug Reed
- 23 –Christian Duffield
- 24 -Kris Bruning
- 25-Juniper Brown
- 25 –Bruce Kemp
- 25—Pat Seegrst
- 26 –Trisha Wojurfin
- 27 –Zayden Pittam
- 27 –Jennefer Tenorio
- 28– Aaron Riemer
- 30 –Jeffrey Dietrich
- 30 –Lillian Leschinsky
- 31-Natalie Best
- 31 –Dave Schoneck



- Richard & Connie Mapes (38)
- Henry & Deborah Thuener II (50)
- Monty & Joyce Anderson (52)
- Steven & Phyllis Klug (54)
- Dennis & Mary Beitz (54)
- Paul & Mary Henneck (63)

(If we missed your special day, please let the office know.)

December

ALTAR FLOWER

~Schedule~

Please sign up to bring flowers. The chart is on the wall by door to the old church office or call the church office, 330-2485.

December 1
Poinsettias

December 8
Poinsettias

December 15
Poinsettias

December 22
Poinsettias

December 29
Poinsettias



Advent and



Christmas Poinsettias

In recent years, poinsettias have filled our sanctuary during this special season of Advent and Christmas. It is the hope that this tradition can continue in 2023. Your help is needed.

If you have a special celebration for a birthday, anniversary or remembrance, please consider giving money to enable the altar ladies to buy poinsettias on your behalf. Give those monies to Pam Clavir or Cheri Carsten. They would love to fill the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias again this year.



~ATTENDANCE~

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|---------|
| October 6 | Early-88 | Late-30 |
| October 13 | Early-83 | Late-55 |
| October 20 | Early-97 | Late-35 |
| October 27 | Early-158 | Late-41 |
| November 3 | Early-107 | Late-39 |
| November 10 | Early-109 | Late-32 |
| November 17 | Early-104 | Late-40 |

Sunday Mornings

8:00 am -Worship Service

10:30 am -Worship Service

Holy Communion
2nd, 4th, & 5th Sundays

Go to: tgreeley.org and Live-stream the 8 am Traditional Service on Sunday mornings.

Ministry Assistants—December Schedule

December 1

Elders – 8:00 am Ken Clavir; 10:30 am TBD

Ushers –8:00 am Doug Reed; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

Sound –8:00 am Dan Swanson; 10:30 am Dan Swanson

Video –8:00 am Mary Beitz; 10:30 am Terri Swanson

Organist– Debra Schwartz

Security –8:00 am TBD; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

December 8*

Elders – 8:00 am Larry Whitney; 10:30 am Ken Clavir

Ushers –8:00 am Doug Reed; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

Sound –8:00 am Aaron Riemer; 10:30 am Aaron Riemer

Video –8:00 am Angela Riemer; 10:30 am Angela Riemer

Organist– Debra Schwartz

Security –8:00 am TBD; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

December 15

Elders – 8:00 am Bob Thorgesen; 10:30 am TBD

Ushers –8:00 am Cheri Carsten; 10:30 am Ken Einspahr

Sound –8:00 am Jeff Junker; 10:30 am Jeff Junker

Video –8:00 am Mary Beitz; 10:30 am Jeff Junker

Organist– Ken Streeb

Security –8:00 am TBD; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

December 22*

Elders – 8:00 am Larry Whitney; 10:30 am Ken Clavir

Ushers –8:00 am Cheri Carsten; 10:30 am Ken Einspahr

Sound –8:00 am Dan Swanson; 10:30 am Dan Swanson

Video –Terri Swanson; 10:30 am Terri Swanson

Organist– Debra Schwartz

Security –8:00 am TBD; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

December 29*

Elders – 8:00 am Michael Thuener; 10:30 am TBD

Ushers –8:00 am Doug Reed; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

Sound –8:00 am Aaron Riemer; 10:30 am Aaron Riemer

Video –8:00 am Angela Riemer; 10:30 am Angela Riemer

Organist– Ken Streeb

Security –8:00 am TBD; 10:30 am Bret Schmidt

*Communion

December 2024

January 2025

December 2024

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

| Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|---|
| Dec 1 Mite Sunday 8:00am & 10:30 am Worship 9:20am SS & Bible Study | 2 9:00am Quilters Meet 6:00pm BOE Meeting Worship | 3 9:00am Quilters Meet 6:00pm BOE Meeting Worship | 4 10:00am & 6 pm Advent Svc 5:00pm Soup Supper | 5 6:30am Men's Group 1:00pm LWML | 6 6:00pm Young Marines | 7 6:00pm Young Marines |
| 8 8:00am & 10:30 am Worship 9:20am SS & Bible Study | 9 9:00am Quilters Meet Worship | 10 9:00am Quilters Meet Worship | 11 10:00am & 6 pm Advent Svc 5:00pm Soup Supper | 12 6:30am Men's Group 1:00pm FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE | 13 6:00pm Young Marines | 14 7:00am ELDERS Meeting 8:30am Church Council 10:00am Women's Advent Brunch |
| 15 8:00am & 10:30 am Worship 9:20am SS & Bible Study 11:45am Assembly 3:00pm Newsletter | 16 9:00am Quilters Meet Worship | 17 10:30am Cooks Night Out | 18 10:00am & 6 pm TLS Program | 19 6:30am Men's Group | 20 6:00pm Young Marines | 21 6:00pm Young Marines |
| 22 8:00am & 10:30 am Worship 9:20am SS & Bible Study | 23 9:00am Quilters Meet Worship | 24 6:00pm Christmas Eve Svc | 25 9:00am Christmas Day Svc | 26 6:30am Men's Group | 27 6:00pm Young Marines | 28 8:00am Property Team Meeting |
| 29 8:00am & 10:30 am Worship 9:20am SS & Bible Study | 30 9:00am Quilters Meet Worship | 31 9:00am Quilters Meet Worship | Jan 1, 25 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Trinity Tidings

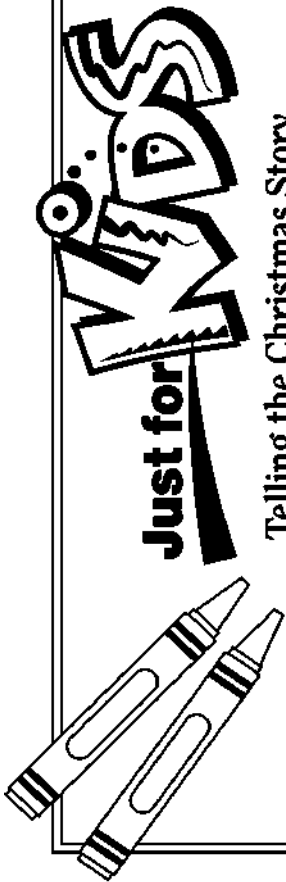
Trinity Lutheran Church/School
 3000 35th Avenue
 Greeley, Colorado 80634

Return Service Requested

Church/School Office: 970-330-2485
 Church/School Email: office@tlgreeley.com
 Website: tlgreeley.org

Worship Services

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am
 Adult Bible Classes and
 Sunday School - 9:20 am



Telling the Christmas Story

These words are all part of the Christmas story. First, find them in the puzzle below. Circle them. You may find them → ← ↗ ↘. There will be 12 letters that remain uncircled. Write them in the order found on the lines below. You will find a special Christmas message! Then use the words from the list to tell the story to someone!

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| joy | hay | men | inn | wise |
| Lord | star | baby | king | east |
| Mary | gold | angel | taxes | Jesus |
| sheep | myrrh | three | manger | Savior |
| donkey | Caesar | Joseph | birthday | Messiah |
| shepherds | frankincense | Bethlehem | Augustus | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | E | T | H | L | E | H | E | M | P | S | M | A | R | Y |
| I | A | N | G | E | L | E | G | O | L | D | E | C | A | E |
| R | C | B | J | S | M | Y | R | R | H | R | S | A | E | K |
| T | J | O | Y | E | H | E | T | S | A | E | S | E | M | N |
| H | T | A | X | E | S | E | N | O | I | H | I | S | A | O |
| D | A | G | N | I | K | U | E | N | N | P | A | A | N | D |
| A | E | Y | W | R | A | T | S | P | N | E | H | R | G | R |
| Y | A | U | G | U | S | T | U | S | T | H | R | E | E | O |
| F | R | A | N | K | I | N | C | E | N | S | E | A | R | L |
| R | O | I | V | A | S | R | T | H | J | O | S | E | E | P |

“ ----- ”