



TLC Grapevine

November 2024

www.trinitybemidji.org

A Publication of Trinity Lutheran Church, Bemidji, Minnesota (218) 444-4441

Worship Services

9:00 am, Sunday

There are no Wednesday Services during vacancy

Sunday School (Sept - May)

10:30 am - 11:30 am



trinity3@paulbunyan.net

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Here we stand, here we go

October 13, 2023 / Reporter / By Rev. Matthew C. Harrison

The following article is a reprint of an excerpt from the President's Report, Part 3, delivered on July 30, 2023 at the LCMS convention in Milwaukee.

“Hier stehe Ich. Ich kann nicht anders.”

“Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise,” responded Luther in 1521 when the greatest authority of his political and religious world tried to force him to recant of his teaching. This response has become so famous that we joke about it. We make “Here I stand” socks. Some even use it for self-deprecating humor, suggesting that we say, “Here we stand,” instead of “Here we go.” But we cannot stand on the Gospel without going with the Gospel.

The Diet of Worms continues to have great significance for the church. Luther had been told that the emperor wanted to hear one word and one word only from this troublesome German monk — “Revoco,” [which means] “I recant.” Luther stood by a pile of his books and was questioned. “Are these yours?” “Do you recant?” Luther asked for time to think about the matter overnight. When he was brought to the same hall, he spoke the words we all remember:

“Unless I am convinced by proof from Holy Scripture, or by cogent reasons ... I neither can nor will retract anything; for it cannot be either safe or honest for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand. I cannot do otherwise. God help me. Amen.”

Luther has been blamed for most every western philosophical, political or religious movement since. But he's no advocate of the rejection of the Bible for “reason,” or radical individuality. His reason and conscience were captive to the Word of God. And because “the word of the Lord remains forever” (1 Peter 1:25), this Word and faith is confessed before the judgment seat of God.

The Formula of Concord quotes Luther's great 1544 confession, made when Melancthon and others in Wittenberg were wobbling on the true presence of Christ in the Sacrament:

“I am not drunk or irresponsible. I know what I'm saying, and I well realize what this will mean for me before the Last Judgement at the coming of the Lord Christ. Let no one make this out to be a joke or idle talk; I am in dead earnest, since by the grace of God I have learned to know a great deal about Satan.” (Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration VII.3031)

The confessors of our Book of Concord have the same spirit. And we have made it our own:

“This Confession also, by the help of God, we will retain to our last breath, when we shall go forth from this life to the heavenly fatherland, to appear with joyful and undaunted mind and with a pure conscience before the tribunal of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Preface to the Book of Concord 16)

Jesus asked His disciples, “Who do you say that I am?” Peter responded for them all, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt. 16:16). Christ asks this question to each of us. For most of us, our confession began when we were infants. Our sponsors and the congregation confessed the faith that we were given in Baptism. In confirmation we confessed before God and man that we will never forsake the Christian faith as confessed in Luther's Small Catechism. In ordination we stand before God and man and confess that we shall die before forsaking this Christian and Lutheran faith. As Christians in this world, we must stand and profess. “You are the Christ.” “Here I stand. I can do no other.”



Every pastor, teacher, deaconess, church musician, elder, congregational officer, Sunday school teacher, individual congregation, new member, district, district president, parochial school, Concordia (named for this confession!) has, does and continues to confess before God and at His judgment seat on the last day: “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matt. 16:16). “I make this biblical/Lutheran confession my own.” We all individually, and together with this whole convention are bound to Article II of the Synod’s Constitution:

The Synod, and every member of the Synod, accepts without reservation:

1. The Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice;

2. All the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God, to wit: the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostles’ Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Large Catechism of Luther, the Small Catechism of Luther, and the Formula of Concord.

The necessity of both confession and action form the first two of the objectives of the Synod:

1. Conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3–6; 1 Cor. 1:10), work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide a united defense against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy.

Here I stand!

And then the second objective defines the apostolic compulsion of Christianity (1 Cor. 9:16). The Synod exists to:

2. Strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world. Here we go!

‘Bold witness

This “bold witness” was a conscience issue for St. Paul and the other apostles. Paul put it this way: “For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!” (1 Cor. 9:16). Paul was created to preach the Gospel, prepared to preach the Gospel, called to preach the Gospel, sent to preach the Gospel, lived to preach the Gospel, died preaching the Gospel!

In Acts 4 we read that Peter and John got in trouble for healing a disabled man, that is, for “giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God.”

So they called them and charged them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard.” (Acts 4:18–20)

And here’s what they spoke:

“And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, ‘By what power or by what name did you do this?’ Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, ‘Rulers of the people and elders, if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead — by him this man is standing before you well. This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.’” (Acts 4:7–12)

In Acts 5 the apostles are called before the officials yet again:

“‘We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.’ But Peter and the apostles answered, ‘We must obey God rather than men.’” (Acts 5:28–29)

Now notice how this compulsion to preach Jesus, the burden of the apostolic conscience, is the compulsion to preach the clear, specific Gospel.

“The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.” (Acts 5:30–32)

The Synod’s Constitution says our objective is to “strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world.” This is as biblical and clear as the Word and work of Jesus, and the word and works of His apostles in Acts 4 and 5. ...

My job as chair of this convention is to see that you get the business done you want done. The goal is that you, the duly elected representatives of your congregations, deliberate and act as you see fit in accordance with our governing documents. ...

We have a beautiful confession, a courageous confession. We have the clarity and certainty of Jesus’ forgiveness in His Word and Sacraments. We have the answer the world needs to all its ills.

And now we have the privilege of letting that confession guide and govern our work together these next few days. ...

We face tremendous challenges to be true. But you will be hearing of blessings aplenty. Here we stand! And here we go!

The Perfect Storm



It's been over a decade now since Hollywood produced the movie *The Perfect Storm*. If you watched it you may recall that the perfect storm was a true story about the convergence of three violent Atlantic storms off the Grand Banks in which a boat load of fishermen were trapped and in the end died.

So what does it have to do with us? For many Christians it represents how they too have entered into a perfect spiritual storm. That is to say, storms created by our culture that seeks to capsize Christianity, and thus Christians by converging on them on several fronts.

The three storm fronts that are often cited are the political, sociological and spiritual storms that Christianity is facing. For example, the political storm of Socialism, Communism, Fascism and others 'ism's' that are rising in our culture are by virtue of their philosophies seeking to undermine or worse yet, trying to remove Christianity altogether since Christianity provides a ground work for life that is contrary to their teachings. Sociological norms also, such as the undermining of the family structure through the wholesale acceptance of wanton abortion, cohabitation, homosexuality and transgenderism as legitimate life choices also create a storm front that Christians must face since these choices contradict the will of God. And thirdly, the spiritual storm that teaches that all gods are equal to Christ or when Christ's teachings are distorted by claiming that sin is no longer sin so that together these three storms have many Christians fearing being drowned in the midst of them.

But we must remember that these three storms have always converged throughout history. Political realms have risen and fallen, sociological structures and their immoral compasses have pointed men in many sinful directions. And spiritually, men have always tried to undermine God's truths, both that of His Law and Gospel by promoting human reason and sin as being superior to God's love for man through Jesus Christ.

Proof of this is clearly recorded in Scripture as St. Peter wrote of Lot's dilemma while living in Sodom and Gomorrah:

"And if God reduced the entire cities of Sodom and Gomorrah to ashes, when He sentenced them to destruction as a fearful example to those who wanted to live in defiance of His laws, and yet saved Lot the righteous man, in acute mental distress at the filthy lives of the godless – Lot, remember, was a good man suffering spiritual agonies day after day at what he saw and heard of their lawlessness – then you may be absolutely certain that the Lord knows how to rescue good men surrounded by temptation and how to reserve His punishment for the wicked until their day comes. (2 Peter 2:7-9 Phillips Modern English)

Indeed, we as Christians must not only face the storms created by our sinful nature, but those created by this sinful world.

And so, when we find ourselves in the middle of a perfect storm as we do right now there is hope. For hope rests in faith in Christ who promises to protect us from all harm and danger whether caused by our sin, our physical environment or that which is imposed upon us by the choices of sinful men.

So here are several verses in which to find comfort in the midst of these stormy days:

"And the Lord, He it is who doth go before thee; He will be with thee, He will not fail thee, neither forsake thee; fear not, neither be dismayed." (Deut. 31:8)

"My flesh and my heart fail, but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion forever." (Psalm 73:26)

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven ..." (Eccl. 3:1)

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they shall comfort me." (Psalm 23:4)

And finally:

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof." (Psalm 46:1-3)

So have no fear, cling to God's Word of truth and be blessed with God's peace! For, God promises to keep you afloat in this perfect storm and in all others.

In Christ, Pastor Uhrinak

MONTHLY GROUP MEETINGS

- ❖ **Ladies Aid**
Will meet on Thursday, November 7th at 1:30 pm at the church.
- ❖ **Trinity Afternoon Guild**
Will meet on Tuesday, November 5th at 1:30 pm at the church.
- ❖ **Men of Trinity**
Will meet on Monday, November 4th at 6:30 pm at the Church.
- ❖ **Active Christian Fellowship**
The Active Christian Fellowship will NOT meet in November. The group will gather at a time to be determined to make Popcorn Balls for the Sunday School Christmas Program in December.
- ❖ **Hannah Circle**
Will meet on Thursday, November 14th 10th at 1:30 pm at the church.
June Roxstrom will serve. We will be studying 1 Peter:4.
- ❖ **Altar Circle**
Will meet on Monday, November 18th at 1:00 pm.
- ❖ **Eunice Circle**
Will meet on Tuesday, November 19th at 9:30 am. Bring finger foods.
- ❖ **Christian Singles**
The Christian Singles will meet for lunch on Sunday, November 10th.
- ❖ **Happy Quilters**
The "Happy Quilters" meet on the 3rd & 4th Thursdays of each month at 9:00am at the church.



Leadership



CHURCH OFFICERS

President: Randy Yarbrough - 218-766-0695
Council Secretary: Paul Borslien - 218-289-2866
Financial Secretary - Becky Theis - 218-368-6916
Treasurer: Scott Kurtzweg - 218-556-2892

ELDERS

If your last name begins with:

A - C
D - H
I - M
N - R
S
T - Z

Then you Elder is:

Steve Krueger - 218-751-3794
Scott Wilson - 701-238-7557
Ben Lang - 218-444-7689
Ron Oelrich - 218-766-4656
Eric Lee - 218-966-1023
Paul Borslien - 218-289-2866

CHURCH BOARDS

TRUSTEES

Dave Krueger - 218-766-5053
Carlos Moreno - 218-444-2888
Mark Tisler - 701-640-3447

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

Lenay Tieman - 218-444-1412
David/Susan Krueger - 218-444-9583
Bonnie Wentzel - 218-751-6119

BOARD OF MISSIONS

Steve Krueger - 218-751-3794
Mary Krueger - 218-751-3794
Wayne Tieman - 218-760-1099

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Sheridan Ellis - 218-368-8317
Vacancy
Vacancy

YOUTH BOARD

Allison Chandler - 218-766-4830
Susan Krueger - 218-444-9583
Dede Kubitz - 218-280-8526

SCHOOL BOARD

Allison Chandler - 218-766-4830
Wentdy Potratz - 218-556-8432
Marie Borslien - 218-556-7538

I . C . Y . M . I .

(IN . CASE . YOU . MISSED . IT .)

LWML Fall Rally at Trinity

On Thursday October 17th, ladies from the LWML groups of the Bemidji-Park Rapids Zone gathered at Trinity for their annual Fall Rally hosted by Trinity's Afternoon Guild. The theme of the Rally was "Children of the Heavenly Father". After enjoying morning coffee and pastries provided by Trinity's Ladies Aid, the event was "kicked-off" by our very own TLC Preschool & Childcare children singing songs for the ladies. There was a bible study by Pastor Larry Harvala followed by business meeting in the morning. After lunch everyone gathered to listen to keynote speaker Rev. Don Fondow. The In-Gathering items collected were in support of the Northwoods Pregnancy Center.



Children of the Heavenly Father



DISTRICT NEWS

OFFICIAL NOTICE: THE 25TH CONVENTION of the



Minnesota North District
THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Missouri Synod

Dates: February 23-25, 2025
Location: Timberlake Lodge, Grand Rapids, MN
Theme: "A living hope in Christ" I Peter 1:3-5
Host Circuit: Iron Range Circuit, Rev. Jim Anthony, Circuit Visitor

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." *1 Peter 1:3-5*



CREATION
MUSEUM



You Are Invited—Bus Tour
December 28—January 2 | \$900-1100/person
Hosted by: St. Mark's Benson

Includes a stop at Mission Central in Iowa. To sign up or get more information please contact Pastor Wolter: jwolter78@hotmail.com or 402-335-7518



Concordia
Seminary
ST. LOUIS

Considering a church work career as a pastor, deaconess, chaplain or missionary?

College students and second-career men and women can learn more about the path to full-time service as a pastor, deaconess, missionary or chaplain during two Vocatio: Retreat events scheduled for Oct. 6-8, 2024, and April 6-8, 2025. Registration for the October event closes Sept. 25. The event is free. Visit csl.edu/vocatio-retreat to learn more.

High school men and women entering grades ninth through 12th can explore God's calling and direction for them during Vocatio: High School, slated for June 21-27, 2025. Registration will open in January. The registration fee is \$200 per participant. Learn more at csl.edu/vocatio.

LCMSFoundation
GIFT PLANNING FOR YOUR FAMILY & MINISTRY



ENDURE

JULY 19-23, 2025; NEW ORLEANS, LA



GOD ROCKS!



Make decorative stones as reminders of God's many great attributes.

What you need:

- Flat, smooth stones
- Printed, decorative napkins
- Paintbrush
- Clear-drying craft glue
- Scissors
- Permanent marker



What you do:

1. Unfold the napkin, carefully separating the printed side from the solid side.
2. Brush a thin layer of glue atop a stone. Lay the napkin (printed side up) on the glue and press down. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
3. Turn the stone over and paint more glue on the back. Wrap the napkin edges around the stone, trimming as needed. Paint more glue over the napkin. Let dry.
4. On the stone, write an attribute of God (loving, wise, powerful, merciful, etc.).
5. Repeat with more stones. Use them as gifts, paperweights, table decorations, etc.



Activity Page



BECAUSE OF WHO GOD IS

Thanks to who God is, we can talk to him in prayer.

Directions: Unscramble the descriptions of God, using the Bible references as clues. Then write the circled letters below to complete Psalm 109:26, NIV

Psalm 145:8	SGAICURO	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Job 36:5	HGIYMT	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Psalm 90:2	LTAVREENISG	_ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
2 Peter 3:9	INETPA	_ _ _ _ _ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
1 Thessalonians 5:24	FUFHIATL	<input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _ _ _
Isaiah 40:25	OYHL	_ <input type="checkbox"/> _ _ _

Help me, Lord my __od;
save __e __ccording __o
your un__ailing l__ve.

Psalm 109:26, NIV

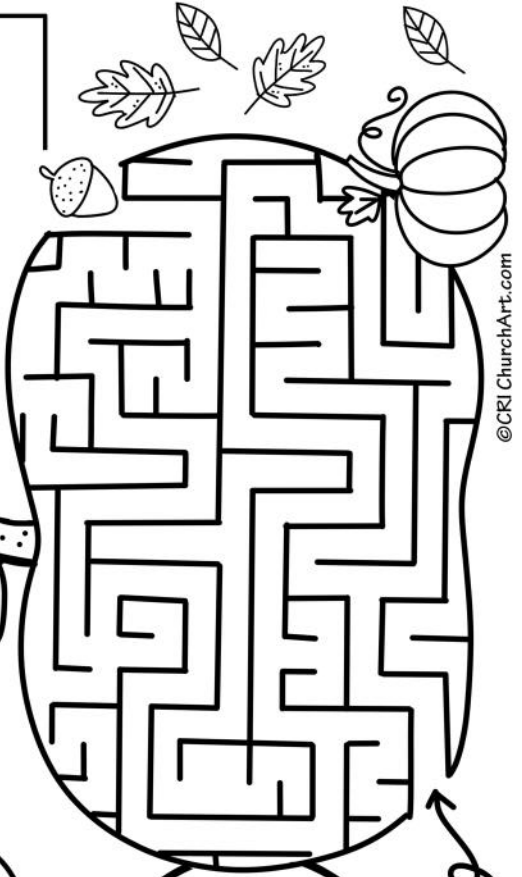
THANKS GIVING



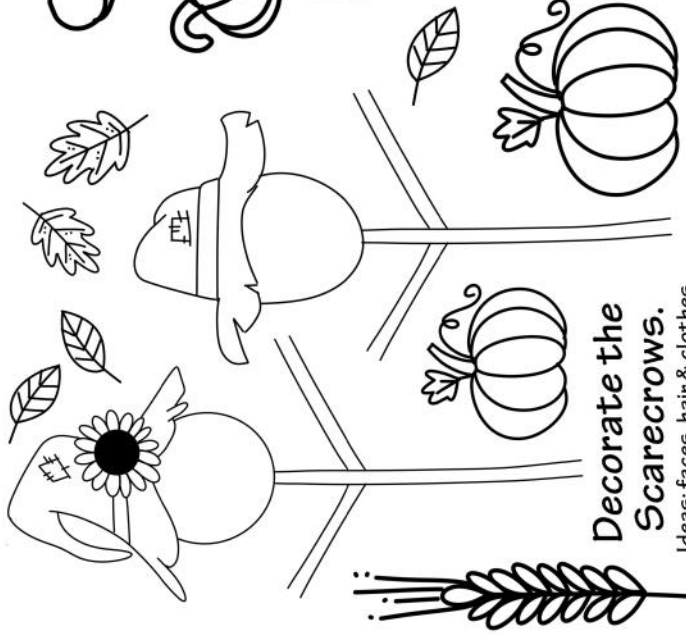
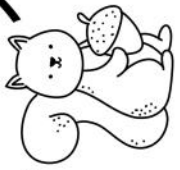
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
**HIS LOVE ENDURES
FOREVER.**
Psalm 136:1, NIV



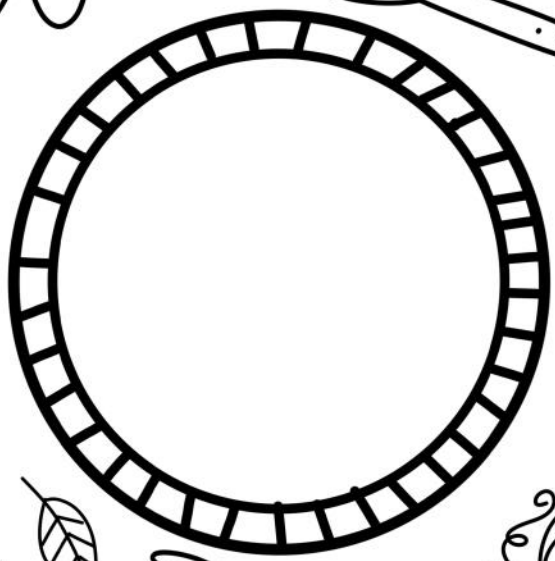
What are you thankful for?



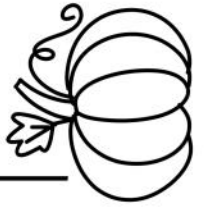
How many pumpkins can you find?



Decorate the Scarecrows.
Ideas: faces, hair & clothes



Draw your favorite Thanksgiving Dinner!



Growing Tree

Childcare and TLC Preschool Newsletter



SCHOOL CLOSINGS:

Preschool closed Nov.
7th & 8th/ Conferences

GTLC & TLC Preschool
Closed Nov. 28th &
29th/Thanksgiving



1 Chronicles 16:34

Give thanks to the
LORD, for he is
good; his love en-
dures forever.

Childcare and Preschool News

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025

Registration forms are available in the Preschool office. Please see Danielle for Preschool forms and/or questions regarding preschool.

Christmas Program & Advent Meal

The preschool will have their Annual Christmas Program on Wednesday December 4th at 5:30 pm. Preschool staff and school board members will be serving the advent supper immediately following the program. We hope to see you all there!

FALL FUNDRAISING

Annual Ticket Fundraiser is going on now! Tickets are \$10 each with all proceeds going to the preschool. Tickets can be purchased in the preschool office until Thursday December 5th. The drawing will be held on Friday, December 6th at 10 a.m.

Prizes are as follows:

1. **Blackstone Grill & Portable Party Bar Pkg.** (value: \$490)
2. **Mall of America Family Adventure Pkg.** (value: \$390)
3. **20 Qt. BIG FRIG Cooler & Beverage Pkg.** (value: \$275)
4. **King Size Handmade Quilt** (value: Priceless)

Thank you for your continued support of the preschool program

News & Announcements



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE
WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 27TH
6:30 PM
WITH PIE SOCIAL
FOLLOWING SERVICE



**The Church Office and
 Preschool/Childcare will
 be closed on Nov. 28 & 29
 for Thanksgiving.**



Looking Ahead to Advent & Christmas

- NOVEMBER 27** Thanksgiving Eve Service at 6:30 PM followed by a Pie Social
- DECEMBER 1** Decorating the Church for Christmas
- DECEMBER 4** TLC Preschool/Childcare Program & Advent Meal at 5:30 PM
- DECEMBER 5** Ladies Aid & Afternoon Guild Christmas Party at 6:00 pm
- DECEMBER 11** 5:00 PM Advent Meal
6:00 PM Sunday School Program
6:30 PM Advent Worship
- DECEMBER 18** 5:00 PM Advent Meal
6:00 PM Trinity Christmas Concert
6:30 PM Advent Worship
- DECEMBER 24** 4:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service
- DECEMBER 25** 9:00 AM Worship with Communion



In January 2025 the Ladies Aid will join with Afternoon Guild to form one group. The new group will serve coffee on the 4th Sunday of each month. Therefore, there is a need for another group to pick up the 1st Sunday of each month to serve coffee after the Worship Service. If you can help, please contact the church office. *Thank you.*



Time to order your Poinsettias for Christmas!
Cost: \$15.50 each. (Same as last year)
 Signup in the Fellowship Hall or by calling Vern & Sandy Holzhueter at 751-2214.

Make checks payable to Vern Holzhueter & leave in his mailbox. **DEADLINE: November 30th!**



Lutheran Island Camp UPCOMING EVENTS

December 8th

Christmas Hymn Sing - FREE

Join us this December for our annual Christmas Hymn Sing! Bring your family, friends, and your favorite hymn. As always, our singing time will be followed by Christmas cookies and warm drinks. This is a fun and festive way to start the beautiful Christmas season and celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior!



We ask that you let us know you're coming so that we have enough cookies! Click the button below to contact the office.

The exact timeframe is TBD and will be announced in the weeks to come.

Jan 17-18, Feb 7-8, Mar 14-15

Confirmation Weekends

Confirmation Weekends are led by Program Director Olivia, with the exception of the Confirmation Instruction time. To register your group, contact Diane at licbusiness@islandcamp.org.

Jan 22-26, April 2-6

Quilt & Craft Retreats

- \$160/2 nights
- \$200/3 nights
- \$240/4 nights
- \$280/5 nights

Join us on the Island for a relaxing retreat full of quilting and crafts! Food and lodging is provided. Please bring your own bedding and toiletries. This year, due to the ERC renovations, the Quilt & Craft Retreat will look a little different. Please **CLICK HERE** for a letter from Program Director Olivia outlining these changes.

For any questions, please contact Olivia at licprogram@islandcamp.org.

NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP

The consequences of shallow thankfulness

Can you imagine a Thanksgiving dinner without turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and pumpkin pie? I know I can't! To not have these on the menu, or worse, to run out of them with the family around the table, would be a culinary sin of epic proportions. An attempt to serve bratwurst and hamburgers in place of the standard fare would ring hollow and seem totally inappropriate and out of place. It isn't that the food would be bad; brats and burgers are pretty tasty. But not for Thanksgiving — they just don't go together!

This month, as we continue to walk through the stewardship hymn, "Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness" (LSB 788), we turn our attention to verse three. Here, William Watkins Reid, Sr., the man who penned this text, draws attention to some things that do not go along with faithful, thankful stewardship.

Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise ...

We see this often with small children. They greedily snatch the candy out of a grandparent's hand, savagely destroy the wrapper, and attempt to stuff the entire delicacy in their mouth in one bite, only to have a parent say, "Tell grandma thank you." This is followed by the pro forma thanks that is uttered between chocolate chews. It isn't really thankfulness; it is simply checking a box to keep mom or dad off their backs.

We never really outgrow this either. Our shallow thankfulness takes the form of feigned humility when praise is being offered. We are thankful that our admirers noticed and called us out: "Look at me! Aren't I special?" No thought at all is given to the fact that the Lord was the One who gave us the ability and opportunity for accomplishment. Our false blush is really only masking our selfish, credit-seeking gain. Once again, we find ourselves idolatrously thanking ourselves.

For words that speak at variance with deeds ...

What carries more weight: words or action? The steward who gives voice to the Gospel in the Divine Service but then lives like a pagan in the world does great damage, not only to others but to the Gospel itself! This is the consequence of failed stewardship. It is idolatry that separates the steward from the Lord.

Worse yet, it also impacts others negatively. When the failed steward is the reference point outside the Christian community, there are those who want no part of being Christian or following the Christ they claim. We see this play out in the impact of overt political activity among Christians based on governing policy as opposed to fidelity to the Word of God. When our lips and our lives are out of sync, like what used to happen with old movie projectors, the impact isn't funny — it obscures the Gospel!

*Forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways
unmindful of a broken brother's need ...*

Our creature comforts often become an obstacle to faithful stewardship. This is true of both individual and corporate stewardship. Financial stewardship is often limited by our desire to be comfortable and have the latest toys and gadgets. Congregational stewardship is often limited by the desire to focus on what is best for the congregation as opposed to how resources might be best stewarded to reach the community with the Gospel.

When we see someone in need, or broken by the world, we often look at them as freeloaders. We admonish them to get a job. We insist that they learn our language, learn our customs, and make them their own. But this gets in the way of seeing every human being the way that Jesus sees them. Remember, that broken person is one for whom Jesus went to the cross to die and rise. When we are unmindful of these needs, our shallow thankfulness also stands in the way of the Gospel.

This stanza reminds us of the challenge we face. Our hearts are master idol-makers. Our shallow thankfulness threatens our souls and hinders others from seeing Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Stewardship is serious business. It is a task for which we were created. In our sinful failings, we are never relieved of these duties. In our Baptism, we are restored to be stewards of the Gospel. Our faithful stewardship is all about that Gospel.

Forgive us when our thanks are shallow, O Lord! In this month of Thanksgiving, grant us the grace to offer heaping helpings of this stewardship so that others may see Jesus!



Stewardship Report

<u>Monthly Receipts/Expenses</u>	<u>September 2024</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$27,028.32
PS/CC Receipts	\$8,367.00
Interest Receipts	\$281.71
(Transfer to Money Market) Adjustments	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$35,677.03
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$50,178.13
OVERAGE/SHORTAGE	Monthly +/- (-\$14,501.10)



YOU CAN NOW GIVE YOUR TITHE OR OFFERING ONLINE?!

It's Easy, just follow these steps...

1. Visit Trinity's Website at www.trinitybemidji.org.
2. Click on "Donate" at the top right of the Home Page.
3. On the next page, Click the Donate button and you will be directed to our PayPal page.
4. From here, you can either donate with your existing PayPal account OR if you don't have an account you can donate with your Credit Card.
5. Then just complete using your information and submit.

If you have any questions about the process, please call the church office.

The Benefits Of Online Giving

STEWARDSHIP

You have the option of giving a one time gift, or having your tithe post monthly.

CONVENIENT

You can continue to support Trinity even if you are away on vacation or gone for the winter.

FLEXIBILITY

You can give to the General Fund or choose to give to a specific Ministry of the church.

If you would like help in learning how make your donation or tithe to Trinity online, just stop in to the office, we are happy to help.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 Sandy Holzhueter

2 Pam Maatz
Paul & Marie Borslien (5)

4 Hattie Kurtzweg

5 Vicki Carlson, Bob Rosch

6 Elliot Beavor
Don & Karen Hanson (61)

7 Annabelle Haas

9 Pat Cloose, Carole Holmes

10 Scott & Janet Wilson (6)

11 Sue Schoff

12 Mike Lohse

13 Gayle Christensen

15 Dick Claypool, Jerry Reierson

20 Ann Egeland, Clara Lohse
Matt & Bonnie Puro (31)

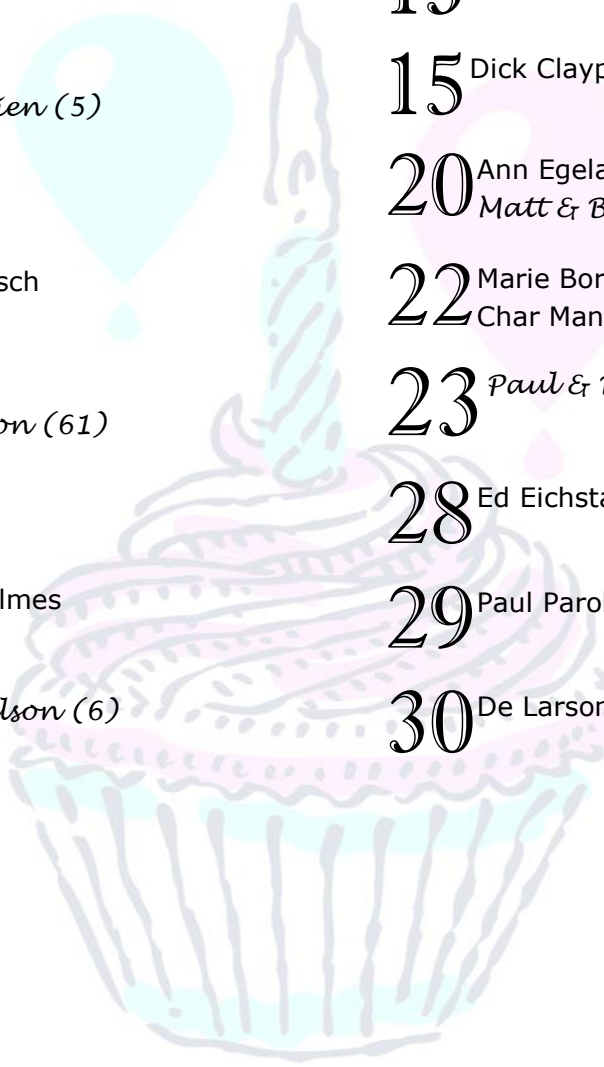
22 Marie Borslien; Paul Borslien
 Char Manecke, Carol Olson

23 *Paul & Beverly Parobek (45)*

28 Ed Eichstadt

29 Paul Parobek

30 De Larson



A DOSE of HUMOR

CHURCH FAMILY THANKSGIVING DINNER @ 6 PM

“Don't be fooled by the pumpkin pie. It's just squash casserole with sugar.”

Campbell

ALTAR FLOWER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Please sign up to tend the Altar Flowers. We still need volunteers for 2024!

ADDRESS/PHONE

What's Your Current Phone & Address?

If your address and/or phone number changes, please let the church office know, so your information will be correct in the church database. Thank you!



extra*extra
LARGE PRINT EDITION AVAILABLE

LARGE PRINT bulletins are available for those that have difficulty with the regular bulletin. If you would benefit from having one of these bulletins, please ask an usher for a copy.

If you are interested in being a Greeter or an Usher, please speak with one of the Elders.



WHEN YOU LEAVE GOD'S HOUSE, please turn out ALL the lights (except in the office hallway) and please check that ALL the entrance doors are LOCKED, even if you didn't unlock them.

Greeting Cards Available!



Individual Cards are \$1.00 each. Boxed cards are priced on bottom. Checks are preferred. Please make your checks out to Trinity Ladies Aid and put your payment in the container provided. Thank you.

Check out the "RESOURCE TABLE" in the Fellowship Hall for FREE Books, Periodicals, Devotionals, and More.



Portals of Prayer are in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.



The season after Pentecost begins with Holy Trinity Sunday and continues through the last Sunday of the church year in ALTAR CIRCLE November. The paraments are green, the color of life, refreshment and regeneration. Throughout this season, the focus is on the Lord's teaching and how it is applied in the life of the Church.



A "Gluten Free" option is available for communion. If you would like to take advantage of this option, please speak with Pastor or Elders.

BEMIDJI AREA FOOD SHELF

Trinity, along with United Methodist Church volunteer the 3rd Monday of each month at the Food Shelf. The first shift is from 9am-12pm and the second shift is from 12-3:30pm. Both shifts need 6-7 volunteers.



The Food Shelf would not function without all the volunteers who give of their time. Thank you for all you do to help the Food Shelf run smoothly. ~June Roxstrom




Check out our website.
www.trinitybemidji.org



Please check the covered bulletin boards in the Church Entrance Hall for posted Letters, Community Events, Concerts, Meals, Fundraisers, local activities and news.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - NOVEMBER

- | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 Exodus 15:1-18 | 9 Psalm 129 | 17 Psalm 137 | 25 Psalm 145 |
| Hosea 8-10 | Nahum | Matthew 1-2 | Matthew 17-18 |
| 2 Psalm 122 | 10 Psalm 130 | 18 Psalm 138 | 26 Psalm 146 |
| Hosea 11-14 | Habakkuk | Matthew 3-4 | Matthew 19-20 |
| 3 Psalm 123 | 11 Psalm 131 | 19 Psalm 139 | 27 Psalm 147 |
| Joel | Zephaniah | Matthew 5-6 | Matthew 21-22 |
| 4 Psalm 124 | 12 Psalm 132 | 20 Psalm 140 | 28 Psalm 148 |
| Amos 1-5 | Haggai | Matthew 7-8 | Matthew 23-24 |
| 5 Psalm 125 | 13 Psalm 133 | 21 Psalm 141 | 29 Psalm 149-150 |
| Amos 6-9 | Zechariah 1-5 | Matthew 9-10 | Matthew 25-26 |
| 6 Psalm 126 | 14 Psalm 134 | 22 Psalm 142 | 30 Exodus 15:1-18 |
| Obadiah, Jonah | Zechariah 6-10 | Matthew 11-12 | Matthew 27-28 |
| 7 Psalm 127 | 15 Psalm 135 | 23 Psalm 143 | |
| Micah 1-3 | Zechariah 11-14 | Matthew 13-14 | |
| 8 Psalm 128 | 16 Psalm 136 | 24 Psalm 144 | |
| Micah 4-7 | Malachi | Matthew 15-16 | |

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;"> "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 </p>					1	2
3 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School <div style="background-color: #800000; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Daylight Savings Time ENDS</div> Altar Circle Serves	4 6:30 PM Men of Trinity	5 1:30 PM Trinity Afternoon Guild 6:00 PM Bells	6 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 4:15 PM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:30 PM Choir	7 1:30 PM Ladies Aid 5:30 PM Board of Elders	8  All Saints Day	9
10 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:30 AM Christian Singles Youth Groups Serve	11	12 6:00 PM Bells	13 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 4:15 PM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:30 PM Choir	14 1:30 PM Hannah Circle	15	16
17 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School Men Serve	18 1:00 PM Altar Circle	19 9:30 AM Eunice Circle 6:00 PM Bells	20 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM Bible Study 4:00 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 4:15 PM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation 6:30 PM Choir	21 9:00 AM "Happy Quilters" 6:00 PM Church Boards 7:00 PM Church Council	22	23
24 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School Evening Guild Serves	25	26 6:00 PM Bells	27 No Bible Study 4:00 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 6:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social	28  <div style="background-color: #0000FF; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">OFFICES CLOSED</div>	29	30