



# Joyful Noise

DECEMBER 2023

## Christmas Message

Luke 2:1-20

"In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to his own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

*"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."*

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told."



*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*

# School NEWS



Richard Thomas  
Principal of Trinity  
Lutheran School

## FAST TIME – SLOW TIME

Greetings from all of us here at the school. Can you feel it? I can feel it here at school. 'Tis the season of Thanksgiving and heading toward Christmas. Which time are you? It is so easy to get caught up in the hurry, hurry, hurry. It really takes a strong focus to say no and not let it happen. Think slow, slow, slow. Let your family be the focus and enjoy slow time with them. Sue and I enjoy just sitting back and watching our family visit and play together. The Lord has BLESSED all of us and we need to keep it slow and relish our time together. May the Lord bless your family during this time of year.



# Youth NEWS



Cameron Heiliger  
Director of Youth and  
Parish Education

As we wrapped up the church year on November 26, we also concluded three weeks of exploring Matthew 25 in our gospel readings. In the final teaching of this chapter, Jesus once again points us to the kingdom of heaven, the coming of the Son of Man, the end times. These readings can be difficult as we think about what it means for some to be welcomed and some to be left out, and this reading is no different as Jesus shares that the Son of Man will divide the flock into sheep and goats...

To the sheep he will say, "Come you who are blessed by my Father... I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me... I was in prison and you came to me."

The sheep? They have questions: "When did we do all these things?" they ask.

Jesus says, "As you did it to one of the least of my brothers, you did it to me."

One thing we are reminded of in this is that we don't know the kingdom impact our actions will have, but that's not for us to worry about because - God knows! As this church year comes to a close and we begin thinking about new beginnings at Christmas, I am so thankful to be a part of a church community who takes this calling seriously and gives in such abundance! The impact of our Thanksgiving basket food drive is going to be felt not just on the day of Thanksgiving or even the few days that have followed as families enjoy leftovers. The impact of the food and funds we gathered will be felt for MONTHS as families get to spend time together playing the board games we were able to share because of the extra funds given, as families care for little ones with the pull-ups and wipes we were able to provide, and as those in need receive food from our church food pantry in the months to come. I know I also speak for the whole Youth Ministry Team when I say we are truly humbled and blown away by the abundance that was shared this year.

*So, once again, THANK YOU! For being the sheep of HIS pasture who share freely and give abundantly for HIS glory!!*



Oh Come  
Let Us Adore Him!

## Christmas Worship at Trinity

### Advent Worship Services

Wednesdays (Nov. 29, Dec. 6, and Dec. 13)

Dinner at 5pm and Worship at 6:30pm

*Sunday School Christmas Program on Dec. 13*

### Christmas Eve Worship Services

Sunday, December 24, @ 2pm, 4pm, and 6pm

Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Services

*2pm service live-streamed at [www.trinitybillings.org](http://www.trinitybillings.org)*

### Christmas Day Worship & Communion

Monday, December 25, @ 10am

### New Year's Eve Worship & Communion

Sunday, December 31, @ 6:30pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>ACOLYTES:</b> Saturday: Phoebe Hatzell Sun., 8am: David Keinath Sun., 10:30am: Emily Ostermiller</p> <p><b>ALTAR DUTY:</b> Shared Duty</p>						
<p><b>3</b> <i>Psalm 149</i> <b>MITE BOX SUNDAY</b> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Adult Bible Classes, Toddler Sunday School &amp; Children's Christmas Service Rehearsal 4pm Muddy Cluster Installation of Pastor Jim Weist @ Circle of Life</p>	<p><b>4</b> <i>John 12</i> <i>Pastors' Circuit Meeting</i> 6:00pm Fellowship Mtg.</p>	<p><b>5</b> <i>Isaiah 64:1-9</i> 9am Quilting 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>6</b> <i>1 Cor. 1:3-9</i> 1:00pm Kitchen Guild Mtg. 2:15pm Chapel at TLS 5pm Advent Dinner 6:30pm Advent Worship 7:15pm Youth Group</p>	<p><b>7</b> <i>Mark 11:1-10</i> 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>8</b> <i>John 13</i></p>	<p><b>9</b> <i>Proverbs 28</i> 2pm Caregivers Group Mtg @ TYM Square 5pm Worship</p>
<p><b>10</b> <i>Psalm 150</i> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship w/Communion 9:30am Adult Bible Class &amp; Children's Christmas Service Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>11</b> <i>John 14</i> <i>Pastors' Circuit Meeting</i> 6:00pm Fellowship Mtg.</p>	<p><b>12</b> <i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i> 9am Quilting 6:15pm TLS Early Childhood Program 6:30pm Cradle Roll Mtg. 7pm Choir Rearsal 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>13</b> <i>2 Peter 3:8-14</i> 8:30am Chapel at TLS 5pm Advent Dinner 6:30pm Sunday School Christmas Service 7:15pm Youth Group</p>	<p><b>14</b> <i>Mark 1:1-8</i> 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Trinity School Band &amp; Bells Concert</p>	<p><b>15</b> <i>John 15</i></p>	<p><b>16</b> <i>Proverbs 29</i> Noon Flicker @ TYM Square 2:30pm Flame @ TYM Square 5pm Worship with Communion</p>
<p><b>17</b> <i>Psalm 1</i> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School Toddler Sunday School Adult Bible Class 3:00pm Fire @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>18</b> <i>John 16</i> 1:30pm TLS Christmas Program Matinee 6:00pm LWML Christmas Celebration</p>	<p><b>19</b> <i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</i> 9am Quilting 6:30pm Trinity School Christmas Program 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>20</b> <i>1 Thess. 5:16-24</i> 8:30am Chapel at TLS Noon Dismissal at TLS 1:00pm Wrinkled Righteous Game Day 6:00pm Youth Group</p>	<p><b>21</b> <i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i> 10:30am Bible Study 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>22</b> <i>John 17</i></p>	<p><b>23</b> <i>Proverbs 30</i> No Saturday Service this week</p>
<p><b>24</b> <i>Psalm 2</i> No Sunday Morning Services or Sunday School will be held! 2, 4, &amp; 6pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Services</p>	<p><b>25</b> <i>John 18</i> Christmas Day Worship With Communion 10am</p>	<p><b>26</b> <i>2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16</i> Church Office Closed</p>	<p><b>27</b> <i>Romans 16:25-27</i></p>	<p><b>28</b> <i>Luke 1:26-38</i></p>	<p><b>29</b> <i>John 19</i></p>	<p><b>30</b> <i>Proverbs 31</i> 5pm Worship</p>
<p><b>31</b> <i>Psalm 3</i> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Devotion and Fellowship time in Fellowship Hall 6:30pm New Year's Eve Service With Communion 8pm New Years Lock-In (8<sup>th</sup> grade and up)</p>	<p><b>ELDERS:</b> Saturday: Brent Carstens Sun., 8am: Tim Grove Sun., 10:30am: Ted Loomans</p>	<p>Trinity School Christmas Break – Dec. 21 – Jan. 1</p>				
<p>CHURCH: 245-3984 SCHOOL: 656-1021 Website: <a href="http://www.trinitybillings.org">www.trinitybillings.org</a></p>						

# Financial REPORT

October 2023 Finances		
Income		240,426
Expenses		213,975
<b>Net Margin</b>		<b>26,451</b>
2023-2024 Finances		
	<i>YTD - Actual</i>	<i>Target</i>
Offerings	272,555	277,212
Total Income	1,006,470	877,374
Total Expenses	807,034	877,374
<b>Net Margin</b>	<b>199,436</b>	<b>0</b>

## DEATHS

We pray for the family and friends of our members who were brought to their heavenly home:

**Nancy Ann Guenther**, who passed away on October 26, and a funeral service was held at Trinity on November 2;

**Alberta Hofferber**, who passed away on October 29th, and a memorial service was held at Trinity on November 3;

**Edward L. Ostlund**, who passed away on October 31, with a memorial service in Great Falls on November 14;

**Kay Joann Koch**, who passed away on November 7, with a graveside service on November 13;

**Frank Borman**, who passed away on November 7, with a future memorial service being arranged by the family.



Lutheran  
Women  
in Mission

## LWML NEWS

**Meeting on Monday, December 18, at 6:00 pm**

**Opening Devotion:** Executive Board Members

**Program:** Christmas Celebration and Potluck Dinner

**Meeting Hostesses:** Executive Board Members

**Church Service Greeters for December:** Executive Board Members

*Ingathering at the December Christmas Celebration will be for the Trinity Food Pantry*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS!

October 29th brought great joy to celebrate Tyler Hatzell, Makenna Hall, and Jason Arave (pictured above left to right with Pastor Keinath and Cameron Heiliger) as they confirmed their baptismal faith during the 10:30 am service and shared their faith essays with our members at their reception prior to the service. May God continue to bless them in this next phase of their faith journey.



## USHERING HELP FOR SPECIAL SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS TIME:

We are in the process of scheduling ushers for the multiple services on Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve @ 2pm, 4pm, and 6pm), the service on Monday, December 25 (Christmas Day @ 10am), and the service on Sunday, December 31 (New Year's Eve @ 6:30pm). We are asking all ushers to please consider signing up to help with one of these special services if possible. **A signup sheet is in the usher alcove in the back of the church.** By signing up, we can assure that we will have ushers at the services and Elders will not have to be trying to find ushers. Thank you for your help in serving our congregation during the holidays!

# Special Events

## WEDNESDAYS (NOV 29, DEC 6, & DEC 13)

Advent Dinner @ 5pm

Advent Worship Service @ 6:30 pm

Sunday School Christmas Program on Dec 13

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 6:15PM

Early Childhood Program at TLS

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 6:30PM

Band & Bells Concert at TLS

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

Christmas Program Matinee at TLS @ 1:30pm

LWML Christmas Celebration @ 6pm

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 6:30PM

Christmas Program at Trinity School

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20 1:00PM

Wrinkled Righteous Game Day

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

@ 2pm, 4pm, and 6pm

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 10:00AM

Christmas Day Worship & Communion

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31

New Year's Eve Worship & Communion @ 6:30pm

New Year's Youth Lock-In @ 8pm



# News



Trinity Lutheran School Presents



Matinee - Monday, December 18, @ 1:30pm

Main Show - Tuesday, December 19, @ 6:30pm

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*