



# Joyful Noise

JANUARY 2024

## *A Message from Your Pastor...*

A blessed new year to you, dear friends in Christ!

As we enter the new year 2024, the words of Ecclesiastes 3 come to my mind: *“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted”* (v. 1-2).

I think of these words because there are some aspects of the coming year that we know will be taking place: Easter, graduations, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and many other events. Perhaps there are some specific events you and your family are looking forward to in the coming year.

I also think of these verses from Ecclesiastes because there is plenty in the year 2024 of which we are uncertain. What will the new year bring? Specifically, we don't know. It's uncertain.

Living with uncertainty is nothing new for God's children—just look through Scripture. The children of Israel must have been uncertain about their future. Although they were given the promise to be God's chosen people, they were stuck in slavery in Egypt. Yet, in His time, God raised up a leader for them in Moses who came and delivered them.

The Gospel of Matthew records Joseph being a righteous man who was uncertain about marrying Mary—until the angel came to him and shared that what was conceived in Mary was from the Holy Spirit. Joseph then lived with certainty about Mary and her child. Later in Scripture we see the disciples uncertain after the death of Jesus. Locked in the upper room, afraid, they are uncertain of what might happen if they are found out to be followers of Jesus. Their future seemed uncertain.

Christians live in the tension between certainty and uncertainty. We are uncertain about exactly what or when things will happen. That's what Solomon was writing about in the book of Ecclesiastes chapter 3. There is a time for everything, but it's not our timing. It's God's timing. By faith, we can live with certainty that God the Father is in control of all things.

In God's hand lies the timing of all things. Exactly how all the timing works out only God knows. But God also says through the words of Solomon to look at the fields. There is a time to plant, and there is a time to harvest. Planting and harvesting are things that we do—they are the works of our hands—but the timing is not in our hands. In the spring, it is time to plant. In the fall, it is time to harvest. We cannot plant in the fall and expect a harvest in the springtime: that is not the timing God has created. (Winter wheat is an exception, but even that has a certain timeframe.) God has created a time for all things.

By faith we know that we are in the hands of God, and God has a time for everything. Our faith does not rest on the timing of man. Our faith does not rest on the timing of this world; it rests on the timing of God. God has set a time for everything: in our personal lives, in the life of the church, in the things of this world.

It is uncertain what events the year 2024 will bring. But one thing is certain: God is in control. For us Christians, it will be another year of certainty. Certainty that comes through faith in Jesus Christ. A certainty that rests in the promises of God. We are His children, and He has established a time for everything.

In Christ,

Pastor Keinath



*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*

# School NEWS



Richard Thomas  
Principal of Trinity  
Lutheran School

## TRINITY LIFE

Greetings from school. This photo is a perfect example of what life at Trinity is all about. This is Gabrielle Holland on the left and Ela Bloyder on the right. Gabrielle was in first grade when seventh grader, Ela Bloyder, was her chapel partner. Gabrielle is now in seventh grade and Ela is in her first year at South Dakota State. When Ela came in to visit during her Christmas break, she spotted her chapel partner right off. They shared big hugs and had a great visit. This is Bobcat life.



# Youth NEWS



Cameron Heiliger  
Director of Youth and  
Parish Education

If you've ever been around Mr. Thomas for any length of time, you'll know at least one of his catchphrases. Take a second to think about it. What comes to mind? He'll often say, "Once a Bobcat, always a Bobcat." And then there's, "We're working on building that backbone for Christ." Or perhaps the first one that popped into your mind is the one I'm thinking about today, "Plan your work, and work your plan." It's short, sweet, and to the point—and it's a great reminder for us to be thoughtful about the choices we make and the action steps required to accomplish our goals. But right now, as I write this, I'm thinking of another proverb about plans: Proverbs 19:21, which says, ***"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand."***

Sometimes it's easy to have a plan. Sometimes our plans just come together perfectly. Sometimes, however, having a plan makes things more difficult because the plan just isn't working out, or something interrupts the plan – and then comes the disappointment. I'm feeling the latter right now. As our household has been hit by many of the illnesses that hit Trinity school in mid-December, some of our plans have been impacted—plans to attend class Christmas parties, plans to participate in middle-school servant events, plans to enjoy events with family and friends... How we respond in the face of interrupted plans is important, and my prayer is that we can be like Jesus when He prays, "nevertheless, not my will, but yours be done" as we face interruptions, changes, and maybe even cancellations of our plans. And in the midst of changing plans, may we also remember that God gives us an opportunity to shine His light in any and every circumstance we face. God's blessings in a new year full of new plans (and probably plenty of interruptions).

Now, speaking of "planning your work and working your plan," I hope you can join me for a "Summer Ministries Planning Meeting" on Sunday, January 21, at noon at TYM Square. Come learn about Vacation Bible School, summer camp at Trinity Camp in Bigfork, Muddy Cluster, and we'll even start planning for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans! I'm planning on having lunch...

**TYM PRESENTS**  
**TRIVIA NIGHT**  
**2024**

**Saturday, Feb. 3**  
 Fellowship Hall  
 6:30 PM

**\$20** per person  
 OR  
**\$70** for team of 4  
**\$130** for team of 8

To register or for more information...  
[cameronheiliger@trinitybillings.org](mailto:cameronheiliger@trinitybillings.org)

# SUMMER MINISTRIES INFORMATION MEETING

Sunday January 21, 2023 - Noon @ TYM Square



VBS @ TLS is  
 June 17-21, 2024  
 and  
 Join us in Muddy Cluster  
 July 21-26

Join us for Summer Camp at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Bigfork!		
5th-6th Camp June 23-28	High School Servant Event July 7-12	7th-8th Camp Jun. 30-Jul. 5

**CURRENT 7th and up, start planning for Youth Gathering 2025**

**ENDURE**

JULY 19-23, 2025; NEW ORLEANS, LA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>Church:</b> 245-3984 <b>School:</b> 656-1021 <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.trinitybillings.org">www.trinitybillings.org</a></p> <p><b>ALTAR DUTY:</b> Sheryl Scheafer</p>	<p><b>1</b> John 20 New Year's Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p><b>2</b> Isaiah 61:10-62:3 Classes Resume at TLS 6:30pm Properties Mtg. 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>3</b> Galatians 4:4-7 1pm Kitchen Guild Mtg. 2:15pm Chapel at TLS 6pm Youth Group 7th Gr. Confirmation 8pm Men's b-ball at TLS</p>	<p><b>4</b> Luke 2:22-40 10:30 Bible Class 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>5</b> John 21</p>	<p><b>6</b> Proverbs 1 Noon – 6pm 1st Year Confirmation Retreat At TYM Square 5pm Worship with Communion</p>
<p><b>7</b> Psalm 4 <b>MITE BOX SUNDAY</b> 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School, Toddler Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes</p>	<p><b>8</b> Matthew 1 Pastors' Circuit Meeting 6pm Fellowship Mtg. 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM 7pm New Member Class</p>	<p><b>9</b> Isaiah 60:1-6 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 6:30pm Cradle Roll Meeting 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>10</b> Ephesians 3:1-12 8:30am Chapel at TLS 6pm Youth Group 7th Gr. Confirmation 8pm Men's b-ball at TLS</p>	<p><b>11</b> Matthew 2:1-12 10:30 Bible Class 6pm Council Meeting 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>12</b> Matthew 2</p>	<p><b>13</b> Proverbs 2 2pm Caregiver Group Mtg. @ TYM Square 5pm Worship</p>
<p><b>14</b> Psalm 5 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship w/Communion 9:30am Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes</p>	<p><b>15</b> Matthew 3 6:30pm LWML Meeting 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM 7pm New Member Class</p>	<p><b>16</b> Genesis 1:1-5 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>17</b> Romans 6:1-11 8:30am Chapel at TLS 1pm Wrinkled Righteous Game Day 6pm Youth Group 7th Gr. Confirmation 8pm Men's b-ball at TLS</p>	<p><b>18</b> Mark 1:4-11 10:30 Bible Class 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>19</b> Matthew 4</p>	<p><b>20</b> Proverbs 3 5pm Worship with Communion</p>
<p><b>21</b> Psalm 6 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship 9:30am Sunday School, Toddler Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes Noon Youth Summer Ministries Info Meeting @ TYM Square</p>	<p><b>22</b> Matthew 5 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM 7pm New Member Class</p>	<p><b>23</b> Jonah 3:1-5,10 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel</p>	<p><b>24</b> 1 Corinthians 7:29-35 8:30am Chapel at TLS 6pm Youth Group 7th Gr. Confirmation 8pm Men's b-ball at TLS</p>	<p><b>25</b> Mark 1:14-20 10:30 Bible Class 7pm Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>26</b> Matthew 6 6pm FIRE Mystery Dinner @ TYM</p>	<p><b>27</b> Proverbs 4 Noon Flicker @ TYM Square 2:30 Flame @ TYM Square 5pm Worship</p>
<p><b>28</b> Psalm 7 8 &amp; 10:30am Worship w/Communion 9:30am Sunday School &amp; Adult Bible Classes</p>	<p><b>29</b> Matthew 7 7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM 7pm New Member Class</p>	<p><b>30</b> Deut. 18:15-20 6am Men's Bible Study 9am Quilting 7pm Bible Study led by Rev. Dr. Bruce Zigel 7pm Elders Meeting</p>	<p><b>31</b> 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 8:30am Chapel at TLS 6pm Youth Group 7th Gr. Confirmation 8pm Men's b-ball at TLS</p>	<p><b>ELDERs:</b> Saturday: Clayton Scheafer Sun., 8:00: Derek Vetch Sun., 10:30: Keith Schmidt  <b>ACOLYTES:</b> Saturday: Brendan Barz Sun., 8:00: Michael Cihak Sun., 10:30: Amy Schmidt</p>	<p><b>Trinity Worship Services on Community 7</b> 8am Sundays &amp; 5pm Tuesdays</p>	

Boys' Basketball Tournament at Elysian

# Financial REPORT

November 2023 Finances		
Income		175,056
Expenses		196,166
<b>Net Margin</b>		<b>-21,110</b>
2023-2024 Finances		
	YTD - Actual	Target
Offerings	346,960	349,148
Total Income	1,181,526	1,096,717
Total Expenses	1,003,200	1,096,717
<b>Net Margin</b>	<b>178,326</b>	<b>0</b>

## DEATHS

We pray for the family and friends of our members who were brought to their heavenly home: **Ralph Gurney**, who passed away on November 30 with a memorial service at Trinity on December 7; **Sonja Kober**, who passed away on December 12 with a memorial service at Trinity on December 21.

## BAPTISMS

We rejoice with **Ava Johnson**, daughter of Tanner and Alyssa Johnson, as she joined God's family and Trinity's family through the waters of Holy Baptism on December 17 at the 10:30am service.

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

A new member class begins on **Monday, January 8, from 7-8:30pm** in the fellowship hall. Please call the church office if you would like more information or plan to attend so we can have enough materials available.



## LWML NEWS

**Meeting on Monday, January 15, at 6:30 pm**

Opening Devotion: Visitation Guild

Program: *Chosen* Bible Study

Meeting Hostesses: Visitation Guild

Church Service Greeters for December: Visitation Guild

## BOOKKEEPER NEEDED

This coming April, our bookkeeper for the past 27 years, Deanna Lenz, will be retiring. Trinity has been blessed by her servant spirit and attention to the many financial details for which she is responsible. We are beginning the search for a new bookkeeper and are looking for someone who enjoys serving others in a team environment, possesses strong computer skills, and has at least one year of basic accounting experience. This position offers a flexible schedule and will typically require 15-20 hours of work per week. For additional information or to apply, please contact Jonathan Boll at [jboll@trinitybillings.org](mailto:jboll@trinitybillings.org) or 406-245-3984.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMAND!

December 16th brought great joy to celebrate **Jackson DiMatteo-Duncan** as he confirmed his baptismal faith during the 5:00pm Saturday service and shared his faith essay during the service. May God continue to bless Jackson in this next phase of his faith journey.



2024  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

# Special Events

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3**

1st Year Confirmation Begins @ 6pm  
Men's Basketball Begins at TLS @ 8pm

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 6,  
NOON-6PM**

1st Year Confirmation Retreat

**MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 7PM**

New Member Class Begins!

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2PM**

Caregivers Meeting at TYM

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1PM**

Wrinkled Righteous Game Day

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, NOON**

Youth Summer Ministries Meeting



# News



## Life INC Classes



***New Classes Beginning Monday, January 8***

Money 101 — Affirming Potential — Boundaries

Classes are 1 hour (begin at 6pm or 7pm), and run for 8-12 weeks

Class Location: Billings Vineyard Church - 1413 Rosebud Lane

***For more info visit [www.loveincycmt.org](http://www.loveincycmt.org)***

*Knowing Christ and Making Him Known*