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THIS WEEK AT TRINITY: December 3-10, 2023 First Sunday in Advent

- Sunday 12/03: ~*Mite Box Sunday*~
8:00 & 10:30am Worship
9:30am Adult Bible Class, Toddler Sunday School & Children's Christmas Service
 Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
4:00pm Muddy Cluster Pastor Installation @ Circle of Life Lutheran Church
- Tuesday 12/05: 9:00am Quilting
6:30pm Properties Meeting
7:00pm Bible Study led by Pastor Zigel (Zoom)
- Wed. 12/06: 1:00pm Kitchen Guild Meeting
2:15pm Chapel @ TLS
5:00pm Advent Dinner
6:30pm Advent Worship Service
7:15pm Youth Group
- Thursday 12/07: 10:30am Bible Study
7:00pm Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday 12/09: 2:00pm Caregivers Group Meeting @ TYM Square
5:00pm Worship
- Sunday 12/10: 8:00 & 10:30am Worship with Communion
9:30am Adult Bible Class & Children's Christmas Service Rehearsal

Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given in praise and thanksgiving to God by Paul & Pam Kercher.

SPECIAL PRAYERS THIS WEEK ARE FOR:

Recent requests: Rhonda Bruski, Ralph Gurney, Diana Hafner, Margaret Kober, Kara Lekse, Evelyn Noennig, Dorothy Podoll, Lorraine Shackelford and Shelly Sparr; May God grant peace and protection to the people affected by war.

Ongoing needs: Sharla Arend, Don Brutlag, Katie Cardillo, Cateleya Castanon (granddaughter of Mary Uecker), Brooke Davis, Kim Dewey, Marilyn Fischer (Sue Hayes' mom), Linda Flechsig, Walter & Betty Flechsig (Linda's parents), Brittney Hatzell, Marilyn Heinemann, Caitlin Holzheimer, Beverly Hoose, Alyana Hutchings (Marti & Ron Jacobsen's granddaughter), Lorrie (Lechner) Inge (Marie Hailstone's sister), Keith Johnson, Lance Kokron, Dee Krohn, Don Kunkel, Shawn Kunkel, Don Leikam, Carol Mueller, Kinsley Murri (Rod & Phyllis Myers' granddaughter), Tom Patton (Leonard's brother), Heidi Renner, Mark Roesler

(brother of Susan Shotwell), Tom West, Kathy Zigel, Darlene Zimmerman, and those who suffer with addiction and mental illness.

MUDDY CLUSTER CELEBRATION

You are invited to Muddy Cluster this Sunday, December 3, at 4pm. Rev. Jim Weist will be installed as Circle of Life's new Senior Pastor. Anyone interested in carpooling should meet at Trinity on Sunday at 2pm. A formal dedication of the lodge will take place in the spring. This is an exciting day for the Circle of Life congregation, and we encourage all to attend.

ADVENT DINNERS As the wonderful Christmas season draws near, please join us at our Wednesday Advent dinners. The dinners are served from 5:00pm to 6:00pm. This allows time for those that attend our 6:30pm worship service to not have to rush home to prepare dinner and get to church on time, as well as a fellowship opportunity with each other.

FINANCES & FIRST-FRUIT'S' GIVING

Budgeted Church/School Income (Year to Date)	\$1,113,590
Actual Church/School Income (7/01-11/26/2023)	\$ 1,180,927
Actual Church/School Expenses (7/01-11/26/2023)	\$ 1,002,022
A difference of:	\$ 178,905
Budgeted Offering Target (July 2023-Oct. 2023)	\$ 277,212
Actual Offering (July 2023-October 2023)	\$ 272,619
A difference of:	\$ -4,593
Weekly Offering Goal – November 2023	\$17,984
Actual Offerings in November (4 of 4 weeks)	\$74,340

Last Weekend's Attendance – November 25-26, 2023

Thanksgiving Services	132
Saturday Worship Service	77
Sunday Worship Services	245
Total Attendance Last Weekend	322
Sunday School	39
Adult Bible Class	75

Offering Counters for December 3rd:

Susan Loomans, Krista Crusch, Cheryl Wagenman

Offering Counters for December 10th:

Sherrie Murray, Kathy Hoehne, Cheryl Wagenman

STAFFING NEEDS FOR TRINITY SCHOOL

Next summer we will have a number of staffing transitions at our school due to retirements. Because of this, we anticipate there will be a need to call one or more teachers. If you know of a synodically-trained teacher who might be a good fit for Trinity, please complete and return a nomination form, which can be found in the church narthex.

LADIES – GIFTS OF LOVE

Dear Ladies, you are cordially invited to our annual LWML Gifts of Love service on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, 2336 St. Johns Ave. This year our program is, "A Christian Reading on the Twelve Days of Christmas". A finger food buffet, provided by our Mary & Martha members, will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Our offerings will be divided between Emmaus Lutheran Mission, Livingston, MT and the SONshine Home (a safe haven for homeless pregnant teens) in Billings. Please come and bring a friend!

LWML MEMBERS, The Winter Quarterly is here! Please pick up your issue from the LWML box located in the narthex.

HELP US DECORATE THE ALTAR for the Christmas season by ordering your poinsettias now! The cost of each poinsettia is \$12 each, and order forms are available in the narthex. Please complete the order form, place in the envelope provided (along with your cash or check **payable to Trinity**) and drop

it in the box that is also located in the narthex. Please also note on the envelope if you are purchasing your poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone. This will be listed in the bulletin for December 24-25. We will accept orders through December 17. You may pick up your poinsettias following the Christmas Day worship service. *Thank you for helping us decorate the altar during this special season! ~ Trinity's Altar Guild*



Altar Flowers

THE 2024 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP & CHANGES

The flower chart for 2024 will be displayed in the narthex on December 2. We have made some changes that we hope will be easier for you. The cost of flowers is \$20.00 unless you are paying online, then the cost is \$21.00. You will be able to pay by cash, check or online. To help us with our bookkeeping we ask that you pay for your flowers when you sign up. Please make your checks payable to **Trinity Lutheran Church**. It is very important that when you sign up, completely fill out the flower envelope and place it in the flower box. There is a spot on the envelope to mark the occasion and how you are paying. Thank you.

USHERING HELP FOR SPECIAL SERVICES AT CHRISTMAS TIME:

For the multiple services on Sunday December 24, Christmas Eve (2:00, 4:00, & 6:00 p.m.), the service on Monday December 25, Christmas Day (10:00 a.m.), and Sunday December 31, New Year's Eve (6:30 p.m.) ushers have not been scheduled for yet. 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 service and Elders will not have to be trying to find ushers. Thank you for your help in getting these services covered.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to show your appreciation for our church and school staff, you may donate to a fund for that purpose. You can leave your gift at the school or church office - or drop it in the offering plate on Sunday. Be sure to mark the envelope plainly "*Staff Gift.*" Please have your gift in by December 17th in order to have it ready to give out before Christmas. Anytime we show our support of our church and school, we encourage and build each other up in Christ. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

~The Church Council & School Board

DECEMBER NEWSLETTERS are available in the narthex and by the church office for those who don't receive the electronic version.