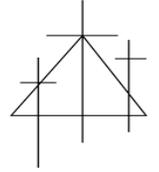
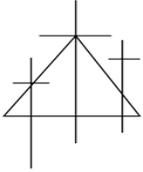


# Trinity Lutheran Church

## Congregation School Childcare

Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Making Known the Love of Christ



Volume 13, Issue 11

“Making Disciples for Life” Matthew 28:18-20

December 2022

### Inside this issue:

From the Pastors	1
December Calendar	2
Christmas Events	2
Food Pantry Needs	2
From the Principal	3
Christmas Services	4

## From the Pastors

### Christmas in the Real World

“And it came to pass in those days” (Luke 2:1a).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Fairy tales begin with the words “Once upon a time.” But the Christmas Gospel begins with the words “And it came to pass in those days.” Fairy tales occur in mythical lands. But today’s Gospel occurs in the real town of Bethlehem, during the actual reign of Caesar Augustus and Quirinius. This is tremendously important for us to recognize. Around Christmas, our culture often focuses on make-believe, magic, and fantasy. Those things can certainly have their proper place. But it seems that, for many, the “stuff” of Christmas—the lights and gifts and music—can become a flight into an imaginary world, a temporary retreat from the real world and real life. And that is the exact opposite of the Christmas message. Luke emphasizes here that what he is writing is real history. It occurred in a real place and at a real time when certain real officials were in power. It isn’t a legend or a myth or a fable. It is true, an accurate and factual account of the way things really were.

Christmas is not about escaping into some fantasy world. It’s about our life in the real world being redeemed and renewed by the Lord. It’s about the real Son of God, through whom all things were created, entering into His creation as a true and literal baby boy, with real flesh and blood. It’s about a first-time mom giving birth to Him in the humblest of circumstances—in the cold of night, among real livestock and hay and smell. It’s about the Lord of all taking on the form of a servant and being laid in a cattle trough so that He might rescue us from our sin. There is nothing unreal or imaginary about Christmas, for Jesus is the concrete and tangible love of God come to walk among us.

Christ became one of us so that He might take our place under the Law to free us from its damnation. Jesus’ lowly birth foreshadows the humble life He would lead for us and the shameful death He would suffer on our behalf. The wood of a manger would later be traded for the wood of a cross. And just as Jesus was wrapped in cloths in His birth, so also, He would be wrapped in cloths in His death—the graveclothes He would leave behind in His glorious resurrection.

The Son of God was born among us and became man for this very purpose: to die in the flesh in our place and to shed His blood to ransom and purchase us from the powers of darkness. He was made to be like us in every way, but without sin, so He could be our perfect stand-in. As true man, He was our substitute in death; as true God, He paid the infinite price our sins required, which we could not even begin to pay. Therefore, only in this fully divine man is there eternal life. Only in this child, who was laid in a manger and who is now bodily raised from the dead and seated at the right hand of the Father, is there salvation. Only He could accomplish it. Every other religion is an illusion and a false hope. The angels tell us of our only real hope: “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” Merry Christmas!

In Christ,

Timothy J. Mech  
Senior Pastor

John M. Berg  
Associate Pastor



Trinity Ev. Lutheran  
Church and School  
824 Wisconsin Avenue  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Church Phone:  
920-458-8246

School Phone:  
920-458-8248

Web site:  
trinitysheboygan.org

**Divine Services:**  
Sunday at 8:00 & 10:45 am  
Monday at 6:30 pm  
Family Education Hour  
9:30 am

**Bible Classes**  
(throughout the week)

Trinity Lutheran School  
3-K thru 8th grade  
2 Year Old Childcare

## December Calendar

### Sundays: Weekly

- \* Divine Services 8: & 10:45 am

### Mondays: Weekly

- \* Divine Service 6:30 pm
- \* Handbells 7:35 pm (MR)

### Tuesdays: 1st & 3rd

- \* Mom's Bible Study 8:45 am

### Wednesdays: Weekly

- \* Trinity Chapel 8:30 am
- \* Adult Bible Study 9:30 am (FH)
- \* Midweek Confirmation 3:30 pm
- \* Men's Choir 5:45 pm (MR)
- \* Mixed Choir 7:00 pm (MR)

### Thursday: Weekly

- \* Women's Bible Study 9:00 am (FH)

### Fridays: Weekly

- \* Men's Bible Study 7 am (FH)



## DECEMBER 2022

### Wednesday, November 30

- \* Advent Services 8:30 am & 6:30 pm

### Saturday, December 3

- \* Advent by Candlelight 10:00 am (Gym)

### Sunday, December 4

- \* Children's Christmas Service 4:00 pm (LHS)

### Monday, December 5

- \* Board of Christian Day School Meeting

### Wednesday, December 7

- \* Advent Services 8:30 am & 6:30 pm
- \* Board of Elders Meeting 7:30 pm (FH)

### Sunday, December 11

- \* Cookie Walk
- \* German Christmas Service 2:00 pm

### Monday, December 12

- \* Stephen Ministry 5:00 pm (FH)

### Wednesday, December 14

- \* Advent Service 8:30 am
- \* Choral Candlelight 6:30 pm

### December 21 - January 2

- \* No School - Christmas Vacation

### Saturday, December 24

- \* Christmas Eve Services 3 pm, 5 pm, & 10 pm

### Sunday, December 25

- \* Christmas Day Service 10 am

### Saturday, December 31

- \* New Year's Eve. Service 5:00 pm

### Sunday/Monday, January 1/2

- \* Divine Service 10 am & 6:30 pm

## Christmas Services & Events

**EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US!** The Children's Christmas Service, involving preschool through 8th Grade Students, will take place on Sunday, December 4 at 4:00 pm in the Worship & Fine Arts Center at Lutheran High School. All are welcome--no tickets will be required.



**THE 74<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHORAL CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** is at Trinity Wednesday evening, December 14 at 6:30 p.m. The 3rd through 8th Grade choirs and Handbell Choirs will be joining the Adult Choirs of Trinity to tell the story of Christ's coming through music and the Word. All are invited to attend and celebrate the coming of the Christ child.



**GERMAN CHRISTMAS SERVICE:** Please join us on **Sunday, December 11, 2:00 pm** for our German Christmas Service. Rev. Donald Hougard is the guest preacher. The Service will be in German and English. A time of

fellowship will follow the service. Coffee, Hot Cider, Hot chocolate, German Christmas desserts and pastries will be enjoyed by all after the Service. Bring your family, invite your neighbors, friends and acquaintances to celebrate and keep alive the German traditions (Holidays, family, church) in our hearts and our community.

**COOKIE WALK** is Sunday, December 11, 8:30 am-12:30 pm in the gym. Come and pick out your special favorites. Also, donations of **your special** Christmas Cookie would be greatly appreciated. Donations may be dropped off by the back Fellowship Hall door on Friday, December 9, 3:30-4:30 pm or Saturday, December 10, 9 am-noon. Profits from the sale will support the 7/8th grade class trip. Thank you for your support!



**LUTHERAN HIGH CHRISTMAS CONCERT** is Saturday, December 17, 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 18, 2:00 pm in the LHS Worship & Fine Arts Center.



**FILL THE FOOD PANTRY FOR CHRISTMAS:** We are getting ready for Christmas Baskets! What is needed?

**Non-perishable food** (no frozen or fresh items) items including cereal, instant potatoes, rice, mac 'n cheese, canned fruits and vegetables, and hearty soups. Just keep in mind, if you wouldn't eat it, would you expect someone else to? Items can be brought to either the church or school office, or in the barrel in the church lounge. **NO OUTDATED ITEMS OR OPEN PACKAGES**, they cannot be given out in baskets!

# From the Principal

“Making Disciples for Life” Matthew 28:18-20

## Making Disciples for LIFE

*And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” - Matthew 28:18-20*



As you read in last month’s newsletter, our school is in the midst of our “Thankful Hearts Campaign.”\*\* The purpose of this campaign is to share with the congregation and community how grateful we are for our school and to request their support through prayer and donations. Lutheran education is an incredible gift to give our children and grandchildren, and we are so thankful for all the time, talents, and funds our church family and community give to our school each year. **Lutheran schools bring the good news of Jesus to every student in all aspects of our ministry! We are making disciples all over Sheboygan County!** As such, the funds raised through this campaign assist us in continuing our mission of “Making Known the Love of Christ.” This year, we are primarily supporting the playground revitalization project in hopes of improving our play area's appearance, safety, and functionality!

And speaking of making disciples and giving generously, our students and school families have also been living out this mission through our chapel offering donations. As many of you know, we do quarterly chapel offering designations to support missions locally, nationally, and internationally. In the spirit of our mission theme this year to make disciples, we started our school year by collecting offerings to support Trinity members and graduates pursuing a degree in church work. These young adults are training the next generation of Christian disciples by actively living out Matthew 28’s Great Commission. Over these last few weeks, Trinity students have been introduced to the young adults receiving our prayers and offerings. Each young adult we are supporting sent in a personalized video for the students explaining their current and future vocations as Lutheran teachers and pastors. During the first quarter, we collected over \$2,500 to support these six individuals! What a joy to be able to send them money to help pay for books, supplies, or housing needs. As a Trinity family, please pray for these individuals as they continue down the path of Christian leadership. We hope their stories inspire many more current students to dedicate their lives to the church and school ministry. We desperately need Lutheran teachers and pastors. America is quickly becoming one of the largest mission fields in the world. Without faithful church workers, we will have Lutheran churches and schools that are understaffed and, therefore, underperforming. Please continue to encourage the young people in your lives to consider a vocation in church work!

Dr. Jenna Roeske  
Principal

\*\*If you would like to donate to our Thankful Hearts campaign, please get in touch with the school office at 920-458-8248. Checks should be made out to Trinity Lutheran, with “Thankful Hearts” included on the memo line.

**Chapel Offering Recipients**

- HANNAH EATHERTON**  
COCORONA SEWARD: EDUCATION
- LUKE OTTEN**  
COCORONA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, FINCH WORTH  
VICE-REGAR, SUNDAY SCHOOL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ST. CLAIR, MN
- JAMES PAPE**  
COCORONA MEQUON, PPD-SEBASTIAN
- REBEKAH STADLER**  
COCORONA SEWARD: EDUCATION
- HARVEY PETERS**  
COCORONA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
FINCH WORTH
- RUTH EATHERTON**  
COCORONA CHICAGO: EDUCATION

**MAKING DISCIPLES FOR LIFE**  
MATTHEW 28:18-20

Trinity Lutheran Church  
824 Wisconsin Ave.  
Sheboygan, WI 53081  
December 2022

Return Service Requested

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 686  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

## Advent & Christmas Services

### Sun. December 4/5

8 am/10:45 am/Mon. 6:30 pm  
"Is it Too Late to Be Good?"  
Matthew 3:1-12

**Sun. December 4, 4:00 pm**  
Children's Christmas Service  
Lutheran High School

### Wed. December 7

8:30 am/6:30 pm  
"The Lord Sets His Tent"  
Exodus 40:17-21; 34-38

### Sun. December 11/12

8 am/10:45 am/Mon. 6:30 pm  
"Look Out the Window"  
Matthew 11:2-15

**Sun. December 11, 2 pm**  
German Service

### Wed. December 14, 8:30 am

"You Shall Defeat Them as One Man"  
Judges 6:11-24; 7:2-9

### Wed. December 14, 6:30 pm

Choral Candlelight

### Sun. December 18/19

8 am/10:45 am/Mon. 6:30 pm  
"This Changes Everything!"  
Matthew 1:18-25

### Lutheran High Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 17, 7:00 pm (LHS)  
Sunday, December 18, 2:00 pm (LHS)

### December 24 - Christmas Eve

3 pm./5 pm/10 pm  
"An Expensive Gift"  
Luke 2:1-20

### December 25 - Christmas Day

#### 10 am

"God Up Close"  
John 1:1-14

### December 31 - New Year's Eve.

#### 5:00 pm

"Keep Your Lamps Burning"  
Luke 12:35-40

### January 1/2 - New Year's Day

#### 10 am/6:30 pm

"Keep Simeon in Christmas"  
Luke 2:22-40



## NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Senkbeil  
Mr. Wally Hennell

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Jamie Sue Taubenheim  
Scott Ehler  
Marion Rieboldt  
Tim Ellis

### CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS:

Anonymous (2)

*Thank you for your support!*

If you would like to become a *Messenger* sponsor you are invited to join at the following annual levels:

*Patron* (\$500)  
*Sponsor* (\$300)  
*Sustaining Sponsor* (\$100)  
*Contributing Sponsor* (\$50)

Other donations of any amounts always welcome. Please call the church office at 458-8246 for details.

For more happenings at Trinity and updated calendar information, go to [www.trinitysheboygan.org](http://www.trinitysheboygan.org)