



TIDINGS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WATERTOWN, MINNESOTA



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

JANUARY 2023

I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

even to the end of the age

Matthew 28:20



Happy New Year! We now stand at the edge of a new beginning: out with the old and in with the new! Although, we're really not throwing out the old, are we? The truth is that we're actually building on the old by rooting ourselves deeper into our faith and letting it launch us into the new year to come. Our Christmas festivities in which we celebrated the birth of Jesus will now lead us into new days of actually following the risen Christ.

One of my favorite poems about moving into a new year was written by a man named Howard Thurman, an author, theologian, educator, and leader for social justice. He played a key role in many civil rights activities and was a mentor to many other leaders, including Martin Luther King, Jr. Below is the poem he wrote.

"The Work of Christmas"

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.

May this poem serve as our guiding star for the days ahead as we do "the work of Christmas" in our daily lives.

~ God's Peace, Pastor Engholm

INSIDE:

Trinity Annual Meeting
Monthly Events at Trinity
Children's Ministry
Fresh Start Ministry Highlight
Council Highlights
Calendar & Birthdays

Worship
Sundays 9:00 am
Onsite & Online

STAFF:

Pastor	Jeffrey M. Engholm
Children's Ministry	Hannah Rosholt
Office Manager	Robyn Behrens
Financial Secretary	Gail Cassidy
Financial Administrator	Mary Jech

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
513 Madison St SE | PO Box 1177
Watertown, MN 55388
tel: 952-955-1891 | fax: 952-955-3450
email: trinityoffice@trin.org

www.trin.org

Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00 am - Noon

What's Happening AT TRINITY LUTHERAN?



Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2023 10:00 am ~ Onsite and via Zoom

Join us for a recap of 2022 at Trinity Lutheran Church as well as discussion and approval of the 2023 Spending Plan and election of new leaders onto Trinity's Church Council, Committees and Boards. Please make every effort to attend, either in person or via the Zoom link that will be emailed to members the week prior to the meeting.



2023 Spending Plan Review

On **Sunday, January 22**, Trinity Church Council members will present the 2023 Spending Plan following worship at 10:00 am. There will be time for questions and discussion.

Monthly Events AT TRINITY

Visit www.trin.org/events for more details on these and all upcoming events at Trinity.

Sunday, January 8, 10 am | Coffee & Donut Fellowship

Every Tuesday, 9 am | Quilting

Mondays, January 9 & 23, 8:30 am | Apostles

Monday, January 9, 2 pm | Priscilla Circle Bible Study

Thursday, January 19, 10 am | OWLS

Thursday, January 26, 9 am | Heavenly Housekeepers

Due to Pastor's schedule and our 2023 Spending Plan Review, we will not hold our Digging Deeper Bible Study or Sunday Morning Faith Forum this month. We'll resume both in February.



Saint Lucia TEA & OPEN HOUSE

Trinity's Saint Lucia event is a traditional Scandinavian celebration of hope and peace for the Christmas season. Each year a member of our congregation is chosen as the Saint Lucia, the honored guest of the event.

2022 SAINT LUCIA

Elvina Nelson

Elvina was born the second of four siblings in Chokio, Minnesota, a small town about 150 miles northwest of Watertown. At the age of ten she moved to Cosmos, about fifty miles west of Watertown. She graduated from Cosmos High School in 1958, and in 1963 she married her husband, Roger. They have two children, Ronna and Ken, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Elvina has been a member of Trinity Lutheran Church since 2010. During that time, she has been involved in a variety of activities: working with the Altar Guild to prepare the sanctuary for worship, cleaning the church building with the Heavenly Housekeepers, serving as an Usher, participating in events with the Trinity OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans), and working each week with the Quilting Group. (She's guessing that she's made about 200 quilts!)

Her hobbies include crocheting, reading, rug braiding, gardening (both vegetables and flowers), and working on puzzles. She also enjoys attending her grandkids' sporting events.

Trinity is grateful to have Elvina continue to be an active member of our congregation, and we were honored to have her serve as this year's Santa Lucia!

Children's Ministry



Sunday School in the New Year

Sundays at 10:00 am

"When I'm older!" "When I'm taller!" Every kid is excited to grow up — even if it's just to finally ride that big kid roller coaster they've had their eye on. Our January five-week series is about another kid who grew up — Jesus! Through stories from Jesus' early life and ministry, kids will learn five important truths to help them continue growing: God guides us to safety, we can love God with our actions, we can follow Jesus, God makes us ready at the right time, and God's words help us make wise choices.

Sunday School Activities

In addition to our Sunday School series, we hope to have another after school event for K-4 kids. These are parent-led activities (like a board game event or craft event) that promote fellowship and fun amongst Trinity kiddos. If you are interested in leading an event, please let Hannah Rosholt know ASAP, so we can get something on the calendar! Trinity staff will purchase supplies and communicate the details if a parent is willing to help develop the plan and lead the event itself!



Thursday, January 19 | 10:00 am

Trinity's OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Fellowship Group meets on the third Thursday of the month for a variety of activities and events to relax, socialize and enjoy Christian fellowship with one another. Join us in January for a Game Day! Bring along your favorite board or card game to play with friends. Also, we are collecting Dry Erase Markers and cardstock to donate to teachers at the Watertown-Mayer Elementary School.



Highlighting Love INC's Fresh Start Program

Love INC Heartland is a neighbor helping neighbor organization designed to mobilize area churches to help meet the needs of our neighbors. Their Fresh Start Program is a series of free, weekly classes that create opportunities to make positive life changes. Lisa, the Fresh Start Program Director, shares, "We believe that as people [come to know] they are loved and valued by God, that they have God-given potential, and that God has a plan for their life, their level of self-worth and hope increases and they become better equipped for life."

A current Fresh Start participant, *Kelly, was open to sharing more about her life story.

How has the Fresh Start Program helped you?

Kelly: I have struggled in life from a very young age. I now have a much better support system. I have new friends and am becoming more confident. I believe I have hope and a future and I see good things in my future. I started the journey of pursuing my GED in 2019 but I became sidetracked [by] some negative things that happened in my life. I realized I couldn't do this alone and I needed the Fresh Start program to help me accomplish this. I am looking into college classes and plan to start in 2023. I am excited about my future.

**Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality. We are excited to share that Kelly received her GED on November 29, 2022! Please keep her in prayer as we continue to walk with her at Love INC Heartland.*

To learn more or to support this transformational ministry, visit www.loveinheartland.org.

Congregational NEWS

PASTORAL ACTS

FUNERALS

Dean Hendricks

12/31/1930 - 10/26/2022

Memorial Service on
December 3, 2022

Bernice Olson

5/17/1927 - 11/28/2022

Memorial Service on
December 8, 2022

Ron Olson

3/15/1961 - 12/1/22

Memorial Service on
December 12, 2022

NEW MEMBERS

Dustin & Sara Stustman

Tyler, Luke, Graham

Thomas & Christi McMahon

Lily



**2023 offering envelopes
are available in the
narthex at church.**

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

December 20, 2022

FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund summary November 2022

Beginning balance 11/1/2022:

-\$24,418.84

Operating Fund income: \$ 32,696.86

Operating Fund exps: \$ 33,093.42

Net balance (November): -\$ 396.56

General Fund balance as of

10/31/2022: -\$ 24,815.40

Year-to date general fund EXPENSES exceed INCOME by \$37,848.07.

Building Fund expenses:

Loan interest payment: \$ 503.57

Loan principal payment: \$ 1,833.43

Add'l principal payment: \$ 2,663.00

Mortgage loan balance:

\$ 154,523.77

Cash Summary:

Bremer: \$ 41,623.30
*(includes \$1,755.88 for Nov. federal withholding and
\$11,270.78 in hail damage receipts)*

Citizen's Building Fund: \$ 97,613.26

M/S/C Nancy Pickering / Tammy Vraspir / carried

Comments:

- 6% of general fund income for benevolence to Minneapolis Area Synod amounted to \$1,960.74.
- Xcel bill for fuel and electricity amounted to \$1,312.00 (up about \$410.00 from October).
- \$2,335.00 was paid from memorial money for the first half payment on the dishwasher.
- A variety of service repairs made by AREng were paid totaling \$755.00.

- 2023 offering envelopes were purchased.
- 2023 monitoring for the security system in the amount of \$204.00 was paid.
- Membership dues for the Watertown Chamber of Commerce were paid.
- \$2,800.00 was paid to have tree at the parsonage taken down.
- Mortgage payments of \$5,000.00 continue to be paid.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Jeff is keeping busy with all his monthly duties and getting ready for our Christmas services.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

- Bell tower repair is complete, Steeple will be installed in March/April.
- Dishwasher installed.
- North parking lot light is out, Xcel has been notified.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

- Year-end "Ask" letter was reviewed and approved to be mailed out.
- Year-end congregation financial meeting is scheduled for January 22 in the Worship Center.
- Annual Congregation Meeting is schedule for January 29 in Worship Center and via Zoom.
- Update from committee for Wednesday night services, various items to consider, this issue will be tabled until February 2023.

M/S/C Carol Murray / Nancy Pickering / carried

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship 9 am (Online Only) <i>No Sunday School</i> <i>Happy Birthday</i> Morgan Matson Joyce Nelson	2 <i>Church Office Closed</i> AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Andy Nichols McKenna Quinlan Rosie Schroers	3 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jim Hunkins Diane Johnson	4 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Praise Band 7:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Riley Delaney James Forcier Albin Neaton	5 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Evelyn Becker Ansen Dulas Nina Kirkman Tami Kuntz Bill Singsank	6 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Theodore Lohmann	7 <i>Happy Birthday</i> John McCain Elvina Nelson
8 Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Emmett Behrens	9 Apostles 8:30 am Priscilla Circle 12 pm AA Meeting 8 pm	10 Quilters 9 am	11 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Praise Band 7:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Beth Gilles Gerald Gruette Lisa Haarala Emma Ragner Tina Scanlon	12 Finance Committee 6:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ryan Otto	13	14 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jake Salzsiedler Josh Scanlon
15 Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kaitlyn Hecksel Doug Hendricks Aliya Jorgensen Randy Ragner	16 AA Meeting 8 pm	17 Quilters 9 am Church Council Mtg. 6:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ella Hunkins Jordyn Salzsiedler Kennedy Tufte	18 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Praise Band 7:30 pm	19 OWLS 10:00 am	20 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Van Oak Joshua Stenson	21 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Dori Akins James Nelson
22 Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Finance Review 10 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am	23 Apostles 8:30 am AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Gail Cassidy Trisha Ragner Jody Zellmann	24 Quilters 9 am Church Council Mtg. 6:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Emma Hunkins Roxanne Lunderby	25 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Praise Band 7:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Ethen Bergstrom	26 Housekeepers 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Frank Fritzke Kailey Paschke Kristina Skahaug Emma Thonn	27 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Nora Delaney Jamie Isakson Natalie Johnson Hattie Neaton Jane Morrow	28 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Travis Markgraf
29 ANNUAL MEETING Worship 9 am (Onsite & Online) Annual Mtg. 10 am Sunday School 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Autumn Guetzkow Alaina Thonn	30 AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jayce Blacketter Karla Brabec Ben Firth Tasha Hafften - Redel Jason Koets Michelle Sandquist Ken Tufte	31 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Mary Ann Kamann				



513 MADISON ST SE | PO BOX 1177
WATERTOWN MN 55388
www.trin.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If you have a new address or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact the church office at 952-955-1891 or trinityoffice@trin.org.

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55388
PERMIT NO. 22



Trinity Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 29, 2023
10:00 am ~ Onsite and via Zoom

Meeting details and a Zoom link will be provided by email to congregation members.

CONNECT WITH US



Facebook/Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) Watertown MN



Saint Lucia Tea Open House



Christmas Crafts, Carolers and Choirs at Trinity

