

December 2018



**Trinity Lutheran Church—PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613
Office phone: 608-564-7920 Email: churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org**

From the Pastor's Pen

Dear friends,

I am having shoulder surgery on Nov. 30. This will limit my mobility and ability to drive the month of December. However I do have planned a simple Advent sermon series, 'Things Are Not What They Seem'. As we prepare for our Lord's birth among us, we are confronted with God's reality. God's ways are not the world's ways. Preparing for Christmas means more than just shopping for presents and putting up the decorations. It means opening our hearts and lives to the working of the Holy Spirit. And this Advent season let us take time to reflect and prepare for our Lord's coming, not just at Christmas, but in the now, today, and at the end of time.

Here's a list of possible Advent activities: Visit a "live" nativity scene. Go to a Christmas Eve church service. Read the Christmas story in the Bible (Luke 2). Make a birthday cake for Jesus. Spend time on your bellies playing with the family nativity scene and acting out the story. Cut your lunch sandwiches into the shape of stars and talk about the original Christmas star. Write a letter to Jesus, thanking him for the gifts you received throughout the year. Make a manger with twigs you collect from outside and talk about Baby Jesus and the type of place he was born into. Visit a local farm and talk about what it must have been like for Mary and Joseph to have a baby in a stable. Top the tree (if no tree, top the TV) with a star or angel. Visit friends' houses to sing Christmas carols and hand out candy canes. Hop in the car in your jammies and drive around to look at the Christmas lights. Go to a tree-lighting ceremony. Create your own advent wreath.

The miracle we celebrate at Christmas, may somehow seem more impossible, than the idea that Mary got pregnant or that God became human. It's that in the face of devastation **and from deep within the truth of heartbreak and sadness there still comes – joy.**

May His Hope, Light and Joy be yours,

Pastor Terri

Stewardship Moment Suggestion: Your computer may go to 'sleep,' but it's still using energy. Turn your computer and monitor off at the end of the day. And put Christmas tree lights on a timer so it doesn't stay lit all night.

Don't forget the **Million Dollar Mission Jar Challenge:** \$1 a day for the ELCA. Donations in 2018 Funds will support the "Leaders and Youth and Young Adults" ministry of the ELCA.

Christmas Eve Services are Monday, December 24th at 4:00 & 7:00 pm!

Unapproved Council Minutes—November 13, 2018- 5:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

Safety Meeting Followed

Present: Mary DeMunck, Tom Guzman, Marty Hillert, Kathy Cappel, Becky Craig, Monica Wallendal, Anne Gibault, Ken Bork, and Pastor Terri. Excused: Derek Pavelec, and Rick Searing.

Vice President Ken Bork called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor Terri's Opening Devotion—1st Thessalonians If the world was ending soon, how would that change your outlook and your actions?

Pastor Terri's Report:

Visits: 14 visits since last month

Funerals: 1 this month

Baptisms: one is being planned

Weddings: None

Confirmation Day: October 28, 2018 went well

New Members: Welcomed on November 4, 2018

All Saints Day: Slide show was lovely and had many positive comments. Pastor Terri created it based on from the council last year.

Pastor has upcoming surgery on November 30 and will not be driving the month of December. She is arranging for rides for confirmation and worship.

First Communion: Given on December 9 to this year's 5th grade students

Council Minutes Review: Marty motion to accept/Tom Seconded

Next Council Tuesday December 11 at 5:30 p.m.

Jan 27, 2019 Congregational Meeting at 9:15 a.m., no education, 8:00 a.m. is the only church service that day.

Jan. 8 Council meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Financial: Report discussed Kathy motion to approve/Anne seconded

Table Policy Discussion to focus on Budget for the upcoming year

Budget Review:

Council looked at the projected cash flow and budget for 2019

Will review further at upcoming meetings

Faith in Action: Seeking money. We gave \$250 last year. We will give the same this year.

Tom made the motion to accept giving \$250/Mary seconded

Dessert Extravaganza:

December 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Council is bringing enough desserts for our volunteers

Everyone will be eating desserts after the cantata

Looking for people to be at church early to organize desserts, get coffee going, etc.

Monica, Anne and Ken will work on being there early for desserts. Also need people to clean up.

** Continued on next page **

KFC – Kids For Christ

«**Youth Christmas Program** is December 16th at 10:15 am. The Stinch (Grinch) may be making an appearance...

«**Program Practice:** Saturday, December 15th 9:00 am.

«**No classes** on December 23rd or 30th.

«**Bible Verse:** Luke 2:12 "This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

«**Activity:** Clay Pots Nativity scene: Needed 2 clay pots for mom & dad and a smaller one for baby (manger), 2 wood balls for the heads & a smaller one for the baby Jesus, black permeant marker, paint: flesh tone, white, pink and choices for main pots, 2 pieces of cloth, strong glue/hot glue, some shredded paper and a piece of string. Paint pots, paint wood beads flesh tone. Dry. Glue heads to pots (upside down). Faces: with marker or black paint, make 2 eyes, when dry, add a dot of white inside black, make 2 pink cheeks...(may want to practice). Glue on cloth head dressings. On one head, glue the string around the top (Joseph) like a head band. In small pot put in some shredded paper then glue in the baby's head – Tada!

«**Table Talk:** Jesus was the biggest gift to us. Make a list of who to give presents to and suggestions as to what to give them. Such as who could receive this ornament...

«**Bedtime Prayer:** Dear Jesus thank you for giving me You. And thank you for giving me _____ and _____ and _____. Amen.

TLCW Bake Sale!! Lefse Bake will be December 10 & 11 starting at 8:30 both days. Monday the 10th we will be peeling & ricing potatoes and Tuesday the 11th we will be rolling. **We are moving the bake sale to the Adams Community Bank in Adams (Formerly Grand Marsh State Bank). The sale will begin 8:30 am on Friday, December 14th.** TLCW would appreciate bake sale goods of all kinds. We would like the goods to be delivered to the church on Thursday, December 13th during office hours or at 6:00 pm when pricing will be done. Any questions, contact Penny Ross: 564-2231, Amber Bruce: 564-3089 or Lori Henthorne: 564-7771.

ACT (Adams Community Theater) will be performing a radio show, "It's A Wonderful Life". Performance's are: Friday, November 30th at 7:00 PM and Saturday & Sunday, December 1st & 2nd at 4:00 PM. Many local residents and quite a few church members will be live on stage! Tickets can be purchased at www.brownpapertickets.com; at Carole's Fashion Delights in Adams or at the Theater for **\$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.**

Annual Parade of Trees—The Partners of Gundersen Moundview Hospital & Clinics invite you to join in the spirit of Christmas, and stop by to see all the Christmas trees on display in the hospital lobby and concourse. Trees will be on display through December 17. **For the second year our church has donated a tree.** The theme is "Away in a Manger," and is located across from the eye clinic. Visitors will vote for their favorite tree with cash donations, and you can buy raffle tickets to win a donated tree. The money collected will be used to purchase equipment requested by hospital and clinic departments. What a fun way to support our Partners and hospital!

Here's what's happening in December!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Don't forget your A-F County Market receipts!</i>		<i>We'll take your crushed aluminum cans!</i>	Meals on Wheels #339-4251 Diane VanBeek	Faith in Action #339-0504	Church Office phone # 564-7920	1
2 <i>8am Worship 9 Fellowship 9:15 Educ. 10:15 Worship</i>	3 6:00 pm Stitches & Pearls	4 <i>8:30 Quilting 6:00 pm Bible Study</i>	5 <i>5:30pm Choir 6:30 pm Cantata & Dessert Extravaganza</i>	6	7	8
9-First Communion <i>8am Worship 9 Fellowship 9:15 Educ. 10:15 Worship</i>	10 8:30 Lefse Bake	11 <i>8:30 Lefse Bake 5:30 Council</i>	12 6:00 pm Confirm.	13 2:00 pm Baked goods due	14 <i>8:30 am TLCW Bake Sale—Adams Comm. Bank</i>	15 <i>9:00 am Youth program practice</i>
16-Food Collection <i>8am Worship 9 Fellowship 9:15 Educ. 10:15 Youth Program</i>	17 Poinsettia info due by 10am!	18 <i>7am Worship mtg. 8:30 Quilting 6:00 pm Bible Study</i>	19 <i>9am Newsltr. Art. Due 6:00 pm Choir & Confirmation</i>	20 Poinsettia Plants due by 12pm	21	22
23 <i>8am Worship 9 Fellowship No Education 10:15 Worship & Baptism</i>	24 4:00 & 7:00 pm Worship	25 Christmas Day Office Closed	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28	29
30 <i>8am Worship 9 Fellowship No Education 10:15 Worship</i>	31	Look for us on Facebook: Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church & Church Women	Office Hours 9-2:30pm M-Thurs.	Church email: churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org	Church website: arkdaletlc.org	Pastor Terri's home # 339-6536

Property Committee Meeting Minutes

Looking at selling chairs—look into this further as those chairs are loaned out often. Table that discussion for now. Marty made motion/Anne seconded

Safety Concerns:

Met as a group as the Lieutenant was sick.

Pastor Terri lead the group in showing a preliminary plan
16 people attended in addition to council members

We did not get to other reports except for those mentioned above as the budget discussion was long and the safety meeting was at 7:00 p.m.

Motion made to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. to attend the safety meeting. Tom made motion/Marty seconded

Respectfully Submitted, Anne Gibault

Electronic giving—In this season of gift giving to family, friends and those less fortunate, we hope you will also consider your gift to Trinity Lutheran Church. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the congregation that we are able to carry on our work. You can use our electronic giving option for both regular offerings and one-time gifts. To help us achieve a more consistent level of funding, we encourage using electronic giving for regular offerings. Forms are available in the Kiosk located in the Narthex. Your local bank can also set up an automatic withdrawal plan with you.

Kitchen remodel reminder! Construction will begin the second week in January. Prior to that a few members will be removing cabinets & safely packing things away. Please remember to use rooms located on the lower level for committee meetings & use the entrance doors by the ramp if you enter the church on that side.

Food Pantry Collection, December 16th! Please bring a few items to donate to the local food pantry. All loose cash offering that day will be donated to the food pantry as well. Let's help keep those shelves stocked through the season!

Harvest Dinner Success! 2018 fund raiser of Harvest Dinner was the largest success since we have been recording income amount in 2005. **A huge thank you** to everyone who helped & those who came out to eat! We had **59 members** participating in this event—Prep day, Squash day; Bake sale; Craft items; Homemade pies; Serving food; Serving guests; Advertising; Setting up tables & support from families & friends. Many people took **3 or 4** shifts and helped out in many tasks. Huge thanks for everyone's joyfully giving of their helping hands. **Final results** of our efforts: 224 meals, \$1569; Craft & Bake Sale, \$788, Quilt Raffle for the food pantry \$375 for a total of **\$2732!**

Special recognition: Mike Kuss; Lloyd Waller; Tom Guzman; John Pavelec; Kathy Kuss; John Stormoen; Lenna & Seth Hamilton; Norma Riese; Linda Laskowski; Nancy Sauer; Joyce Jones (visitor); Mary Jo Meyer; Kathy Laskowski and Penny Ross. To our members and friends for donations of food: Rich & Deb Wachholz, pork loins; Ed & Barb Volkening, potatoes; Donna Olson's friend, cranberries; Tim Buchanan, squash. As a team working together, we can not be beat.

Respectfully, Penny Ross & Mike Kuss

December reminders

Altar Guild: Karen Groskinsky, Sharon Volkening-Wolfe & Amber Bruce

Garbage Duty: Hank Sauer

Food Pantry Run: Monica Wallendal

Fellowship: 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th—Fellowship Committee

Snow Shoveling: **3rd:** Glenn Quinnell & John Stormoen; **10th:** Hank Sauer & Carl Anderson

17th: Ray Groskinsky & Tom Guzman; **24th:** Ed Heideman & John Pavelec;

31st: Glenn Quinnell & John Stormoen

A-F County Market Receipts Wanted! - The TLCW receives **2.9%** for each dollar spent at A-F County Market this year! **Please keep placing current receipts (June 1—Dec. 1st)** in the box by the elevator or mail them directly to the church. Money raised help support scholarships, camperships, Bible giveaways, kitchen upkeep, LWR Kits & more!

Thank you! Thank you to Nate & Glenn Quinnell and Carl Anderson for changing the overhead bulbs in the sanctuary over to more efficient LED bulbs.

Thank you! Thank you to Brian, Donna & Ethan Olson and Ray Groskinsky for taking care of the fall clean-up around the church property in November.

Help wanted- A-F School Garden winter prep task list: pull plants, recycle trays, organize shed, move tiller, hoe weeds, pull milkweed. Contact Paula if you can help: 339-3016.

Workshop by “Be Healthy” Adams County— from 5:30-6:30 pm at the A-F Elementary school during free lighted schoolhouse dinner: Dec. 10th—“healthy foods taste great”.

Cantata & Dessert Extravaganza is Wednesday, **December 5th at 6:30pm.** Come hear our beautiful choir perform “Candles in Candlelight” and then stay and enjoy an array of delicious desserts presented by our Council. A small way to thank all our volunteers for all that they do throughout the year. If you are unable to attend the 5th, you can enjoy the Cantata at the Adams Community Theatre for free on Monday, **December 10th** at 6:30 pm. Donations for the food pantry greatly encouraged!

Weekly devotion- Email the office at: churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org to start receiving an inspiring email each Wednesday!

Bad weather— call the office (608-564-7920) and listen to the answering machine to see if service is still on. When in doubt, stay home and stay safe! Remember confirmation students, if school is cancelled, so is Wednesday night class.

Committee heads please get your 2018 annual report submitted to the office no later than Tuesday, January 8th. **Congregation meeting is January 27th at 9:00 am.**

Christmas Cards for Veterans was a success. Over the course of two Sunday’s in November, the congregation signed **189** cards! These got delivered to the Veterans home in Kings, WI. **We need more donations of Christmas cards in preparation for next year.** Please don’t donate cards that have glitter on them. Cards can be left on the Narthex table or in the office mailbox at the bottom of the stairwell. Thank you in advance!

Christmas Eve Services are Monday, December 24th at 4:00 & 7:00 pm!

December assisting

December 2nd --8:00 am

Ushers: Carl Anderson/John Stormoen
Liturgist: Meagan Grabarski
Lector: Sandy Pheiffer
Greeters: Al & Grace Hendrickson
Acolyte: Eli Olson
Com. Brs: Lloyd Hovorka & Kathy Kuss

December 9th --8:00 am

Ushers: Ray Groskinsky/Tom Guzman
Liturgist: Karen Soley
Lector: Mike Kuss
Greeters: Bud & Judy Hatlevig
Acolyte: Megan Craig
Com. Brs: Ruth Check & Penny Ross

December 16th --8:00 am

Ushers: Randy & Mary DeMunck
Liturgist: Darlene Hovorka
Lector: Ruth Check
Greeters: Charles & Helen Anderson
Acolyte: Mayson Nawrot
Com. Brs: Joe & Myrna Baumel

December 23rd --8:00 am

Ushers: John Stormoen/Lloyd Hovorka
Liturgist: Paul Brown
Lector: Lloyd Waller
Greeters: Ed Heideman & Carl Anderson
Acolyte: Myles Nawrot
Com. Brs: Randy & Mary DeMunck

December 24th --4:00 pm

Ushers: Steve Peterson & Hank Sauer
Liturgist: Dianna Steigerwald
Lector: Jeff Chase
Greeters: Ray & Karen Groskinsky
Acolytes: Megan Craig & Eli Olson
Com. Brs: Ray & Karen Groskinsky
Comm. Assist.: Becky Pease/Danna Peterson

December 30th --8:00 am

Ushers: Ed Heideman & Lloyd Hovorka
Liturgist: Tom Guzman
Lector: Darlene Hovorka
Greeters: Al & Grace Hendrickson
Acolyte: Myles Nawrot
Com. Brs: Randy & Mary DeMunck

December 2nd --10:15 am

Ushers: John & Derek Pavelec
Comm. Assist.: Danna Peterson
Lector: Krista Pavelec
Greeters: Hannah Oleson & Mia Moore
Acolyte: Ryan Oleson
Com. Brs: Jill Renner & Alyssa Pavelec

December 9th --10:15 am

Ushers: Steve Peterson/Garret Gould
Comm. Assist.: Nicole Quinnell
Lector: Aiden Gould
Greeter: Roxie Irey
Acolyte: Robert Irey
Com. Brs: Lenna Hamilton & Liana Glavin

December 16th--10:15am – Youth program

Ushers: Glenn & Bryan Quinnell
Comm. Assist.: None needed
Lector: None needed
Greeters: Barb Bennett
Acolytes: Matthew & Amber Schiefer
Com. Brs: None needed

December 23rd --10:15 am

Ushers: Glenn & Bryan Quinnell
Comm. Assist.: Danna Peterson
Lector: Kari Banovec
Greeters: Becky & Kelly Oleson
Acolyte: Eli Hamilton
Com. Brs: Hank & Nancy Sauer

December 24th --7:00 pm

Ushers: John Stormoen/Lloyd Hovorka
Comm. Assist.: Darlene Hovorka
Lector: Krista Pavelec
Greeters: Randy & Mary DeMunck
Acolytes: Matthew Pavelec/Cody Hendricksen
Com. Brs: John & Alyssa Pavelec
Comm. Assist.: Mike Kuss & Tom Guzman

December 30th --10:15 am

Ushers: John & Derek Pavelec
Comm. Assist.: Debbie Hagen
Lector: Jeff Chase
Greeter: Debbie Hagen
Acolytes: Mia Moore & Alyssa Pavelec
Com. Brs: Roxie & Morgan Irey