

Bible Moment: Guess what I am; read the following clues. Proverbs 14:4 – Job 39:9 – Isaiah 1:3. Hint: I hold hay. Luke 2:7, 12, 16. And just for fun, can you name the only female animal with antlers? (answers below)

Christmas Eve Services

Join us Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 or 7:00 pm for worship. Let us welcome the new-born king!

A special thank you: A special thank you to Penny Ross for taking the lead and getting things organized for the Harvest Dinner. It takes over 48 volunteers to make it successful and a strong leader to keep everything flowing! **Also a thank you** to Brian and Donna Olson, Tom Guzman and Ray Groskinsky for taking care of the fall clean-up of the church property this year.

Minutes continued:

Endowment Committee

Marty H. reported that he will get a better layout of the funds from the committee for the next council meeting. Other: Historical Committee has been meeting once again. Discussion on how to display the confirmation pictures in the fellowship hall. May look into a portfolio that displays the pictures in the fellowship hall.

Motion to adjourn at 7:33 pm by Marty H./Kathy C. second/motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,
Meagan Grabarski

Bible Moment answers: I am a manger. Animal: a reindeer.

December 2019

Trinity Lutheran Church—PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613
Office: 608-564-7920, M-Th 9-2:30 pm Website: arkdaletlc.org
Email: churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org



From the Pastor's Pen

Dear friends,

Winter is here. The Christmas season is upon us. New Years is on its heels. I've been thinking about what gifts to get for my family, and realized that most on my list don't 'need' anything. But there are some gifts you can't get at a 'stuff mart' that are appreciated and needed, and sometimes are good for ourselves as well – bonus. I can give Bibles in their honor or get a magazine subscription of something they like. I can pre-pay for their meals on wheels or give a local restaurant gift card. For your spouse, consider a trip, just the two of you, perhaps get dressed up (ties are nice), and go on a date or a weekend away. Where was your first date? What about a massage - with no expectations? Pray for them. Vow this New Year to make a big deal about their birthday – don't forget! Go to a show. Write a love letter. Stop and look at them; observe them and really think about them and appreciate them.

If it is a friend who is mourning, stop in for a cup of coffee or cocoa, perhaps send them a nice card with a hand written poem or invite them to a local event or a meal out; offer to help them decorate for the season.

Single? Even if it's warming up soup in the microwave, light a candle, give yourself permission to sit in the quiet or to take a bubble bath, dance in the living room just because you can. Go to the movies and get that popcorn. God does not make junk – you are a gift to all of us. Celebrate you.

Jesus came for you and me. And this is the real gift of the season, not the _____. (Though I'm sure it is real nice.) ☺

Blessed Christmas!

Pastor Terri

P.S. Maybe one last gift for ourselves before the New Year begins, is the same as the 3 letter word that is the last entry in the Random House Unabridged Dictionary, 2nd edition – Zzz. Yes, my friends, the word defined as the sound of someone snoring. ☺

Stewardship Idea: Thinking over all the programs in our congregation, which one feels closest to your heart? Sunday school, VBS, Confirmation, Bible Study, mowing, shoveling, watering/planting flowers, taking the food to the pantry, quilting, school/baby kits, church repairs, worship assistants, choir, ushering, greeting, Altar guild, Worship committee, Council, Stiches and Purls... Now lift up a prayer for that ministry and those participating in it and for those who benefit from it.

Library Cart: The Family Christmas Cookbook from The Christmas Annual

<p><u>Wanted!</u></p> <p>A-F County Market receipts! The TLCW will receive 3% for each dollar spent this year at A-F! Please place receipts in the box next to the elevator in the narthex!</p>	<p><i>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.</i></p> <p><i>Colossians 3: 12</i></p>	<p><u>Committee heads</u></p> <p>Please get your 2019 annual report submitted to the office no later than 9:00 am, Tuesday, January 7th.</p> <p>churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org</p>
<p><u>Bad weather??</u></p> <p>Not sure if we're having worship with bad weather? When in doubt stay home! You can call the church and listen to the message on the answering machine to see if worship services are taking place or if services have been cancelled.</p> <p>608-564-7920</p>	<p>Advent Cantata & Volunteer Appreciation Dessert Extravaganza!</p> <p>Wednesday, December 11th 6:30 pm here at Trinity!</p>	<p><u>Youth Christmas Program</u></p> <p>Please join us Sunday, December 15th at the 10:15 am service for a wonderful program presented by our youth! Thank you to all our fabulous Sunday school teachers for all their assistance!</p>
<p><u>Christmas Eve Services</u></p> <p>Join us Tuesday, December 24th at 4:00 or 7:00 pm for worship.</p>	<p><i>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.</i></p> <p><i>Romans 8: 25</i></p>	<p><u>Poinsettias</u></p> <p>Bringing a poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one? Please have your info into the office by 10 am on Monday the 16th and drop the plant off by 1:30 pm on the 19th!</p>

Here's what's happening in December!						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 Worship 9 Fellow. 9:15 Educ. 10:15 Worship	2 6:00 pm Stitches & Purls group	3 8:30 am Quilting	4 6:00 pm Choir & Confirm.	5	6	7
8 8 Worship 9 Fellow. & Council mtg 9:15 Educ. 10:15Worship	9 Lefse making	10 Lefse making	11 6:30 pm Cantata & Volunteer Dessert Extrav.	12	13 TLCW Bake Sale at Adams Community Bank	14 9:00 am Youth program practice
15 8 Worship 9 Fellow. 9:15 Educ. 10:15 Youth prog.	16 10:00 am Poinsettia info due	17 7:00 am Worship meeting 8:30 Quilting	18 9:00 am Newsletter Art. Due 6pm Choir & Confirm.	19 1:30 pm Poinsettia's due	20	21
22 8 Worship 9 Fellow. No Educ. 10:15 Worship	23	24 4:00 pm Worship 7:00 pm Worship	25 Christmas Office closed	26	27	28
29 8 Worship 9 Fellow. No Educ. 10:15 Worship	30	31 8:30 am Quilting				

December 01st --8:00 am

Ushers: Carl Anderson & Rich Wachholz
Liturgist: Tom Guzman
Lector: Mike Kuss
Greeters: John & Audrey Stormoen
Acolyte: Davion Hoernke
Com. Brs: Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka

December 08th --8:00 am

Ushers: Rich & Deb Wachholz
Liturgist: Darlene Hovorka
Lector: Ruth Check
Greeters: Ed Heideman & Carl Anderson
Acolyte: Myles Nawrot
Com. Brs: Ed Heideman & Karen Soley

December 15th --8:00 am

Ushers: Tom Post & Tom Guzman
Liturgist: Dianna Steigerwald
Lector: Lloyd Waller
Greeters: Charles & Helen Anderson
Acolyte: Eli Olson
Com. Brs: Ray & Karen Groskinsky

December 22nd --8:00 am

Ushers: John Stormoen & Ed Heideman
Liturgist: Karen Soley
Lector: Sandy Pheiffer
Greeters: Randy & Mary DeMunck
Acolyte: Megan Craig
Com. Brs: Ruth Check & Penny Ross

December 24th --4:00 pm

Ushers: Glenn & Bryan Quinnell
Liturgist: Dianna Steigerwald
Lector: Jeff Chase
Greeters: Al & Grace Hendrickson
Acolytes: Eli Olson & Ashtin Quinnell
Com. Brs: Becky & Megan Craig
Com. Assist.: Nicole & Sydney Quinnell

December 29th --8:00 am

Ushers: Lloyd Hovorka/Randy DeMunck
Liturgist: Paul Brown
Lector: Mike Kuss
Greeter: Marge Edwards
Acolyte: Caylee Frank
Com. Brs: Brian Olson & Darlene Hovorka

If you can't assist when scheduled, please find your own replacement and call or email the office with the changes. *Please arrive 15 min. prior to the start of service.*

December 01st --10:15 am

Ushers: Hank Sauer & Ken Bork
Com. Assist.: Kari Banovec
Lector: Aiden Gould
Greeter: Cathy Williams
Acolytes: Matthew Pavelec & Zarek Nawrot
Com. Brs: Amber Bruce & Amy Stainbrook

December 08th --10:15 am

Ushers: Seth Hamilton & Steve Peterson
Com. Assist.: Roxie Irey
Lector: Kari Banovec
Greeter: John Pavelec
Acolytes: Ryan & Hannah Oleson
Com. Brs: Jill & Delilah Renner

Dec. 15th --10:15 am – Youth program

Ushers: Glenn & Bryan Quinnell
Greeters: Dennis & Debby McClyman
Acolyte: Mia Moore

December 22nd --10:15 am

Ushers: Garret Gould &
Com. Assist.: Becky Pease
Lector: Jeff Chase
Greeters:
Acolytes: Eli Hamilton & Delilah Renner
Com. Brs: Danna & Kris Peterson

December 24th --7:00 pm

Ushers: John & Derek Pavelec
Lector: Krista Pavelec
Greeters: Ray Groskinsky & Tom Guzman
Acolytes: Matthew & Alyssa Pavelec
Com. Brs: Karen Soley & Kathy Kuss
Com. Assist.: Tom Guzman, Darlene Hovorka, Mike Kuss

December 29th --10:15 am

Ushers: Dennis & Debby McClyman
Com. Assist.: Sydney Quinnell
Lector: Garret Gould
Greeters: Hank & Nancy Sauer
Acolytes: Ashtin Quinnell & Ryan Oleson
Com. Brs: Becky & Kelly Oleson

Just for laughs—

A Sunday school teacher asked her class, "What was Jesus' mother's name?" One child answered, "Mary." The teacher then asked, "Who knows what Jesus' father's name was?" A little kid said, "Verge." Confused, the teacher asked, "Where did you get that?" The kid said, "Well, you know, they are always talking about Verge n' Mary."

Bingo volunteers are needed at Villa Pines!

Saturday & Sundays from 2-3pm. Great volunteer opportunity! Pick which day works best for you. All training & materials provided. Contact the Activity Director Mike at: 608-339-3361.

Future Christmas Cards Needed!

We mailed **161** Christmas cards to the Veteran's home in King, WI this year! Thank you to all that participated in signing these on November 10th. We are completely out of cards for next year, so please keep your eyes open for sales. Cards may be left in the "office" mailbox at the bottom of the stairwell. Thank you in advance!

Be sure to stop by Gundersen Moundview Hospital to view all the decorated Christmas trees. This year our theme is angels, and our church has sponsored two trees. The second tree includes angels made by our Sunday School. 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. Trees will be on display until December 19, 2019. **A big thank you to** Sharon and Tom Guzman and Karen Meunier for all their help decorating the trees. Join in the spirit of Christmas and help support our local hospital!

**TLCW Bake Sale at Adams
Community Bank—December 13th
at 8:30 am until they are sold out!
Get there early!**

Unapproved Council minutes, November 21, 2019

Present: Derek Pavelec, Becky Craig, Kathy Cappel, Monica Wallendal, Marge Edwards, Mary DeMunck, Pastor Terri, Meagan Grabarski & Marty Hillert. Absent Excused: Anne Gibault, Ken Bork.

Derek Pavelec called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Review Treasurer’s Report: Budget Review

Pastor Terri’s Report

Reviewed October 2019 Treasurer Report, general questions Meagan G. made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as read, Marge E. second/motion carried.

Reviewed October 2019 Council Minutes, Marge E. made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Kathy C./motion carried.

Next council meeting set for Sunday, December 8th at 9:15 am between church services.

Dessert Extravaganza/Choir Cantata, December 11th at 6:30 pm, desserts and beverages will be provided by council. Council members should arrive earlier if possible, for set-up.

Continuing Resolutions

 General discussion and review of the policies, Marty H. made a motion to approve, Kathy C. second/motion carried.

Special Synod Meeting

 Marty H. provided a synopsis of the meeting, discussion centered around getting more congregational input and synod outreach on synod Bishop responsibilities.

 Discussion on synod budget and future projections for the synod.

4-H seeking funds for new barns at the fairgrounds, reviewed, no action taken.

Juvenile diabetes fundraising collection/education:

 Discussion on how to provide outreach regarding this but concerns are that this will open the door to many other causes that the church likely should remain neutral on. It would be difficult to discern what we are supporting, ensuring that everyone feels their causes are getting equal attention.

Parsonage rental agreement question posed, Derek P. will discuss at next Property Committee Meeting.

Derek P. will also relay to Property Committee parsonage fund balance.

Other Reports

Education Ministry: Pastor Terri reported on upcoming Christmas Program, bible study, and confirmation activities.

Outreach: Susie’s report attached. Parade of Trees and Ladies Night Out recently attended on behalf of the church.

Property Committee

 Possible improvements to the parsonage rental house. Maintenance on deck, window inserts, and removal of trees over septic systems that are shared between the parsonage and the church.

 Kathy C. relayed that Mike Kuss is looking into future solar panel implementation. In very earlier stages of discussion.

Worship Ministry: Picked out new songs for upcoming advent services

TLCW: Upcoming bake sale on December 13th at Adams Community Bank. ** Continued on the back page **

Special THANK YOU for a **successful 2019 Harvest Dinner** serving 248 meals. We had a large group of over 48 volunteers that made our success possible.

Thank you to craft & bake sale members, famous homemade pie makers, those who helped pre-day & event day helpers. It takes a large loving family to gather our proceeds of \$2,369.75. It allows TLCW to continue to give back to programs such as World Relief Kits, Bible giveaways, replace used hymnals, camperships, scholarships and upkeep of fellowship & kitchen areas.

Huge thanks to Mike Kuss for preparing the pork loin, making pickles, raising sweet corn & rutabagas and rising dinner rolls. Kathy Kuss our advertising giant did an outstanding job. Tim Buchanan supplied the squash, Brian & Donna Olson the cranberries & potatoes, Deb & Rich Wachholz the pork loin, Gregg Farrell the coleslaw mix and John Pavelec for preparing the squash.

Respectively, Penny Ross

KFC: Kids for Christ

Christmas Program is December 15th at 10:15 am. Be sure to invite grandma/pa and aunts/uncles, neighbors.....

Thank You to all who helped make angel ornaments for our entry in Gunderson’s parade of trees!!

Bible Verse: Matthew 2:11 “On entering the house, they (the Magi) saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him **gifts** of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”

Activity: Bow Painting: needed—paint, newspaper, piece of paper, piece of colored paper, 2 gift bows. Lay newspaper under the piece of paper. Using a bow, paint on the paper. Let dry. Glue painting onto colored paper and put a pretty bow on it. Makes a great **gift** for a grandparent or babysitter.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you were once a kid like me. You probably did, but I hope you never skinned your knee. Bless all the children, especially me. Amen.

Table Talk: What food don’t you like right now? Do you think Jesus had a favorite kind of food?

Interested in a tour of Alpine Europe, including the Passion Play of Oberammergau? It’s next summer, July 13-23, 2020 with Pastor Malpica from Faith Lutheran in Janesville. Website: <https://www.faithlutheranjanesville.org/travel-with-flc>

Notes on the process of Bishop Elections:

Our synod’s **Conference Town Hall Meeting** for rostered leaders and interested people is scheduled for Sun., Feb. 9th @ 2:00pm - at St. John's, Prairie du Sac. Let Pastor Terri know if you want to car pool. This meeting will be about 90 minutes for the purpose of:

a) gathering input concerning our next bishop, describing the strengths, challenges, hopes, and issues that best describe our synod at this time, and

b) building a profile describing the needs we have in the person to be elected bishop of the synod.

A Conference Nomination Caucus (for only rostered leaders and assembly voting members) will be Sun., March 8th @ 2:00pm - at St. John's, Prairie du Sac. The purpose of this meeting is to identify up to 5 persons for consideration for nomination for bishop.

[Please keep the synod staff and leadership in your prayers, especially during this time.]