

Food Pantry

During this Christmas season we don't need the reminder that it is better to give than to receive. **Let us remember those in our community that struggle the most with providing basic needs for their family.** Let's finish this year on a high note! Our goal this month is to donate the most we have given all year. The TLCW thank you!

Poinsettias

If you'd like to bring a poinsettia to share in memory or honor of a loved one this year, please have the info of who you are honoring to the office no later than **2pm on Dec. 19th** and the plant here no later than **2pm on Dec. 22nd.**

New Worship Schedule

Beginning December 4th, there will be one worship service at **9:00 am year round.** Wednesday night service will no longer be offered at this time.

Christmas Worship Schedule

Dec. 24th, 4 & 7pm services; Dec. 25th, no worship service

Trinity Lutheran Church

PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613

Office hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00-2:30pm (608) 564-7920

Website: arkdaletlc.org

Pastor Terri email: pastor@arkdaletlc.org

Secretary email: churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org



December 2022 From the Pastor's Pen

Dear friends,

Gifts – We love to give them. We love to receive them...some love to shop for them, others not so much. For me I don't like malls and big stores this time of year: The crowds, the noise, rude people, the time... some people feel pressure to get the 'right' thing. In the end there is truth in the statement "It's the thought that counts". So remember the one gift you will never refuse, never return, and forever be grateful for – that is the gift from Jesus – Eternal Life.

No one person's life is perfect, you can plan and yet things will happen, someone who cannot make it, and so forth. Please, remember the food, the decorations, are all meant to **enhance** the celebration of **Jesus** – They are not the celebration itself... it's kind of cheesy – but together let us keep Christ in Christmas. 😊

Come Let us Adore Him. Merry Christmas!

Pastor Terri

Personal Note: I need your prayers.

Earlier in November, I shared with the congregation that I have recently been diagnosed with breast cancer: metastatic ductal carcinoma and therefore, my hip replacement surgery was postponed.

So - I need your prayers. As you know, I am in the Lord's hands, and we have the hope given to us since that first Easter morning.

Over the past few weeks, I've had biopsies, MRIs, an echo, a CT - the whole kit and kaboodle of tests. My daughter will be posting updates on my care on a website called: **caringbridge.org**, simply google 'Skildum', and pick the link with my name. You are invited to check there for info & to keep lifting me & those caring for me, in your prayers. (Note that the donate button is for caring bridge, not for me. A more specific link may be added later.) By the time you are reading this my chemo treatments may already have begun. **THANK YOU everyone for being flexible, and for all your prayers, encouragement & support!! ♥**

Beginning December 4th, we will have one worship service at 9:00 am year round. We will no longer be offering the Wednesday night worship service at this time. Thank you.

If you can't assist when scheduled, please find someone to trade with!

Sunday assisting:

04th-9:00 am

Acolyte: Jameson Nawrot
Lector: Jeff Chase
Usher: Marge Edwards
Liturgist: Sandy Willis

11th-9am—Youth Christmas Program

18th-9am—Choir Cantata

24th—4:00 pm

Acolyte: Avery Christensen
Lector: George Goltz
Usher: Ed Heideman
Liturgist: Mike Kuss

7:00 pm

Connley M.
Krista P.
Derek P.
Tom G.

25th—no service, Merry Christmas!

Garbage run: Hank Sauer

Food Pantry run: John Stormoen

Altar Guild:

Lloyd & Darlene H. and Ray & Karen G.

Snow shovel

05th: Tom Guzman & Ray Groskinsky

12th: Glenn Quinnell & Hank Sauer

19th: Kurt Mikolite & Tom Bougie

26th: John Stormoen & Terry Hatlevig

Monday counters

05th: Tom & Sharon Guzman

12th: Joyce Pavelec & Debby McClyman

19th: Debby McClyman & John Stormoen

26th: Tom & Sharon Guzman and Joyce Pavelec & John Stormoen

Aluminum Cans

Thank you to Glenn Quinnell for getting the aluminum cans to Charlie Robinson. Thank you to Charlie for taking the cans in to get recycled for our youth. This raised **\$299.40** in 2022 for the youth!

Thank you mowers & gardeners!

Thank you to the following members that kept the church yard **mowed** in 2022: John Stormoen, Rick Searing, Rick & Sari Ostby, Glenn & Peggy Quinnell, Hank Sauer, Steve & Kris Peterson, Randy DeMunck, Brian & Donna Olson, Tim & Mary Jo Meyer, Mike & Sandy Willis, Ed Heide-man, Tom Guzman, Ray Groskinsky, and Greg & Terri Soley.

Thank you to the following members that **watered** the beautiful flowers: Gary & Karen Meunier, Tom & Sharon Guzman, Donna Olson, Terri Soley, Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka, and Ruth Check.

Thank you to Karen Meunier for **planting** all the annuals, beautiful job!

Inclement weather

In case of bad weather, call the church (608-564-7920), watch Channel 9 News or check our Facebook page to see if service is still taking place. **When in doubt, stay home and stay safe.**

Christmas Cards for Veterans

There are Christmas cards in the narthex for veterans at the Veterans Home in King. Please take some home, sign, seal or turn flap in and **return by December 5th.**

Meals for Seniors

The meal program for seniors through the ADRC has been **cancelled** here at the church on Wednesday's due to lack of participation from seniors. This may be revisited in the future if enough interest is shown. Thank you.

Thank you

Thank you to Dennis Quinnell for fixing a plumbing issue & to Glenn & Peggy Quinnell for replacing the ruined ceiling tiles!

December happenings.....

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Please keep bringing your aluminum cans for our youth!				1	2	3
4 9 service & Baptism 10:15 Education (may run longer)	5 9:00 Kitchen & Fellowship hall reserved 5:30 Council	6 9:00 Kitchen & Fellowship hall reserved 4:30 Bible Study	7 6:00 Choir	8 8:30-2pm drop off cookies 5:00 Cookie Assembly in the fellowship hall	9 9-12pm TLCW Bake Sale at Adams Comm. Theatre	10
11 9 Youth Christmas program 10:15 Education	12	13 8:30 Quilting 4:30 Bible Study	14 6:00 Choir	15 9:00 Newsltr. Art. Due	16	17
18 9 Cantata 10:00 Dessert Extravaganza 10:15 Education	19	20 8:30 Quilting 4:30 Bible Study	21	22	23	24 4 & 7pm Services (Masks are encouraged due to the volume of people)
25 No service or education Merry Christmas!	26	27 8:30 Quilting 4:30 Bible Study	28	29	30	31

Thank you

Thank you to the following that did the church **yard clean-up**. Brian, Donna & Ethan Olson, Glenn Quinnell, Tom Guzman, John Stormoen, Anne Klinkner, Gary & Karen Meunier, one other gentleman, (not sure of the name sorry!) and special thanks to the Olson's for the use of their equipment.

TLCW Harvest Dinner a Huge Success!

A dedicated group of ladies and a few good men prepared and served over 330 meals via the drive-thru on November 8th. **This raised over \$3,400 for the TLCW!** It wouldn't have been such a success but for the help of Thrivent Financial, AF County Market/Medford Co-op, and numerous donations of vegetables, pies, and monetary donations from members.

Thank you to all those that volunteered to help in some way. Be it food prep, packaging, serving and baking pies, thank you. Numerous volunteers even stayed to serve both shifts. **Last but not least, a big thank you to all those that came and purchased a meal!**

TLCW Bake Sale

Attention members! It's time to get out your recipes and get ready to bake! The lefse prep & bake at the church is **Dec. 5 & 6th at 9am, help needed!** On **Dec. 8th from 8:30-2:30pm** Christmas cookies can be dropped off at the fellowship hall, **cookie plating will begin at 5pm**. On **Dec. 9 from 9-12pm** the Christmas Cookie Bake Sale (plus lefse) at the Adams Community Theatre in Adams takes place. (No pre-sales of lefse this year)

Note: seeking donations of gently used winter/Christmas themed plates/platters!

Cantata

Arkdale TLC Choir will combine with the A-F Community Chorus on Wed. Dec. 14th at 6:30pm to present "Sing A Song Of Christmas ", a Cantata by Michael Barrett & Joseph M Martin at the Adams Community Theatre (157 S. Main St., Adams). Please bring a food pantry item to share if you are so able.

This will be performed by our Choir, Sun. Dec. 18th at the 9:00am service! **As a thank you to all our wonderful volunteers we have at the church, the service will be followed with a Dessert Extravaganza hosted by the Church Council.**

Thank you

Thank you to Darryl Craig and his crew for mowing the ramp hill this year! Thank you to John Stormoen for painting the fellowship steps & thank you to John Stormoen & Ray Groskinsky for doing the painting project in one of the restrooms.

Raiseright-visit this site, login, enter code: 9DC6CD657619L. You can get gift cards from various stores & the church receives a portion of each sale!

Ramp hill/Canopy Project

Funds continue to be collected for this project. To date, almost \$21,000 has been donated. Goal to do the entire project is \$125,000.

Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes—November 7, 2022

Present: Garret Gould, Kris Peterson, Danna Peterson, Meagan Grabarski, Marge Edwards, Michael Willis, Derek Pavelec, Pastor Skildum, Sandy Willis.

Absent: Ken Bork

The meeting was called to order by President Garret Gould at 5:35 p.m.

Opening devotion was from 1 Thessalonians 5 – we should encourage and build up each other – followed with prayer.

Review October Council minutes: motion to approve made by Derek Pavelec, second by Mike Willis. Carried.

Review October Treasurer's report: Kris reported that we are on track with the budget. A motion to approve the report by Marge Edwards, second by Meagan Grabarski. Carried.

Pastor's report: Pastor visited Villa Pines and Liberty Manor; there were no funerals; 1 couple was received in membership via transfer. Confirmation went well.

Action Items:

The next Council meeting will be on Monday, December 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Local Benevolence balance of \$700: We have a request for funds for the Angel Tree Program. Danna Peterson moved that we donate \$300 to Social Services for families in need and \$400 to the Angel Tree Program, second by Kris Peterson. Carried.

Volunteer Appreciation Event: will be December 18 with the Choir Christmas Cantata as the service. Desserts after will be provided by the Council.

Worship Time and Communion Distribution: A survey showed a majority of congregation would support going to one service, with no clear majority on Communion. Mike Willis moved to go to one worship service at 9:00 a.m. with fellowship and Sunday School to follow, second by Marge Edwards. Carried. Danna Peterson moved to begin the new schedule on Sunday, December 4, 2022, second by Derek Pavelec. Carried. Note: the Council needs to find a way to secure the building after Sunday, December 4.

Budget 2023: Changes to the budget were discussed. Marge Edwards moved to raise line item #66100 to the COLA amount recommended by Synod, second by Derek Pavelec. Carried. The rest of the budget discussion was tabled until the December meeting.

Other Reports:

Education Ministry: Classes are still on going.

Outreach: Susie is working on Christmas Cards for Liberty & Villa

Property Committee: see attached report

Worship Ministry: see attached report

TLCW: see attached minutes

Endowment Committee: see attached report

Landscape Committee: see attached report Note: the blueprints from the architect were available for Council to view – there was no discussion by Council.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted in His service, Sandy Willis, Sec.

Stewardship Moment- Save those gift bags and reuse them. Great for putting gifts in, use for book covers or large bags for shopping, design side can be cutout and framed, how about pots for starting seedlings come spring...and if you make small holes around its design and insert a battery candle – you now have a luminary. :)

KFC – Kids For Christ

★ **The SS Christmas Program** is Dec. 11th at 9am. Kids, be here no later than 8:30am. Class on Dec. 4th may run longer due to practice. SS starts at 10:15 now!

★ **All youth** – let's hear you play your instrument or sing! Talk to Pastor Terri about performing before or during the Christmas program on the 11th or even another Sunday.

★ **Confirmation Youth** are shopping for Veterans on Dec. 3rd, 10am at the Dollar Tree/Family Dollar store across from Kwik Trip in Adams.

★ **Bible Verse:** Matthew 2, after meeting Jesus' parents the magi, "opened their **treasures** and presented him (Jesus) with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

★ **Activity:** wooden spoon snowman. Paint a wooden spoon white, when dry, paint on face. Cut a pipe cleaner to length for earmuffs, glue ends down w/ pom poms covering the connection. Tie on a strip of material as a scarf. Snowman can be inserted into a plant, given as a gift (a **treasure**) or put several together for a bouquet.

★ **Table Talk:** What do you think of stars? Do you know any constellations? Where is the North star? Have you ever seen the Big Dipper? Can you draw a star?

★ **Bedtime Prayer:** "Lord you put the stars and planets all around in the galaxy – they are so wonderful! And they led the wisemen to you. Thank you! And more than that, thank you for your Son Jesus, who came to love and save me. Amen."

Advent+ Sermon Series: 'My Heart Shall Sing' is about beginnings & endings, which are happening daily & sometimes in the same place. Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year, but one then has to end. So what shall we do in this season, as the texts draw us deeper into revelation, deeper into endings, deeper into the new beginnings ushered in by Christ's advent? We shall sing.

Bible Moment: When times are hard and uncertain, we wait and endure through faith, in hope and trust in the Good Lord.

***Jeremiah 33:6** "Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.

***2 Thessalonians 2:16-17** May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

***Proverbs 4: 20-22** Pay attention to what I say, turn your ear to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart; for they are life to those who find them and health to one's whole body.

***Psalms 30:2** LORD my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

***Psalms 118: 4-6, 8, 13-14:** Let those who fear the LORD say, "His steadfast love endures forever." Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. With the LORD on my side I do not fear. It is better to take refuge in the LORD. I was pushed hard, so that I was falling, but the LORD helped me. The Lord is my strength and my song; HE has become my salvation.

Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) - Unapproved October 23, 2022 Minutes

The meeting of the Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church Women was called to order by President Danna Peterson at 9:02 am on October 23, 2022 in the church sanctuary. Members present were: Danna Peterson, Kris Peterson, Barb Albrecht, Doreen Olson, Donna Olson, Susie Smith, Sandy Willis, Penny Ross, Karen Meunier, Sandy Pheiffer, Darlene Hovorka.

Motion made by Sandy Willis, seconded by Doreen Olson to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Devotion – shared some of the blessings in our lives and talked about fall changes.

Motion was made by Sandy Willis, seconded by Darlene Hovorka to approve the August 7, 2022 minutes with an amendment noting that Darlene Hovorka was elected secretary at the August 7th meeting. Motion carried.

In the absence of the treasurer, Danna reported that the only expenses over the past few months was for the Bibles that the children were given.

Social Media Committee– Sandy reported that the church secretary has contacted all members to announce the Harvest Dinner via email and that there was a post on Facebook.

Scholarship Committee – The committee is working on changes to the scholarship application.

By-Laws Committee – The committee has worked on the TLCW By-Laws going by what the Synod have posted on their website. Members were given copies to review and be voted on at the next meeting. Changes can only be made to the By-Laws and not the Constitution.

Officer Terms – Officers will be voted on at the May meeting every year. Term limits are: two – 2-year terms. Officers will be voted on as follows: President and Treasurer one year and Vice President and Secretary the next year. Example – President and Treasurer – May 2022, Vice President and Secretary – May 2023

Harvest Dinner – Penny Ross announced that sign up sheets were available in the narthex. Everything is ready for the drive-thru dinner. Any money raised from the Harvest Dinner will stay in the TLCW accounts to fund future projects.

Lefse Making – Penny Ross and Karen Meunier will co-chair the lefse making. Help is needed and days will be announced. There will not be a lefse sale at the harvest dinner but it will be sold at the Christmas Bake Sale. Doreen and Donna Olson will prepare inserts to be put in the drive thru dinners at the Harvest Dinner with a scripture on one side and the announcement of the Christmas Bake Sale on the other.

Christmas Bake Sale – Sale will be on December 9th at the Adams Community Theater from 9 am to 12 noon. A group will gather at the church on December 8th at 5 pm to put trays together so cookies should be brought to the church prior to that time.

We decided to try to do two brat fries this next year. Penny Ross and Susie Smith are in charge.

TLCW will sponsor a Family Movie night at ACT. TLCW has sponsored the movie and some popcorn. Date will be announced soon.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2022.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Darlene Hovorka, Secretary—Arkdale TLCW