

Trinity Lutheran Church

PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 am-2:30pm

(608) 564-7920 Website: arkdaletlc.org

Pastor Terri's info: arkdalepastor@outlook.com, #608-475-0748



From the Pastor's Pen — December 2025



Dear Friends,

You probably don't have Zechariah (*John the Baptist's father*) in your Nativity set! I love this part of the story. You could say that the Christmas story begins with Zechariah's silent waiting. Nine months without uttering a word. Nine months of remembering his lack of faith in the angel's promise. And nine months of anticipating

the birth of his own son, who would herald the coming of the Messiah. (Luke 1:5-25, 67-80).

Perhaps God is inviting you also to withdraw from the noise and busyness of the Christmas season to enter a time of quiet prayer? If you talk at or with people all day, the quiet is a gift. I encourage you to take moments to be still (schedule it on the calendar if it helps) and in this way anticipate Christ's coming with Zechariah, and may you too burst forth with joyous Christmas praise when your tongue is set free!

Remember our singing isn't about being on pitch or the harmony, it is about praising God in the highest! So go ahead and make a joyful noise – *after the silence...* 😊 **Pastor Terri**

Personal Note: As some of you have heard, my car met a deer on the interstate north of Madison, and is out of commission. I am looking now for a new ride. And yes, I am ok. Praise to the Good Lord that He was with us and that JoHanna and I walked away!



2025 Lutheran Summer Music Musical Advent Calendar

Experience the fifth annual Musical Advent Calendar from Lutheran Summer Music, November 30 – December 24.

Enjoy daily musical meditations to inspire reflection throughout the Advent season.

Follow along on Facebook, Instagram, or YouTube with all videos archived at

LSMacademy.org/acal.

(Reprinted from South-Central Synod E-news)



White Christmas Candy

(Joyce Pavelec in *Recipes & Memories* – ATLCCookbook, 1996)

- ♦ 2 lb. white candy coating, cut into small chunks
- ♦ 1/2 lb. crushed candy canes or peppermint candies

Melt candy coating over medium heat (or microwave until soft) stirring until smooth. Stir in peppermint candy. Spread on waxed paper-lined baking sheet; refrigerate for 8-10 minutes. Break into small pieces; store in airtight containers. Yield: 2-1/2 lbs.





Thank You to all of the Worship and Churchwide Assistants!



Snow Shovelers

Dec. 1-7	Kurt Mikolite & Dennis Wright
Dec. 8-14	Dennis McClyman & Zach Hobbick
Dec. 15-21	Bill Wahlen & Leif Pedersen
Dec. 22-28	Bob Goodhue & Dean McVay
Dec. 29-Jan. 4	Hank Sauer, Dean Weibel, & John Stormoen

November Volunteers

Altar Guild: Darlene & Lloyd
Hovorka, Ray & Karen
Groskinsky, & Dana Henriksen
Garbage: Steve Peterson
Food Pantry: Peggy Quinnell

Acolytes

Dec. 7	Karlie Amundson & Kendel Quinnell
Dec. 14	Archer Ostby & Gavin Baggs
Dec. 21	Ava Nawrot & Raylee Pavelec
Dec. 24	Connley & Elaynna Meyer/Avery & Ellie Christensen
Dec. 28	Mathias & Amari Hoernke

Ushers

Dec. 7	John Stormoen & Sue McIntosh
Dec. 14	Marge Edwards & Zach Hobbick
Dec. 21	Crystal M. Nawrot & Tom Guzman
Dec. 24	Hank Sauer & Ed Heideman/Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka
Dec. 28	Derek Pavelec & Garret Gould

Bulletin Sponsorship

Dec. 7	Barb Albrecht
Dec. 14	Tom & Gretchen Wetzel
Dec. 21	Sandra Pheiffer
Dec. 24	Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka
Dec. 28	Barb Albrecht

Worship Greeter/s

Hank & Nancy Sauer
Jennie Moore
Roxie Irey
Penny Ross/Carrie Easterly
Dee Draeger

Counters

Dec. 8	Sharon Guzman & John Stormoen
Dec. 15	Maria Janisch & Deb McClyman
Dec. 22	Deb McClyman & Terri Soley
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Dec. 29	Terri Soley & Tom Guzman

Lector

Dec. 7	Lily Bittner
Dec. 14	Meagan Grabarski
Dec. 21	Kurt Mikolite
Dec. 24	Jeff Chase/Sandy Pheiffer
Dec. 28	Mike Willis

Camera

Ashtin Quinnell
Jaxson Nawrot
Karlie Amundson
Raylee Pavelec/Brayden Hendricksen
Davion Hoernke

Liturgist

Roxie Irey
Mike Kuss
Mike Willis
JoHanna Skildum
Tom Guzman

Look for the sign-up sheet for altar flowers on the narthex table. Donations are welcomed.

December Food Pantry Donation Idea

The three wise men came to the manger with gifts for baby Jesus.
They bought gold and frankincense...

But wait, there's myrrh!

The gift of sharing is a blessing. Thank you for your continued support of our local food pantry.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Many thanks to The TLCW for hosting Fellowship Time for the month of December!! To divide the work, please provide treats according to this schedule:

Dec. 7—Last names begin with A-F
Dec. 14—Last names begin with G-L
Dec. 21—Last names begin with M-R
Dec. 28—Last names begin with S-Z

Abbreviated Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes for November 10, 2025

Present: Sandy Willis, Pastor Terri Skildum, Mike Willis, Gretchen Wetzel, Leif Pedersen, Dana Henriksen, Cathy Westover, Liz Hendricksen, Carrie Easterly, Garrett Gould.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Agenda was amended to add New Business: 1. Fund Raising – Leif. Motion to approve Liz/Gretchen. Carried.

Opening devotion and prayer by Pastor Skildum: 2 Thessalonians 3:13.

October Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Dana/Liz. Carried.

October Treasurer Report: Report & budget reviewed. Motion to approve by Liz/Gretchen. Carried.

Next council meeting: December 8, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

Old Business:



Doorbell/Ring service: we are awaiting an outlet by the office door. A bid of \$1500 was given for electricians to do the outlet. We are investigating other options such as Solar, Battery, etc.

Church Long Range Plan: awaiting the Congregational Meeting for action.

Solar Panel Update: Kyle met with the council members via phone call during the meeting. Install has been delayed and will not take place until next spring. He said we would be first on the list when weather breaks in March 2026. Arch Solar will handle the Wisconsin Review Report. We need to register the project with IRS – Arch will provide the information on how to do so. The tax rebate is still within dates, and the Grant is good until May 31, 2026. The Committee met November 9, 2025, and attended the Council Meeting also to keep Council informed.

Outreach Coordinator Position: Kathy Murphy is interested. She reported that Ladies Night Out (Nov. 6) was successful. Let It Glow decorations need to be up by December 1. A motion to hire Kathy Murphy to fill the Outreach Coordinator position by Gretchen/Mike. Carried.

Budget Planning: final budget is due by December 8, 2025. The finance committee will meet to prepare budget for Council review.

Annual Meeting Date is January 25, 2026. The budget must be presented to the congregation 2 weeks prior to the meeting. (1/11/2026)

New Business:

Fund Raising: Leif Pedersen suggested a new fundraising opportunity. After discussion it was decided that it would not be a good idea for the church.

Committee Reports:

Education Ministry: Sunday School is going okay. Christmas Program will be December 14, 2025.

Property: will be meeting on November 11, 2025.

Worship Ministry: Pastor will meet with ushers to bring them up to date on duties.

TLCW: Christmas Cookie Sale is December 12. Lefse making Dec. 7 & 8.

Endowment: reported that there are funds available for various needs within the church.

Care & Creation: Met on November 9, 2025, and discussed the solar project. Once the project is completed in the Spring they would like to plan some sort of celebration.

Finance: Will meet to prepare budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m., closing with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted in His Service, Sandy Willis, Sec.

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	2* 8:30 Quilting 	3 5:55 - Crafting 6:00-Choir & Confirmation 6:30-Cantata Practice	4* 	5	6
7 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship 11:30-King Veterans Shopping Trip & Lunch Lefse Making	8* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study 5:00-Council	9* 8:30 Quilting	10 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 6:00-Confirmation 6:30- Cantata & Dessert Extravaganza	11* Bake Sale Cookies due by 3:30 pm 3:30-Plate Bake Sale items	12 9 am—TLCW Bake Sale @ ACT	13 10am-Youth Christmas Program practice and lunch Pastor Terri's Birthday
14 Youth Christmas Program 9:00-Worship 10-Education, Fellowship, & Sharing table	15* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study Newsletter Items Due	16* 8:30 Quilting	17 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 6:00-Confirmation 6:30-Cantata @ ACT	18* 6:30pm-Animated movie @ Desert Star Theater for all interested	19 	20
21 9:00-Worship 10-Fellowship 	22* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	23* 8:30 Quilting	24 Christmas Services @ 4:00 & 7:00 pm 	25 Merry Christmas!	26	27
28 9:00-Worship 10-Fellowship	29* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	30* 8:30 Quilting	31	*Office open: 9 am—2:30 pm		



Stewardship Idea: When purchasing beauty products, makeup, deodorants, as a gift or for yourself, look for 'cruelty free' or 'not tested on animals' on the packaging or the manufacturer's website, ensuring kindness to our animal friends.

God's House, Your Hands

Thank you to those who help maintain our church property. It takes many to make the work much easier. We appreciate your work in keeping your church property maintained and beautiful.



Thank you to:

- * Deb and Rich Wachholz for trimming the shrubs.
- * Nick Quinnell of Quinnell's Plumbing for replacing a urinal drain.
- * Don Quinnell of Dellwood Plumbing and Heating for winterizing the lawn sprinklers.
- * John Easterly of Property Works for landscaping and the rock by the handicap entry.
- * Brian and Donna Olson for cleaning up all the yard leaves.
- * Ray Groskinsky, Tom Guzman, and Glenn Quinnell for setting out salt pails and snow shovels.
- * Ray Groskinsky and Tom Guzman for checking emergency lights and setting back clocks.
- * Many people for mowing grass thru the summer.
- * Brian and Donna Olson and Glenn Quinnell for removing the dead trees near the solar system.
- * Many people for watering and maintaining flowers all summer.
- * All those who volunteered using their time and talents.

Happy Holidays! —The Property Committee

Interested in membership? Contact Pastor Terri or Danna in the church office. Forms are available on the table in the Narthex. We would love to have you join our mission and service!

Fellowship Hosting Opportunity

A wonderful opportunity will be opening up next spring. Fellowship will need volunteers for the Sundays of March, April and May.

Family groups, friendship groups, and spousal teams will be needed to supply snacks, serve and clean up the tables in the Fellowship Hall and the counters in the kitchen.

Anyone interested should sign up in the kitchen or let Barb Albrecht, Kathy Kuss, or Danna Peterson know.



Training for anyone interested will be available any Sunday in February.

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AFASD FOOD DRIVE

Adams-Friendship Area School District is looking for the following non-perishable food donations to stock their on-site food pantry:

- Canned meat
- Peanut butter
- Granola bars
- Fruit/applesauce cups
- Instant potatoes
- Instant oatmeal
- Mac and cheese
- Pancake mix (add H₂O kind)
- Soup
- Spaghetti/Os/Chef Boyardee
- Spaghetti noodles/sauce
- Crackers
- Juice boxes
- Instant Rice
- Canned vegetables

Contact: Crystal Holmes, Director of Student Services, 608-339-3213

Drop-off Location: 301 W. 6th St., Adams WI



Nativity Bible Trivia: *Some questions may be tricky, but I hope they caused you to think. In fact, one of the answers is based on a very educated guess and may not be completely true. I challenge you to figure out which one (s).*

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>1. Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?</p> <p>2. True or False: Mary & Joseph followed a star to Bethlehem.</p> <p>3. What form of transportation did Mary and Joseph use to get to <u>Bethlehem</u>? Hint not a taxi.</p> <p>4. Which Old Testament prophet had the most to say about the birth of Christ?</p> <p>5. In the gospel accounts announcing the birth of Christ, how many times did an angel or angels appear?</p> <p>6. Who told Joseph the ba-</p> | <p>by's name was to be Jesus?</p> <p>7. List 5 names of Jesus found in the Bible?</p> <p>8. What does the names Jesus and Emmanuel mean?</p> <p>9. Who followed a star to Bethlehem and to whom did the angel tell where to look?</p> <p>10. What did the angels sing to the shepherds?</p> <p>11. What signs were the shepherds looking for?</p> <p>12. How many magi came to see Jesus?</p> <p>13. Matthew 2:8 says Herod asked the wise men to inform him where the baby Jesus was for what purpose?</p> | <p>14. How old was Jesus when the magi arrived?</p> <p>15. What types of gifts did the magi offer?</p> <p>16. Which king ordered the death of young children?</p> <p>17. What animals does the Bible say were present at the birth of Jesus?</p> <p>18. What did the Bethlehem innkeeper say?</p> <p>19. Who was told he would not die until he saw the Savior?</p> <p>20. Which two of the four Gospels do not mention the birth of Christ.</p> |
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KFC – Kids For Christ

★ **King Veterans Shopping:** Older youth will meet at the southside Adams Dollar General after Sunday school. Then we will have lunch together – **Dec. 7.**

★ **Christmas Program is December 14 at 9am.** Please have kids here no later than 8:30.

★ Program **Practice** may be needed **Sat., Dec. 13, 10-Noon.**

★ **No classes** Dec. 21 & Dec. 28th.

★ **No Confirmation** classes Dec. 24 & 31st.

★ **Bible Verse:** Matthew 1:21 '**She will bring forth a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.**' [*This verse is the one all kids will recite in the Christmas program.*]

★ **Activity:** Cinnamon stick Nativity ornament. Need a glue gun, some string, cloves, scrap cloth. Break pieces to the desired sizes; hot glue corners together, and wrap corners and the top peak, and enough at top to hang. for looks. Baby Jesus lays on a piece of broken cinnamon stick and 'body' can be a whole clove wrapped in some string or a bit of cloth. Half sticks for Mary and Joseph, and can use cloves for heads or leave Joseph's plain and use a tiny scrap of fabric over Mary's head.

★ **Table Talk:** Have you ever slept somewhere that was not in your bed? Where might be funny places to sleep? Do you think Jesus as a baby slept well laying on hay?

★ **Prayer:** Dear Jesus - Thank You for you, for the star that helped people find you, for the angels, and for joy. May I share Your love every day. Amen.



Outreach Update

In November our church was involved in 'Ladies Night Out'. We had a table with a display of our church information and free giveaways. I heard a lot of positive comments about how good the Harvest Dinner food was! Thank you to all who worked the Harvest Dinner! You are all appreciated.

November 17-December 18, 2025- feel free to check out the Parade of Trees at the hospital. Again this year, Trinity has a decorated tree. Check out all the beautiful trees in the hospital lobby and vote for your favorites!

December 1, 2025-January 4, 2026 - Our church will be lit up outside for Christmas. Come see the lights all around the Adams area. Our church will have a few more additional lights added to those from last year's Christmas display. Thank you to those who donated items for this event!! Thank you to all who helped with the set up of our church decorations! Amazing work!



Crafting Night will be held Wednesday, December 3 @ 5:55pm.

We will meet in the Fellowship Hall to create a Christmas craft. Kits are prepared with all materials supplied. Usually we finish within 60-90 minutes. Enjoy a fun evening of crafting, snacking, & socializing. No experience is needed. A \$10 donation is suggested to cover the cost of craft materials. Contact Danna if you will be attending, so we can ensure there are enough supplies and snacks. We will not have crafting in January 2026, but will resume on February 4, 2026 at our **NEW 2026 TIME: 4:44 PM.**

Answers to Nativity Bible Trivia (on previous page): **1.** Caesar Augustus. Luke 2:1. **2.** False. **3.** The Bible does not say how they went that 80 mile trip. They may have rode some type of animal, such as a donkey. **4.** The book of Isaiah. **5.** At least 3 angelic announcements for the birth of Christ and 1 for the birth of John. For Christ an angel appeared before Mary and Joseph individually and a multitude of angels spoke to the shepherds. **6.** An unnamed angel in Matthew 1:21. It was assumed to be Gabriel. **7.** Jesus, Emmanuel, the Christ, Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6; Matthew 1:21, 23. **8.** Jesus means Savior and Emmanuel means God with us. **9.** The wise men followed the star. The shepherds followed the angel's instructions. **10.** Technically angels are never said to "sing" in the Bible. It says the angels praised God saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Luke 2:14. **11.** A baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. **12.** The Bible does not say how many there were. Tradition says there were three because of the three gifts. **13.** So that he could worship the child. But his intentions were far from worship. Matthew 2:11-18. **14.** Jesus was somewhere between a month old and a couple of years old. The wise men saw His star at his birth and began following it. If the journey was 500 miles from Persia and Mesopotamia (around modern day Iraq), at an estimate it would have taken at least a month. **15.** Gold, frankincense & myrrh. Matthew 2:11. **16.** Herod ordered all the children in Bethlehem and the outlying areas who were 2 years old and younger to be killed. **17.** There is no mention of any animals. However, Isaiah 1:3 could be a prophecy talking about at least a donkey seeing the crib of his Master (God). It could allude to the fact that an ox was there too. If a bunch of shepherds were there, maybe sheep would have been present. **18.** No room. Luke 2:7. **19.** Simeon. Luke 2:25, 26. **20.** Mark and John.



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Sing A Song Of Christmas!

Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church Choir and Community Friends will be presenting a joyful cantata, Sing A Song Of Christmas by Michael Barrett and Joseph M. Martin, at Arkdale on Wed., Dec. 10 at 6:30 pm followed by a Dessert Extravaganza hosted by Council.

As part of our Musical Mission and Community Outreach, the cantata will also be shared at the Adams Community Theatre on Wed., Dec. 17 at 6:30pm.

The concerts are Free. Please bring a donation for the local Food Pantry if you are so able.

We are looking forward to sharing jubilant songs and the timeless Christmas Story.

Made with Love by Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church Women and families!

Christmas
COOKIE
BAKE SALE
at the
Adams Community Theatre
157 S. Main Street in Adams

Friday, December 12, 2025
9 a.m. - until it's gone!



Sponsored by The event
LEFSE • COOKIES • FUDGE and more!