



Trinity Lutheran Church  
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## TRINITY CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Dear friends in Christ,

Several years ago, I heard a young girl trying to describe to a friend something that had happened “a very long time ago.” When the listener wasn’t grasping exactly far how in the distance past she was describing, the speaker said in a loud, frustrated tone, “It happened before cell phones!” To her young mind anything that happened before 1993 was ancient. Uffda.

In America over the last several hundred years, each generation has experienced transformational change. When my father was born airplanes were built with wood and canvas. Fifty years later, he watched men walking on the moon. As a person in my fifties, I remember the excitement in my home when our first color television arrived and decades later when I heard about a new tool called e-mail. It is hard for me to imagine the changes that my baby grandson will experience over the course of his lifetime. If I knew, I probably wouldn’t be able to grasp or believe the future changes anyway.

However, the human heart does not change. We all need love, hope, and meaningful tasks to fill our days. Scripture speaks to these and other deep, timeless issues. Psalm 90 gives a helpful reminder of how to face change.

1Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. 2Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. -- Psalm 90:1,2

Our God of the past is the same God of the everlasting future. That is good news no matter what generation you come from. Someday that frustrated little girl from the beginning of this letter likely try to explain to her granddaughter the ancient technology called a “smart phone.” Yet, the love between grandparent and grandchild will remain.

God’s love becomes everlasting when it is passed on by God’s people. Love will never go out of style.

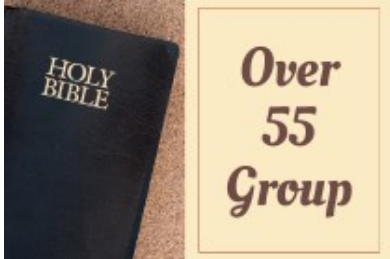
Peace and best wishes,  
Pastor Tom Opoien



## Milestone Ministry

### 5th Grade Milestone - First Communion

Celebration: Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 6:30 pm worship



### Over 55 Group

Tuesday, Nov 28

9:15 am

Visit to Nora Store

Join us for a fun outing to the Nora Store for a Christmas sing along with Mike Pederson. We will meet at the church to car pool to Nora and stay until noon. There is no admission charge to the store but free will donations will be accepted to help defray the costs of maintaining the store. Afterwards, join us for lunch at the Pizza Ranch in Tea. All are welcome! *No meeting or blood pressure checks this month.*

## Join us at Banquet West!

Wednesday, November 30

2:00 - 5:00 pm and 5:00 - 8:00 pm

Banquet West

710 N Marion Rd, Sioux Falls

(use northeast door)

Are you interested in doing a community service project? Do you want to give back to those in need? If so, join us as we serve those in need at Banquet West. We are need of 6 volunteers to prepare the meal and 15 volunteers to serve the meal.

Bring your whole family, 12 and older may serve in the dining room and kitchen! No open toed shoe for your safety and please dress in work appropriate attire. Thank you for your commitment to The Banquet ministry! Contact the church office to signup at 605-498-2343.

## Christmas Concert

Sunday, Dec. 3

3:00 - 4:00 pm Christmas Tea Open House

4:00 pm Choirs and Bells

"But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

A Christmas Tea Open House will be held to honor the memory of Marlys Bergjord who helped host the Tea for many years.



## Directory Prints Now Available for Pickup

Good news, your photos have been printed and are ready to be picked up! You may pick them up in the Gathering Space Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm, Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings during worship. Thank you for taking the time to have your photos taken, we much appreciate it.

Print directories will be available in December. Please watch your newsletter for more information. If you have questions, contact the church office by calling 605-498-2343.

## Hy-Vee Scrip Cards Available: Limited Availability

We have a limited number of Hy-Vee Scrip Cards available. First come, first serve! 5% of the sales go back to the youth to help pay for the youth attending the 2024 National Youth Gathering or summer camps! Thank you for your continued support of Trinity's youth!



## Volunteer Drivers Needed

Did you know that Trinity partners with Active Generations and are a host site for the meals to be picked up? The Meals on Wheels program consists of a hot meal delivered to client's door between 10:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Trinity Lutheran delivers meals every Thursday and we are looking for one or two more volunteer drivers. The route typically takes 30-40 minutes and all deliveries are in Tea city limits. Volunteer would deliver roughly every 2 months! If interested, contact the church office by calling 605-498-2343

## Winter gear now available and accepting donations!

- Items most in need:**
- Adult coats (sizes XL, XXL, XXXL)
  - Kids boots (all sizes)
  - Kids coats and snow pants (all sizes)



Board of Outreach is collecting new and gently used cold weather gear in the east entrance of the church and is available to the public. We are currently collecting coats, jackets, snow pants, hats, gloves, and boots that will be made available to our neighbors in the community. Used items are accepted, but please launder before you drop them off. We accept new items as well. Simply drop off the items in the bin in the Gathering Space. If you have questions, contact the church office at 605-498-2343

## Thank you for supporting the bloodmobile!

Thank you to everyone who attended Trinity's Blood Drive this past week! We had a great attendance with 38 units donated, which will help 114 local patients. Great job! We so appreciate your partnership and look forward to seeing you again on February 6

## Thank you for supporting Trinity's Pizza Ranch Night!

Thank you to everyone who attended both of the Trinity's Pizza Ranch Nights! We enjoyed seeing so many Trinity people there. We raised over \$600, which will help pay for the postage for the college care packages that will be sent out. We appreciate your continued support to Trinity and Trinity's youth! Watch your newsletter for the next Trinity Pizza Ranch!

## Thank you!

Thank you for all the birthday wishes that I received last week. All the cards, calls and visits were much appreciated! - Luella De Jong

## November Food Pantry Donation: Hamburger & Tuna Helper

With the rising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when shopping to help those in need! In the month of November we will be collecting hamburger and tuna helper. Donations can be dropped off in the Gathering Space. If you have questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact the church office or call Ruth at 605-321-7325.

## Good food, good friends and great fellowship, Trinity's Pizza Ranch Nights were a hit!



Dear Members of Trinity,

The Board of Stewardship is happy to announce that a generous \$25,000 matching gift challenge has been extended to the congregation to help strengthen our General/ Operating Fund. If you would like to make a gift toward this match, you can use an envelope found in the pews or mark “matching gift” in the memo of your check. Thank you to the generous donor who has made this challenge possible.



Thank you as well to everyone who took part in the “Trinity: In It Together” fall stewardship emphasis. If you have not completed an estimate of giving card, you can fill one out at any time. Also, look for the blue sheet at the Welcome Desk in the Gathering Space if you would like to change your automatic withdrawal.

The introduction of the Venmo app has been received well, and members are finding it a convenient way to make gifts with their smart phones.

If you would like to strengthen your personal finance skills, Trinity will be hosting a nine session Financial Peace University course beginning on January 14, 2024. Ten full scholarships are being offered for members of Trinity. If you would like more information, [click here](#).

God has been generous to the members of Trinity Lutheran Church, and we are grateful.

Thank you,

The members of the Board of Stewardship