



**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
605-498-2343  
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## **TRINITY CONNECTION**

DECEMBER 15, 2023

Dear Beloved of Trinity,

This last month has been a month of joys and sorrows for me and my family. It was a quiet Sunday morning, All Saint's Day in early November, my sister and I sat by my mom's bedside talking and watching HGTV as we had for many days prior. The day was uneventful. We held her hand, told her we loved her and talked about stories of when we were young. We laughed sometimes and cried sometimes. Our sons and families had been with us the days before as everyone had come to say goodbye. Our daughter and family arrived on that Sunday. The little boys sang all their Christmas program songs as we watched them go through the actions. We ended the evening with a goodnight camp song.

It was shortly after everyone left and my sister and I were seated back down by her bedside when she took her last breath. It was a holy moment.

Many of you have experienced the same holy moment. God is present and God is faithful. And in all things, we give Him thanks. We thank him for the quiet moments and for the moments filled with bubbling joy. I thank God for all of you who have been so kind to us as we grieve. We are part of the body of Christ together.

This Sunday we spend time with the shepherds who experienced a holy moment on a hillside as they quietly watched their sheep one evening. Their holy moment came as a shock at first when the angel suddenly appeared and then as a holy calling. "Go see the baby – this thing that has happened." And when they went, they saw and they couldn't help but spread the word. What a beautiful example for us to follow as well.

God calls us to many exciting, adventurous and normal things. He equips us and sends us much like the shepherds. As Christmas approaches, let us remember to give God thanks in all things and to take our role as a shepherd seriously – come see Jesus and go and tell.

Peace to you in your calling,  
Deacon Christie.





## WELCA Bible Study

Thursday, December 21  
1:30 pm  
in the Fellowship Hall

Please join us for a faith filled bible study, a short meeting and refreshments!  
Don't forget to bring your Christmas goodies to share. All are welcome!

## Tea Community Food Distribution

Thursday, December 21  
5:00 - 6:00 pm  
Trinity Lutheran Church

If you need help with food, or know someone who does, call the church office at 605-498-2343.  
Registration is required. Please register by Wednesday, December 20th.

## Christmas Eve Services

**4th Sunday of Advent  
Sunday Morning Worship**  
Sunday, Dec 24  
9:00 am

**Candle Light  
Christmas Eve Services**  
Sunday, Dec 24  
3:00 pm | 5:00 pm\* | 6:30 pm  
\*Live-streamed



## Worship Services Volunteers Needed

We are in need of worship service volunteers for Christmas Eve Sunday morning worship, Candle Light Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve Day. Please consider volunteering!  
Contact the church office to signup!

**4th Sunday of Advent -  
Sunday Morning Worship**  
Sunday Dec. 24  
9:00 am

**Candle Light  
Christmas Eve Services**  
Sunday, Dec. 25  
3:00 pm | 5:00 pm | 6:30 pm

**New Year's Eve Day Service**  
Sunday, Dec. 31  
9:00 am

## Help us decorate with poinsettias!

We invite you to bring a poinsettia to the church to share. These beautiful holiday plants will be used to decorate the sanctuary and gathering space. After Dec 25, you are welcome to take them home with you. We can't wait to see our sanctuary decorated!

## Thrivent Choice Dollars

**Are you a Thrivent member? Ready to give back?  
Do you know about Thrivent Choice Dollars?**

Through Thrivent Choice, with your membership can contribute to Trinity Lutheran Church through Choice Dollars. Contact your Thrivent representative for more information.

## Winter gear is 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

## December Food Pantry Donation: Canned Fruit

With the raising 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 December we will be collecting canned fruit. 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.

## Over 55 Group had a great time celebrating Christmas this past week with their white elephant gifts.



## KFC and Confirmation youth had a fun filled evening of decorating cookies and games at their Christmas Party!

