

Trinity Weekly Tidings For January 1, 2017

"God's Love – Our Hearts – God's Work – Our Hands"

Trinity Lutheran Church – 612 N. Water Street – Sparta, WI 54656

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Welcome Guests! We are so happy to see you today! If you are traveling through the area, we wish you Godspeed on your journey. If you live nearby, we hope you will return and worship with us again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to make Trinity Lutheran that home. Please sign the guest register located at the entrance into the Sanctuary and/or fill out the yellow card in the pew rack located in front of you, so that we can know who you are. Although you have come as a visitor, we hope that we leave worship as friends!

~HAPPY NEW YEAR~

Office Closed – The church office will be closed on **Monday, January 2** in observance of New Year's Day. It will reopen on Tuesday, January 3. Thank you!

Bible Study Opportunity - Dennis and Carol Glaman are planning a Bible in a Year reading. There are resources on line that give you an Old Testament, New Testament and Psalm each day in pretty much every translation available. We can discuss by message, Facebook or maybe meet maybe every other week and discuss scripture over coffee. If you are interested please contact Dennis or Carol Glaman.

Annual Meeting - The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday January 29, 2017 immediately following the 10:30 worship service. The meeting will be held in the Sanctuary.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear the annual reports of Pastor, officers, committees and teams. We will also be electing the officers for the congregation. This year's election will be for President, Vice-President, 4 council members, 1 Personnel committee member, 2 Mission Endowment board members, 2 Sugar Creek representatives, 2 male, 2 female and 1 youth delegate to the Synod Assembly and 3 members for next year's nominating committee. The nominating committee will be meeting in December and names will be available in January about two weeks prior to the annual meeting. We will also be voting on changes to the By-laws of the Constitution and to the Constitution, the need for new furnaces and the 2017 Budget.

Help us to continue to enjoy the WARMTH -Bad news is never good. Especially at Christmas time. Our sanctuary has been heated by 3 twenty to twenty five year old furnaces. A couple of weeks ago 2 of the 3 furnaces failed. The third furnace has been set at 70 degrees so as to minimize strain on the furnace because it is also in danger of failing. The fellowship hall is heated by 2 even older furnaces. The Buildings and Grounds team presented a quote to replace the furnaces to the Council on Tuesday evening. To replace the three furnaces that heat the Sanctuary, the cost would be \$16,355. To replace the two furnaces that heat the Fellowship Hall, the cost would be \$11, 564. Since the Council has no authority to enter into a contract that exceeds 3 percent of our Annual Budget, the Congregation will be asked to vote on replacing 3 or all 5 furnaces at the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2017. We are exploring what available funds we have to cover the cost, but we are opening a dedicated Furnace Replacement Fund. Several Council Members have already contributed to the fund. If you are able to and wish to contribute to this fund, please make sure that this is noted on the check. Donations to this fund should be in addition to your annual giving. This is a hard time of year to be asking for extra money, but if we want to continue to keep warm in worship we need to ask for your help. Sincerely, The Church Council

Early Bird Registration - Women of Trinity the 10th Triennial convention will be held in Minneapolis next summer, from the 13 - 16 July. You need to register now if you are staying for the whole gathering. **Jan 6, 2017** is the last day to register for the reduced price. Who is included women from the ages 6 - 18 up to 102. How do I register, online go to welcatg.org; fax the completed form to 855-710-8061; or mail it to Framework Meetings and Destinations, Attn: Registration TG 2017, 2192E. Grandview Drive, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815. Don't forget the synod has scholarship money you can apply for, closing for that is in February. Our own Trinity unit has scholarship money also. **ACT TODAY.** Submitted by Kathleen Sumrall.

Advent Décor - We will be taking down Advent Décor on **Monday, January 9th at 9:00 am.** If you would like to help with this please contact Lois Harr. ALL are welcome and appreciated!!

Poinsettia - If you purchased a poinsettia please remember to take it home with you after services. There are bags for the poinsettia on the table outside the church office. Thank you!

Loose Change Offering on January 15 - Habitat for Humanity works in partnership with God and people everywhere to develop communities with God's people in need by building and renovating houses, so that there are decent houses in decent communities in which people can live and grow into all that God intended. Monroe County Habitat for Humanity (MCHFH) has been an affiliate since 1999 building fifteen homes in the past seventeen years throughout the county. Habitat provides a "hand up not a hand out". Partner families not only work on their home build, but they pay back MCHFH. "A Brush With Kindness" is a new MCHFH program. It was designed to help more families with smaller projects. Projects like building a ramp, cleaning a lot out, caulking windows, or doing critical repair jobs can improve the life of homeowner. The home repair project also serves low income families 25 to 50% below the median income. MCHFH anticipates that more community volunteers will help with these smaller projects and shorter timeline. MCHFH will continue to build houses but "A Brush with Kindness" will help more families between the home builds. The January Loose Change contribution will support MCHFH commitment to safe, decent, and affordable homes. If you know of a family for a future home build or who could benefit from the new repair focused project, contact Habitat for more eligibility information. Thanks to Kathleen Sumrall and Anita Jensen for their leadership with MCHFH.

SAVE THE DATE!! Saturday, February 25th - Guitars & Hammers Talent & Variety Show Meal & Silent Auction is coming to Trinity! Watch for more details to come in January & start brushing up on your many talents. Jokes, juggling, dancing, solo & ensemble pieces from school, musical acts – singing, playing an instrument, etc. are meant to be shared! Talk to Chris Martin about your talent! Talk to Michelle if you would like to help get involved in this AWESOME event!

Those for whom we are praying...
For the family of Robert (Bob) Olson, Jr (Ron Olson's brother who suddenly passed) and
for the family of Ida Meissner. Also for Carol Thorsen and Joanne Dexter.
Altar flowers were picked up by Gary and Betty Peterson.

