

PLATTE, SD

Trinity Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

The Christian Life in Fourteen Words

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

I love Micah 6:8, for in it, God lets us know what our lives should look like if we are truly walking with Him. Micah starts verse 8 with a declaration that God has shown us what is good. We have no excuse for living rebellious, disobedient lives for God has shown us in His Word what is required of us. He has also modeled goodness for us in the way He has loved us, protected us, and provided for our every need.

Micah addresses us as ***O mortal***. He uses the singular form of the word, not the plural, so we understand God is talking to each of us as individuals. His message is personal and is meant to affect the way each of us live our lives. In fact, if we do what God directs us to do in the last sentence of Micah 6:8, God *knows* our lives will be transformed. They will be transformed because we will have obeyed what He has commanded us to do, and, in the process, will have come to know and love Him.

Micah addresses us as ***O mortal*** to remind us **we are not God**. He is the Creator—we are His created. He is our King—we are to be His obedient subjects. He is our Master—we are to be His faithful servants. He is perfect—we are imperfect. Micah's implication is clear: Pay attention to what God has shown us and live that way!

Then, in the final sentence of Micah 6:8, he gives us the formula for pleasing God—fourteen words that perfectly describe what it looks like to live for Him. His first instruction is ***to act justly***. What does that mean? It means to look after the needs of the poor, the needy, and the oppressed. It means to extend love and

compassion to those who are in desperate need of them.

James 1:27 tells us what it means to act justly: ***Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*** In other words, James is telling us that if we truly know God, it will show in the tangible acts of love we extend to those in need. Micah's second instruction is ***to love mercy***. Mercy does not treat others as their actions deserve. Mercy extends forgiveness and blessing to those the world says deserve punishment. Mercy reflects God—an understanding that God did not give us what we deserved—punishment and death for our sins. Instead, He offered us forgiveness and salvation through the gift of His Son Jesus Christ.

Micah's final instruction is ***to walk humbly with your God***. Humility allows us to comprehend our great need for God. Humility allows us to recognize our own sinfulness and acknowledge our daily need for a Savior. It reminds us that, with Christ, ***I can do all things through Him who strengthens me***, but apart from Him, ***I can do nothing***. Humility leads us to the truth that we are completely dependent on the power, love, and provision of God. Walking humbly with our God enables us to know Him, trust Him, and love Him.

As we prepare to enter a new year, I pray you will take these words of Micah to heart and live them out. You will never regret it! Wishing you and yours, a Spirit-filled New Year, filled with growth, love, peace, and joy!

Love in Christ,
Pastor Dave

Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday December 18, 2023

Present: Pastor Dave, Jim Holter, Mike Gilbertz, Donna Boysen, Carey Hoffman, Shirley Johnson, Alisha Nachtigal, Ryan Lantz, Tony Schrank, Jan DuFrain and Kyle Meyerink.

Absent: Tom Boltjes

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Holter and Pastor Dave led with a devotion and prayer.

Secretary's Report:

The secretary's report was reviewed, Ryan made a motion to approve, Kyle seconded it, the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

The council reviewed the treasurer's report. Tony made a motion to approve, Ryan seconded it, the motion carried.

Trustee's Report:

Tony reviewed the property/casualty insurance renewal rates with the council.

Deacon's Report:

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

Pastor's Report:

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report.

Old Business:

Amanda Groom is willing to finish the painting project at \$35/hr. Ryan made a motion to hire Amanda Groom to paint the fireside room, council room and the two main bathrooms off the fellowship hall at \$35/hr, Shirley seconded it, the motion carried.

New Business

Nominating Committee is still looking for a Trustee, Vice-President and someone to serve on the camping committee.

A motion was made by Kyle to move the January 15th council meeting to January 8th, Tony seconded it, motion carried.

Ryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Shirley seconded it.

We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carey Hoffman



From the WOW Co-Presidents

Tricia Meyerink & Marla Tegethoff

Encouragement for a New Year

"Do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

On the first day of a new year many of us wish each other a "Happy New Year!" But as we begin a new year, we need more than a hopeful greeting from the people around us. We need to listen to what God told Joshua about 3,400 years ago. As Joshua was about to lead God's people into the promised land, he had reason to be afraid. He had an enormous task ahead of him, and he was well aware of the dangers that he and the people would soon be facing. He needed God's encouragement. A new year brings lots of questions.

The Creator of the universe comes to us and says, "Don't be afraid; don't be discouraged." What happens in this coming year is not left to chance. God is in charge, and he promises to stay close: "The LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." Many years later, the Lord Jesus made the same promise when he said, "I am with you always" (Matthew 28:20). That's the reason we can wish each other a "Happy New Year!"

Prayer:

Father in heaven, thank you for the gift of a new year and for your promise to stay with us. We ask for your guidance and wisdom each day.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

By Rev. Art Schoonveld

WOW Jan-Feb Mission Project

Laundry products for Helping Hands Food Pantry

WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand Dec 1, 2023	\$ 4436.84
INCOME:	
Deposit	\$ 501.00
Hannah (Nov)	\$ 70.00
Priscilla (Nov)	\$ 68.00
Hannah Mission Offering	\$ 363.00
Dividend	\$ 0.35
Balance on Hand before Disbursements	\$4938.19
DISBURSEMENTS:	
Benevolences:	
Steve Walters <small>(added to Hannah Mission)</small>	\$ 250.00
New Hope	\$ 250.00
Feeding SD	\$ 250.00
Platte Food Pantry	\$ 250.00
Platte Student Ministry	\$ 250.00
Entrust	\$ 250.00
Tom & Mary Espland	\$ 250.00
Victor & Lori Selemani	\$ 250.00
Total Benevolences	\$ 1750.00
Steve Walters (Hannah Mission Offering)	\$ 613.00
Bible Study Books	\$ -256.25
Balance on Hand December 31, 2023	\$ 2318.94

Bible Study Groups

Martha Bible Study Group:

New Bible Study beginning in the new year
Coming Soon!

Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, January 18 at 9:00 AM
Studying Lesson 1 in new Bible Study Book
Lesson Leader: Gladys Kuipers
Hostess: Mary Beth Kuiper

Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, January 18 at 1:30 PM
Studying Lesson 1 in new Bible Study Book
Lesson Leader: Caroline Butler
Hostess: Peggy Martin

Jan	Greeters	Ushers	Communion Servers	Cookie/Coffee Servers
7	Tom & Vickie Boltjes	Andrew Nachtigal & Brad DeVries	Shirley Johnson, Jan DuFrain, Kyle Meyerink	Lisa Johnson, Hailee Johnson, Shirley Johnson
14	Kenny & Cheri Antonsen	Andrew Nachtigal & Brad DeVries	No Communion	Wanda Johnson, Connie Kirsch, Estelle Konechne
21	Derek & Wendy Wollman	Chad Johnson & Jason Huizenga	Shirley Johnson, Jan DuFrain, Kyle Meyerink	Dawn Konstanz, Jeanne Kott, Traci Kott
28	Zach & Lizzy Warejcka	Chad Johnson & Jason Huizenga	No Communion	No Cookies – Annual Meeting/Potluck

This Month's Birthdays

**Please remember these special 80+ Birthdays with a prayer, card or phone call*

1/2	Lyndy Qualm	1/4	Natalie Severson	1/14	Alisha Nachtigal	1/23	Emersyn Hermanek
1/2	Isabelle Suits	1/5	Lori Chambers	1/15	Bonnie Ringling	1/24	Scott Dingus
1/2	Ridley Nelson	1/5	Maggie Huizenga	1/16	Morris Johnson*	1/25	Cash Lantz
1/3	Logan DeVries	1/6	Brooks Timmerman	1/16	Randy Tegethoff	1/25	Kip Nelson
1/3	Greysen Wollman	1/10	Spencer DeHaan	1/19	Sophia Nelson	1/26	Laila Wollman
1/3	Jeanne Kott	1/10	Stacy Severson	1/21	Diane Gilbertz	1/29	Louie Johnson
1/4	Baleigh Nachtigal	1/13	Ruth Gruenig*	1/21	Tessa VandenHoek	1/31	Nick Holter
1/4	Avery DeVries	1/13	Blake Qualm	1/22	Camden DuFrain	1/31	Isabel Meyerink
1/4	Collin Engebretson						

Mission Fund Offering for January

The Mission Board has designated our Mission Fund Offering for January be given to Melanie Lubinus's ministry, which provides food, clothing, hygiene kits and other essentials to Venezuelan refugees in Costa Rica. This offering will be taken Sunday, January 15th. Please make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Church." Donations can be also be made through our online giving platform, Breeze. Choose "Mission Fund" when donating online.

These are the ways Melanie has been able to steward our previous donations thus far to bless the Venezuelan refugees in the streets of Heredia, Costa Rica:

- Day (or two) of groceries: Family of 4 (2x), 1 man (3x)
- 30 sandwiches
- 14 cases of water
- 26 cases of peanuts
- 16 essential bags (1 bag per family): toothbrush/paste, 2 pairs socks, bandaids, 2 cans tuna, beans, 3 packages of crackers, 2 servings of cereal, granola bar, milk, juice, can of corn, can of pears
- baby wipes (2 families)
- 1 pair men's shoes
- 2 blankets for a family of 4
- change of clothes + socks for 5 people
- 7 boxes of crayons (Each child gets 2-3 crayons with a few coloring pages and stickers.)

From Melanie: *As always, my son Steven and I thank you for your generosity and pray that you are blessed. We will continue to do what we can to help and to remind our Venezuelan friends that they are not alone. They have asked us to extend their gratitude as well.*

“Something More in ‘24” Bible Study

Monday, January 8th, we will begin a Bible Study on the book of John. We will meet from 1:00 to 2:15 PM on Mondays in the Fireside Room. Following an opening prayer, we will start each session by watching one chapter of the book of John on the Visual Bible. Every word spoken on this video is directly from the Bible. There is something powerful about hearing God’s Word and seeing it walked out on the television screen before us. After watching the video, we will read through the chapter and discuss it verse by verse.

There is no need to sign up. Just show up with your Bible. You may find it valuable to bring a pen and a highlighter so you can mark significant passages and make notes directly in your Bible. If you like to make more detailed notes, you may want to bring a notebook, but only your Bible is required.

We recognize there will be days you can’t attend. That’s OK, since each week we will only cover one chapter. You can stay on track simply by reading the chapter you missed before attending the next session. Hope to see you there in January.

Winter Gear Needed

Missions in Sioux Falls are in need **men’s gloves, socks and stocking hats** for this winter. Also looking for donations of Bibles, devotionals, and Bible Study books for adults, teenagers and children. These items can be placed in the tote in the narthex.

*We are still collecting other donations but please just seasonal items as they don’t have room to store lots of items. Please bring items to Shirley Johnson’s or Gloria Kok’s garage but call first.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Peggy and I want to thank everyone who stopped by our Christmas Open House on December 17th. We had a great time fellowshiping with all of you and loved getting to know you better. We found out so many interesting facts about folks we never would have known without spending some intentional time with you.

We also want to thank the congregation for the many beautiful cards we received and for the wide variety of thoughtful gifts you gave us. Thank you for the cash, gift cards, beef bucks, Chamber Dollars, ornaments, candy, baked goods, kitchen utensils, and other delightful presents with which you blessed us. Your kindness and generosity encouraged us greatly. We are so glad to be part of the Trinity family and look forward to getting to know you all better in the year ahead.

Love in Christ,
Pastor Dave & Peggy

Sunday School resumes on January 7

No Sunday School on January 28 – Annual Meeting



Join a conversation...

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith. Everyone's welcome. You're invited, no matter

- Connect with new people
- Watch an episode on a question of faith
- Share your thoughts and hear from others



Platte Community Alpha "Sneak Peak"
Sunday, January 21 | 6:30 PM | New Hope

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday | January 28 | 10:30 AM

Following morning Worship

Join us for a Potluck immediately after the meeting

