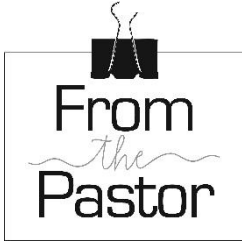


PLATTE, SD

Trinity Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022



A Prayer for Christmas

Heavenly Father, we love You!
Jesus, we love You! Holy Spirit,
we love You! We adore You and
exalt Your holy name. You, oh

Lord, are the Giver and Sustainer of life. You are our Provider, Protector, Comforter, and Defender. You have taught us with Your Word, redeemed us with Your blood, empowered us with Your Spirit, and filled us with Your love. Thank You for the gift of Jesus and all that we have in Him.

Thank You, Jesus, for willingly laying down the power and glory of heaven to be born in the humble confines of a stable. Thank You for coming to earth to show us how to live and how to love. Thank You for Your humility and Your willingness to serve. Please help us to put the needs of others above our own wants and desires. Give us generous hearts that long to serve You and make Your love tangible to the world around us.

Jesus, You are the light of the world! May every Christmas light and candle we see this season remind us that You are the reason for the season. May every beautiful holiday display we see remind us of the beauty You bring to the lives of those who know You, love You, and trust You. And may every light we see remind us that You called us to be the light of the world. You called us to be just like You. You called us to show the love and beauty of our Father in heaven to a lost and hurting world.

Jesus, may every wreath we see this season remind us of You. May the evergreen color remind us that You are eternal—that You have always been and will always be. May the circular shape remind us You and Your love have no beginning and no end. You and Your love are everlasting and unending.

Jesus, may every Christmas tree we see remind us of what You did for us on the cross. Galatians 3:13 tells us: ***Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.”*** Thank You, Jesus, for loving us so much that You, who were perfectly innocent, took on the sins of us, who were perfectly guilty. Thank You for taking that curse upon Yourself so that curse could be removed from us. Thank You for shedding Your precious blood so our sins could be forgiven.

In Jesus’s mighty name,
Amen.

Dear Friends in Christ,

In this season of joy, we pray each of you would know the joy that Jesus came to make complete. In this season of peace, we pray each of you would know the peace that surpasses all understanding. And in this season of love, we pray each of you would know how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. May you get lost in that love!

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas
and a very Happy New Year,

Love in Christ,
Pastor Dave and Peggy



Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday, November 19, 2022.

Present: Pastor Dave, Kyle Meyerink, Shirley Johnson, Mike Konechne. Tonya Standy, Liz Spawn, Ryan Lantz, Jim Holter, Tom Boltjes and Jan DuFrain,

Absent: Randy Tegethoff and Jeff Engebretson.

The meeting was called to order by President Kyle Meyerink and he led with prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was reviewed, along with the 2022 budget vs actual expenses, Tonya made a motion to approve, Mike seconded it and the motion carried.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

All the electrical work at the parsonage has been completed, and the new stove has been installed. The basement carpet at the church has been stretched and cleaned.

DEACON'S REPORT

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

PASTOR'S REPORT

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report.

OLD BUSINESS

Let the nominating committee know if we have any ideas for open council positions for 2023.

The Vice President and trustees will be working on the 2023 budget.

Amanda Groom is continuing to paint Sunday school rooms, the ones that have been completed look very nice.

NEW BUSINESS

We went to the sanctuary and looked at extending the area for the worship team, Jim will look into extending this. Also discussed the organ and how much it is getting used.

We discussed adding a 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, which will be a nice option.

A bid was received for updating sound equipment, they will talk to Cole Anderson about some of the issues.

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

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonya Standy



TO FULFILL WHAT THE LORD HAD SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET.

Matthew 1:22, ESV

From the WOW Co-Presidents

Phyllis Daum & Sharon Warejcka

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Eternal God, the hope of all humankind, you gave us the greatest gift of all in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Son of God, you came as God's Light to shine brightly in the darkness of minds and hearts; bathe our world in your Light.

Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, make a way for the Good News of your Kingdom to reach every home, every heart, everywhere.

Protect and preserve the labourers who courageously declare the glory of your Gospel throughout the world. Provide for their every need and be their strength and joy.

Be the comforter, defender and provider of the poor, the helpless, the cold, the hungry, the orphaned, the weary, the oppressed, those persecuted for their faith in you, the sick, those who mourn, the aged and the little children.

Reveal yourself to those who do not know your immense love.

Bless those who rejoice at your coming.

Glorious Lord, we join our voices to the heavenly host and say: "Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favour rests!" Amen

This is our prayer for everyone. Phyllis and I want to thank everyone that have made our job easier. Merry Christmas and Happy new year.



WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 10/19/2022	\$ 3804.37
Soup supper donations	\$ 3286.00
Circle Offerings	\$ 210.00
Dividend	\$ 0.18
Expenses:	
10 Aprons	\$ -182.00
County Fair—soup supper	\$ -862.61
Dutch Oven—soup supper	\$ -124.52
Balance on Hand 11/23/2022	\$ 6131.42



Bible Study Groups

Backpack Project for Helping Hands Food Pantry:

The food pantry committee is trying to fill backpacks of groceries to send home with students. Some of these items would include non-perishable foods such as soup, crackers, canned chicken and tuna, Tuna Helper, Hamburger Helper, breakfast bars, pudding 4-packs, cereal, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, veggies, or any items that children would like. A tote will be in the fellowship hall so let's fill it up several times.

Martha Bible Study Group

meets Tuesday, December 13 at 7 pm — Lesson 4 "God is With You in the Dark"

Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Wednesday, Dec 14 at 7 PM
Studying Lessons 11 & 12
Lesson Leader: Shirley Johnson
Hostess: Deb VanDerWerff & Donna Boysen

Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, Dec 15 at 1:30 PM
Studying Lessons 11 & 12
Lesson Leader: Karen Dimick
Hostess: Caroline Butler



DEC
18

Our Sunday School Christmas program will be held during the morning Worship Service.

We will not be having Wednesday practices, but will be practicing on Sunday, December 4th & 11th, during Sunday School time at 10:45 am. If needed, we may also practice again the Wed or Sat right before the 18th.

We will have our regular fellowship time following the program this year and each Sunday School family is asked to bring one dozen goodies to share. Please bring goodies to the church by 9 AM on Sunday, December 18.

No Sunday School or Confirmation on Dec 18. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of the BOE members. Thank you - Alisha, Sarah & Carla

Links of GRATITUDE

Make this meaningful decoration for your Thanksgiving table.



What you need:

- Construction paper (in fall colors)
- Scissors
- Pen
- Jar
- Stapler
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Cut the paper into strips about 2 inches wide.
2. Place the strips and pen in the jar. Then set it in a prominent place in your home.
3. Throughout November, have family discussions about what you're thankful to God for. Write or draw each item on a paper strip.
4. Make a paper chain by linking and carefully stapling the strips.
5. Keep adding to your decoration and display it during your Thanksgiving meal.

No Sunday School or Confirmation Class on December 18 & 25 or January 1
Resume on January 8

This Month's Birthdays

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

12/2 Peggy Martin	12/14 Brenna DuFrain	12/23 Allyson Holter
12/6 Casey Hegge	12/15 Rhonda Engebretson	12/25 LeRoy Severson
12/6 Jackie Olsen	12/16 Steve Spawn	12/25 Macie Hoffman
12/11 Pam Olson	12/19 Tom Boltjes	12/27 Allie Huizenga
12/11 Addison Gilbertz	12/20 Olivia Carda	12/29 Blakely Johnson
12/11 Joyce Vanderham	12/22 Karen DeGroot	12/29 Jim Holter
12/13 Harold Pavlis*	12/22 Sarah Timmerman	12/29 Kevin Nelson
12/14 Logan Johnson	12/23 Nicki Nelson	12/29 Chase Lantz
12/14 Chandler Standy	12/23 Mary Ringling	12/30 Vera Osness*

Communion Servers

December 4

Jim Holter
Mike Konechne
Ryan Lantz

Ushers

4—Kevin Nelson & Chris Nelson
11—Kevin Nelson & Chris Nelson
18—Confirmation Students
25—Jay VanDerWerff & Monte Wagner

Coffee & Cookies Servers

4—Laura Vanden Berge, Emily VandenHoek, Sue Vanderboom
11—Joyce VanderHam, Deb VanDerWerff, Kristi Wagner
18—Sunday School
25—No Cookies (Christmas Day)

The Angel Tree is Up!

Thank you for helping give joy to a prisoner's kid this Christmas. It starts with a GIFT and leads to lives transformed through JESUS CHRIST. Please choose a "ANGEL" on the tree and mark down on sheets which one you chose. The recommendation is that the gifts be around \$25.

Return wrapped presents to the library by **Tuesday, December 13th** so we can get them mailed to the children by Christmas. Try to put presents in **smallest box possible** to cut down on postage.

December Mission Fund Offering

If you would like to donate towards the cost of postage to send the Angel Tree presents, **the December mission fund offering will be designated towards this project.** It will be taken on Sunday, December 11th or give to one of the Angel Tree Committee members: Vickie Boltjes, Wendy Wollman or Marla Tegethoff

Join us for Advent Worship

We will continue our **Advent worship services on Monday, December 12 at Twilight Vista and Monday, December 19 at the Platte Care Center, both services at 2 pm.** The services will consist of singing lots of Christmas carols, scripture readings, short message, and Holy Communion. After the service, we will fellowship with residents over coffee and treats provided by the respective facilities. Hope you can join us!

Open House at Parsonage

You are cordially invited to a **Christmas Open House at our home Sunday, December 11th from 1:00 to 5:00 PM.** We will have cookies and assorted Christmas goodies to sample along with coffee and mulled cider. We welcome the chance to let you tour the parsonage and see how we have it decorated for Christmas. Hope to see you there! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Love, Pastor Dave & Peggy





Free movie

THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM

immediately following parade of lights
Saturday, December 3

Please join us Saturday evening, December 3rd, immediately following the Parade of Lights, for a free showing of *The Star of Bethlehem*. This movie does an incredible job of showing how God used the heavens to proclaim the coming of the Messiah. Though the movie is free, in the spirit of the season, we ask each family to bring a non-perishable food item or paper product to donate to the Helping Hands Food Pantry. The movie will be shown in our sanctuary. Hope to see you there!

Confirmation students, if you come with your parents, this movie is worth one set of sermon notes or one service hour—your choice.

We are updating our church directory and will start by gathering photos. Captured by Tammie (Tammie Olson) will be taking photos on **Sunday, Dec 18 @ 9am (before) and after worship service and also Tuesday, Dec 20 @ 3-5 pm** in the Fireside Fellowship room. No appointment time is needed; it will be on a first come first serve basis. Tammie will take the photo for directory at no charge. You may purchase rights to photos from her. Digital and print packages will be available. Ordering can be done online or by print packet. If you recently had family photos done with Tammie, you may submit those to be used in directory rather than taking another. Email those photos to the church office: tlcplattesd@gmail.com. Looking forward to completing this project with your help.



Worship with us



Christmas Eve worship services

To better accommodate our senior citizens and families with young children, we are offering two worship times for Christmas Eve.

December 24 at 3 PM: will feature piano-accompanied worship, with candlelight for the closing two songs and communion.

December 24 at 10:00 PM: will feature worship led by the Praise Team, with candlelight for the closing two songs and communion.

Christmas Day worship service

December 25 at 9:30 AM: gather on Christmas morning for worship. No Communion this service.