

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

300 Broad Street
Menasha, WI 54952

Church Phone: (920) 722-2662 / **School Phone:** (920) 725-1715

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Worship Services:

Saturday – 5:00 pm; Sunday – 9:00 am; Wednesday – 6:30 pm

Education Hour: Sunday - 10:30 am

In Person & Online Worship Service and Education Hour

Trinity's website: www.trinitymenasha.com

Services will continue to be available for live streaming on Trinity's Facebook page, and for later viewing on YouTube. Check the church website for more details.

Important Dates:

January 4: 4:45 PM Basketball @ Saint John, Berlin

January 4: 6:30 PM **Voters Meeting** & Board Meetings

January 8: 9:00 AM Food Pantry

January 11: Circuit Pastors Meeting @ Trinity, Menasha

January 11: 4:15 PM Basketball Celebration, Appleton @ Home

January 11: 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting

January 18: 4:30 PM Basketball @ Trinity, Oshkosh

January 22: 9:00 AM Food Pantry

January 23: 9:00 AM Worship Service-School Sings/Chimes

January 25: 4:30 PM Basketball @ Celebration, Appleton



Thank you to all the people involved in decorating, singing, playing and all the behind-the-scenes activities that helped enhance the Christmas worship experience. Trinity Board of Worship.

Holy Communion

We are once again offering the choice of Common Cup or Individual Cup.



**Check your mailbox for
the 2022 Offering
Envelopes.**

Our Mission Statement:

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Menasha, is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians being empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and His Sacraments to encourage, refresh, and strengthen both adults and children in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, while sharing His love with those who do not yet know their Lord and Savior.



Senior Pastor:

✠ Rev. Steven S. Billings

Assoc. Pastor/Principal:

✠ Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Director of Music:


Mr. Tim Reuning

Organist:

Mrs. Nancy Lephart

January 2022

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 5 pm Worship In-person & Online
2 9 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Study In-Person & Online	3 Pastor's Sabbath 9 am Sewing 6 pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's BS	4 6:30 am Ladies BS 6:30 pm Voters Mtg Board Mtgs	5 8:45 am Chapel 5 pm Catechism 6:30 Worship	6 6 am Men's BS 3:45 pm Basketball Practice 7 pm Choir Practice	7	8 9 am Food Pantry 5 pm Worship In-person & Online
9 9 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Study In-Person & Online	10 Pastor's Sabbath 9 am Sewing 6 pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's BS	11 6:30 am Ladies BS 9 am-12 pm Circuit Pastors Mtg-Trinity Menasha 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting	12 8:45 am Chapel 5 pm Catechism 6:30 Worship	13 6 am Men's BS 3:45 Basketball Practice 7 pm Choir Practice	14	15 5 pm Worship In-person & Online
16 9 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Study In-Person & Online	17 Pastor's Sabbath 9 am Sewing 6 pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's BS	18 6:30 am Ladies BS 6:30 pm Ladies Aid/ LWML Meeting	19 8:45 am Chapel 5 pm Catechism 6:30 Worship	20 6 am Men's BS 3:45 Basketball Practice 7 pm Choir Practice	21	22 9 am Food Pantry 5 pm Worship In-person & Online
23 9 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Study In-Person & Online School Sings/Chimes	24 Pastor's Sabbath 9 am Sewing 6 pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's BS	25 6:30 am Ladies BS	26 8:45 am Chapel 5 pm Catechism 6:30 Worship	27 6 am Men's BS 7 pm Choir Practice	28	29 5 pm Worship In-person & Online
← NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK →						
30 9 am Worship 10:30 am Bible Study In-Person & Online School Sings/Chimes @ Peace in Neenah			Trinity Tigers Basketball Schedule for January Jan. 4: 4:45 pm @ Saint John, Berlin Jan. 11: 4:15 pm Celebration, Appleton @ Home Jan. 18: 4:30 pm @ Trinity, Oshkosh Jan. 25: 4:30 pm @ Celebration, Appleton			

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JANUARY 2022

01/08 LUKASAVAGE, Diane & Robert
 01/11 JOERNDT, David & Mae
 01/12 HURST, Brandon & Angela
 01/20 HAANEN, Carrie & Tom



BIRTHDAYS – JANUARY 2022

01/02 BAEHMAN, Duane
 01/02 LOOKER, Brandon
 01/02 LOOKER, Matthew
 01/03 KROES, Nick
 01/03 PEOTTER, Georgina
 01/03 VOIGT, Myles
 01/04 MEIDAM, Kenneth
 01/06 GROSHEK, Joseph
 01/06 KRAUSE, Judith
 01/09 HENKEL, Blaine
 01/09 HENSON, Sara
 01/10 SEALS SR, Austin
 01/12 BROWN, Finley
 01/12 ELLIOTT, Charlotte
 01/12 VOIGT, Roger
 01/13 NIELSEN, Bart



01/14 TSCHIRGI, Joyce
 01/14 VAN ARK, Tony
 01/14 WOLTER, James
 01/15 BROWN, Riley
 01/16 HERTZIGER, Tammy

01/17 MEIDAM, Helen
 01/17 REUNING, Alexandra
 01/17 ROSIN, Jerry
 01/18 BRADLEY, Randy
 01/19 VANDEN WYNGAARD, Julie
 01/21 GEHRT, Randolph
 01/22 WALDBURGER, Jolene
 01/23 ZACHEK, Matthew
 01/24 MODERSON, Michael
 01/26 KAMPRATH, Ashlee
 01/26 KONWINSKI, Chester
 01/27 BOSS, Cari
 01/27 DANIELS, Cody
 01/29 ROSS, Jean
 01/30 NIELSEN, Ethan
 01/30 RALEIGH, Sharon



✝ Trinity Membership Update ✝

New Members/Transfers In: Scott & Lori Gutzmann, Carolyn Gutzmann,
 Darrell & Vera Krause

Released/Transfers Out:

Baptisms:

Weddings:

Members Who Have Passed:

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. Job 19:25-26



Serving Our Lord with Gladness – January 2022

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings

Associate Pastor/Principal: Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Worship Date/Time	Acolyte	Elder on Duty	Communion Assistant	Usher Captain	Greeter	Altar Guild
Jan. 1: 5:00 pm Jan. 2: 9:00 am Jan. 5: 6:30 pm	Maya Torres Emma Schmidt	Roger Voigt Dave Collingwood	Lee Colby Blaine Henkel	Tom Harrmann Lee Weinig Steve Reinke/Bill Diesch	Kohler/Allen	Jean Zeinert Kari Lindner Jean Zeinert
Jan. 8: 5:00 pm Jan. 9: 9:00 am Jan. 12: 6:30 pm	Mirella Taschner Braelyn Boss	Roger Voigt Dave Collingwood	Ian Thomas Ron Kraus	Jerry Maynard Steve Sexmith Steve Reinke/Bill Diesch	Barb Kester Jane Nielsen	Jean Zeinert Kari Lindner Jean Zeinert
Jan. 15: 5:00 pm Jan. 16: 9:00 am Jan. 19: 6:30 pm	Melani Gast Dylan Kobs	Roger Voigt Dave Collingwood	Dan Siebert Robert Flater	Lee Colby Dave Collingwood Steve Reinke/Bill Diesch	Jean Zeinert Rose Collingwood	Jean Zeinert ---- Jean Zeinert
Jan. 22: 5:00 pm Jan. 23: 9:00 am Jan. 26: 6:30 pm	Donovan Rausch Levi Kroes	Roger Voigt Dave Collingwood	Vance Pues Steve Sexmith	Roger Voigt Jim Wittmann Steve Reinke/Bill Diesch	JoAnn Schultz Barb Sexmith	Jean Zeinert ---- Jean Zeinert
Jan. 29: 5:00 pm Jan. 30: 9:00 am	Maya Torres Emma Schmidt	Roger Voigt Dave Collingwood	Paul Collingwood Blaine Henkel	Tom Harrmann Lee Weinig	Kohler/Allen	Jean Zeinert ----

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Friday – 8:00 am-3:00 pm

Jean Zeinert & Mary Conradt, Church Administrative Assistants

Phone: (920) 722-2662 ext. 201

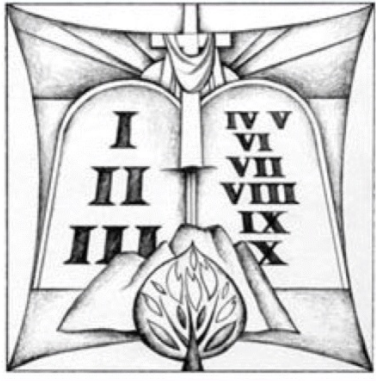
email: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com

Congregational Voter's Meeting

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 6:30pm. We will have a Congregational Voter's Meeting in the Sanctuary and online, for election of Officers and Board Members for 2022. Please call the church office by Noon on Tuesday to reserve a spot for Zoom attendance.

Check Your Mailbox

Please check your mailboxes for the 2022 Offering Envelopes. Thank you!



Catechetical Comments

A Series

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

This month we continue our look at The Close of the Commandments:

What does God say about all these commandments? He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” [Ex. 20: 5–6]

What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

Question 82. *What has original sin done to human nature?*

Original sin

C. causes everyone to commit all kinds of actual sins.

The *Catechism 1991* has posed the question: “What has original sin done to human nature?” And it continues its answer by saying that original sin “causes everyone to commit all kinds of actual sins.”

In support of this it sets forth the following Scripture passages:

Matt. 7:17 – Every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.

Gal. 5:19-21 – The works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these.

What makes an apple tree and apple tree? Is it an apple tree because it bears apples? Or does it bear apples because it is an apple tree? This is hard for some people to grasp. An

apple tree is an apple tree because of its genetics. It is hard-wired to be an apple tree. And it will be an apple tree whether it bears apples or not. Our apple trees produce a large quantity of fruit every other year. On the off year, they produce almost no fruit at all. But they are still apple trees.

What makes a person a sinner? Are we sinners because we sin? Or do we sin because we are sinners?

This, too, is difficult for some people to understand. I once had a bit of a debate with an elder at my vicarage congregation, who could not grasp that we sin because we are sinners, not the other way around.

We are hard-wired to commit sins. It's part of our genetics, passed down from our first ancestors, through every generation that followed, to this very day. I am a sinner because my parents were sinners. I can't help myself. I was born this way. And so were you.

This is why we need a Savior, why Jesus became a human being and bore our sins in His own body to the cross. We could not redeem ourselves. We needed someone else – someone capable, someone qualified – who could carry our sins for us. Thank God for Jesus! ✝

Humbly in His service,
Rev. Steven S. Billings
Senior Pastor



From the School

Colossians 1:15-20

“And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross” (COL. 1:20).

- * Explore this question and develop a list: What is something you do well?
- * Also explore: What is something our church does well? What is something our school does well?
- * Do we do all things well?

With the gifts and abilities that God has given us, we all do some things well. However, there are many things we may not do well.

As we observe National Lutheran Schools Week (January 22-30, 2022), we listen to God’s Word from Colossians Chapter 1, and we celebrate Christ who is in all things and who, as the perfect Son of God and as our Savior, does all things well. The fact that we don’t do all things well is a reminder of our sinful nature. More critical than any skills or assignments that aren’t done well is the fact that we don’t obey God’s Law well. We don’t love God or others well.

Our text takes us to Christ who created all things well only to have His creation rebel against Him. In His grace, He saves well, “reconciling to himself all things.” Jesus fulfilled the Father’s plan perfectly. As the sacrifice was completed, Jesus said, “It is finished!”

The blessings of all that Jesus has done are brought to His children in the church (COL. 1:18). Our worship participation is imperfect, our attention is distracted, and we don’t sing the right notes, but God continues to offer the Means of Grace well. The blessings and promises of Baptism are always present; God’s Word is always true; on the Lord’s Table is always a complete menu of Christ’s body and blood.

In praise and thanks to God, we strive to do all things well. We honor and respect our parents, teachers and others whom God has placed over us, we complete our assignments at home and at school with joy and with our best efforts, we pray trustingly, and we worship faithfully. Seeking to do all things well, we then rely on the grace of God to forgive our weaknesses and failures. We rededicate our efforts individually and as a school to do things well so that God would be glorified and His people served. When our earthly “assignments” are completed and we are blessed in His grace to gather at His throne, we will hear the voice of the One who did all things well, saying to us, “Well done, good and faithful servant” (MATT. 25:21).

Prayer: All Things in Jesus’ Name Jesus, we confess that we do not do all things well. Forgive our many weaknesses and failures. We give thanks that the plan of salvation was completed perfectly for us. We give thanks that through our Baptism You welcome us as Your forgiven children who are now privileged to do things well to praise You, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

School Calendar January 2022

Jan. 3	School Resumes	Jan. 14	2:45 – 3:15 pm Electives 3
Jan. 4	4:14 & 5:15 pm Basketball @ St. John, Berlin	Jan. 17	3:45 – 4:45 pm Chess Club
	6:30 Voter’s & Board Meetings	Jan. 18	4:30 & 5:30 pm Basketball @ Trinity, Oshkosh
Jan. 5	8:45 am Chapel	Jan. 19	8:45 am Chapel
Jan. 6	Epiphany	Jan. 20	3:45 pm Basketball Practice
	3:45 pm Basketball Practice	Jan. 21	End 2nd Quarter
Jan. 7	2:45 – 3:15 pm Electives 3		2:00 pm Heart Challenge
	Popcorn Friday		Popcorn Friday
Jan 10	3:45 – 4:45 pm Chess Club	Jan. 23	School Sings / Chimes Trinity 9am Worship
	3:45 – 5:00 pm Instructional Basketball	Jan. 23 – 30	National Lutheran Schools Week
Jan. 11	4:45 & 5:45 pm Basketball Celebration,	Jan. 25	4:30 & 5:30 pm Basketball @ Celebration,
	Appleton @ Home		Appleton
Jan. 12	8:45 am Chapel	Jan. 28	NO SCHOOL
	3:45 pm Faculty Meeting	Jan. 30	School Sings / Chimes Peace 9am Worship
Jan. 13	3:45 pm Basketball Practice	Jan. 31	5pm Parent Dinner and School Update



Evidenced Based Class Descriptions –Winnebago County

For more information call: Winnebago County Health Department @ 920-232-3006

FALLS PREVENTION CLASSES

Stepping On!

Stepping On! is a falls prevention class that has been proven to reduce falls by 30%. The class meets for 2 hours, once a week for 7 weeks, and is geared toward older adults who have fallen, worry about falling, or are at risk of falling. In this interactive class, participants will learn strength and balance exercises. There are a variety of topics including nutrition, footwear, medication, vision, and safety. The guest speakers include a vision expert, community safety officer, pharmacist and physical therapist.

Strong Bodies

Strong Bodies is researched proven strength training class for men and women middle aged and older. The class meets twice a week for 12 weeks. Research shows that strength training will improve bone density, reduce falls, improve arthritis symptoms, increase flexibility and improve mood and confidence levels.

Tai Chi- Adapted

Tai Chi is a Chinese movement form using breathing with a series of poses, and is proven to reduce the risk of falls. The class meets for 8 sessions. This is a beginner class and the poses can be adapted for people using walkers, canes, or wheelchairs. Participants gain serenity through gentle, flowing poses and movements. Tai Chi has been proven to reduce falls and fear of falling, enhance balance and mobility, and improve stability, strength, and mental health. The poses used in this class are from Tai Chi Fundamentals program.

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Falls Prevention

This class is similar to Tai Chi Adapted, but uses the Sun Style softer poses for people who experience pain. The class is from the international Tai Chi for Health series.

SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is an educational, interactive and support program designed to help family caregivers take care of themselves while caring for a relative or friend. The class meets for 1 ½ hours, once a week for 6 weeks. Participants will benefit from this class whether they are helping a parent, spouse, or friend. Participants will learn how to reduce stress, improve self-confidence, better communicate feelings, increase their ability to make tough decisions, and locate helpful resources.



Evidenced Based Class Descriptions –Winnebago County

CHRONIC CONDITIONS CLASSES

Healthy Living with Diabetes

This workshop is designed to help adults with type 2 diabetes, pre-diabetes or live with someone who has diabetes learn self-management skills and increase their confidence in managing their diabetes. The interactive workshop meets for 2 ½ hours, once a week for six weeks. People who take this workshop learn techniques to deal with the symptoms of diabetes, learn about appropriate exercises, use of medication and healthy eating strategies. This class has been proven to improve health, health behavior, and a sense of confidence in managing diabetes. The class has also been proven to show improvements in blood sugar levels and a decrease in health distress and hypo- and hyperglycemia. Participants also feel more confident in their ability to communicate with physicians, and have fewer doctor and emergency room visits and fewer hospitalizations.

Healthy Living with Chronic Pain

This highly participative class helps individuals, with the support of others, better manage their chronic pain. Classes meet for 2½ hours, once a week for 6 weeks. Class members support each other to build confidence in their ability to manage their pain and maintain active and fulfilling lives. Examples of some topics include stress and relaxation, fatigue management, dealing with difficult emotions, creating individual action plans, appropriate exercise and appropriate use of medication and working with a health care team. Research has shown people who participate in this class have more vitality, less pain, less dependence on others, improved mental health, increase confidence in their ability to manage their chronic pain, and are more involved in everyday activities compared to people who have not taken the class.

Walk With Ease

This interactive class helps people living with arthritis better manage pain and begin an exercise program. It is also ideal for very sedentary people or people who have pain when walking begin an exercise program. The class meets for 1 hour, twice a week for 6 weeks. The class is ideal for people who are concerned they will become injured or have more pain if they begin an exercise program. The class explores the basics of arthritis and the relationship between arthritis, exercise, and pain. Participants will learn how to exercise safely and comfortably, develop a personal walking plan with goals, learn strategies to stay motivated, and learn resources available to continue with exercise and self-management. The class has been proven to reduce pain and discomfort, increase balance, strength, and walking pace, build confidence in one's ability to be physically active, and improve overall health.

Mind Over Matter (MOM)

A program that helps women over 50 build the skills and confidence they need to avoid or improve symptoms of incontinence (bladder and bowel leakage). The interactive class meets for a total of 3 sessions, each lasting 2 hours, every other week for one month. The small group class is led by a trained female facilitator to foster trust & privacy. The class incorporates social interaction, tasteful humor, and fiber-filled snacks. This class has been effective in Improving bladder symptoms for 71% of participants and bowel symptoms for 55%!

Wellness Plus
112 Otter Ave I PO Box 2808
Oshkosh, WI 54903-2808



Hello!

I would like to introduce you to Wellness Plus: Tools for Better Health. Our Coalition's mission is to bring health care professionals, advocates, and the community together to assure evidence based self-management programs for health and wellbeing are available, accessible, and referred to routinely in Winnebago County.

Our programs empower participants to increase self-efficacy with their own health conditions. Each of our programs also focus on social connectedness which enhances the participants' quality of life. Some of our program goals are to prevent falls, manage chronic conditions, empower participants to stay physically active, and provide strategies to family caregivers.

I was hired in 2017 to help coordinate the efforts of Wellness Plus and the delivery of programs throughout Winnebago County. Since the start of the Coalition we have brought Five new programs to our County, trained Six new facilitators to lead programs, and have aided 1,600 participants to a healthier life.

I am reaching out to provide awareness of Wellness Plus. We are always seeking champions to help us continue to bring these high-level classes to the community. There are many ways for you to be involved, here are just a few:

Ways to be Involved

Estimated Commitment

Join the collaboration

Meet bimonthly or quarterly

Train to become a facilitator

After training, agree to facilitate at least one program each year

**Spread the word about these high-level affordable programs
Host a class**

As little or as much as you want
Provide us with a large enough room for 14 people with easy access to bathrooms and parking
Varies

Provide monies for class materials, marketing, facilitator trainings, or healthy snacks

As little or as much as you want

Connect us with other groups who are interested in learning more about evidence-based classes

Thank you for taking the time to review the information provided in this packet. Please let me know of any others who would be interested in our Wellness Plus and I will reach out to them as well. If you would like more info, please contact me.

Warm regards,

Joanne Murphy Spice, M.Ed., BSW
Wellness Plus Programs Coordinator

jmurphyspice@co.winnebago.wi.us | Work: 920-232-3006 | Facebook: Wellness Plus- Tools for Better Health

Recycle Your Empty Pill Bottles!

Do you have empty pill bottles that you would like to donate for re-use? The Hope Clinic in Menasha collects used prescription bottles. The clinic sterilizes the bottles and refills them for their patients. Please drop off any empty pill bottles in the collection pail in the narthex.



Friends of the Pipe Organ & Grand Piano

Soup & Bread Sale is Coming!

January 22 – February 20

Before & After Services



A variety of Soups and Breads will be available. A ready-made meal to warm the day.

Bring in your favorite soup or bread/quick bread to support the maintenance of our Organ & Grand Piano. Jars and instructions will be available in the Narthex in January.

Contact Elaine with any questions (920) 470-9090
(If you have a favorite you'd like us to make - let us know!)

Ladies Aid/LWML January Meeting

January 18, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Small Fellowship Hall

Ladies, come and be part of the decision making on where to put the financial blessings we have received from our Lord through our fundraising efforts and a matching gift.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FINANCIAL REPORT NOVEMBER 2021

	<u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u>	<u>DEPOSITS/INCOME</u>	<u>WITHDRAWALS/EXPENSES</u>	<u>ENDING BALANCE</u>
Nicolet General Fund	\$18,757.86	\$63,131.72	(\$65,194.76)	\$16,694.82
Nicolet Restricted Funds	\$142,620.49	\$4,856.21	(\$1,121.72)	\$146,354.98
LCMS Endowment Fund	\$132,133.52	\$471.10	(\$1,861.74)	\$130,742.88
LCEF Steward Fund	\$878.43	\$8,133.06	(\$7,414.10)	\$1,597.39
Nicolet Money Market	\$50,215.75	\$29,744.62	(\$27,000.00)	\$52,960.37
RBC Account	\$53,930.17	\$3,189.53	(\$140.00)	\$56,979.70
Nicolet Memorial Fund	\$9,164.87	\$300.70	(\$2,186.00)	\$7,279.57
Nicolet Office Acct	\$1,727.38	\$200.01	(\$120.00)	\$1,807.39
Nicolet Debts Repaid	\$5,389.24	\$0.28	(\$2,300.00)	\$3,089.52
Nicolet Think Tank	\$3,182.71	\$0.24	\$0.00	\$3,182.95
Nicolet Scrip	\$15,209.95	\$35,916.51	(\$26,547.27)	\$24,579.19
TOTAL	\$440,075.44	\$145,943.98	(\$133,885.59)	\$452,133.83
 LCEF Mortgage (BOTR)	 \$1,017,720.55		 (7,414.10)	 \$1,013,804.86

\$ SCRIP News \$

SCRIP is sold in the Church/School Office, Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM-3:00 PM, and in the narthex before and after worship services.

How to Order Scrip? Call the office Monday– Friday from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM at (920) 722-2662 or email your order to: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com. They will put it together for you.

Fleet Farm Scrip—get yours now at a special 10 percent discount!

Tom's Drive In Scrip—10 percent rebate!

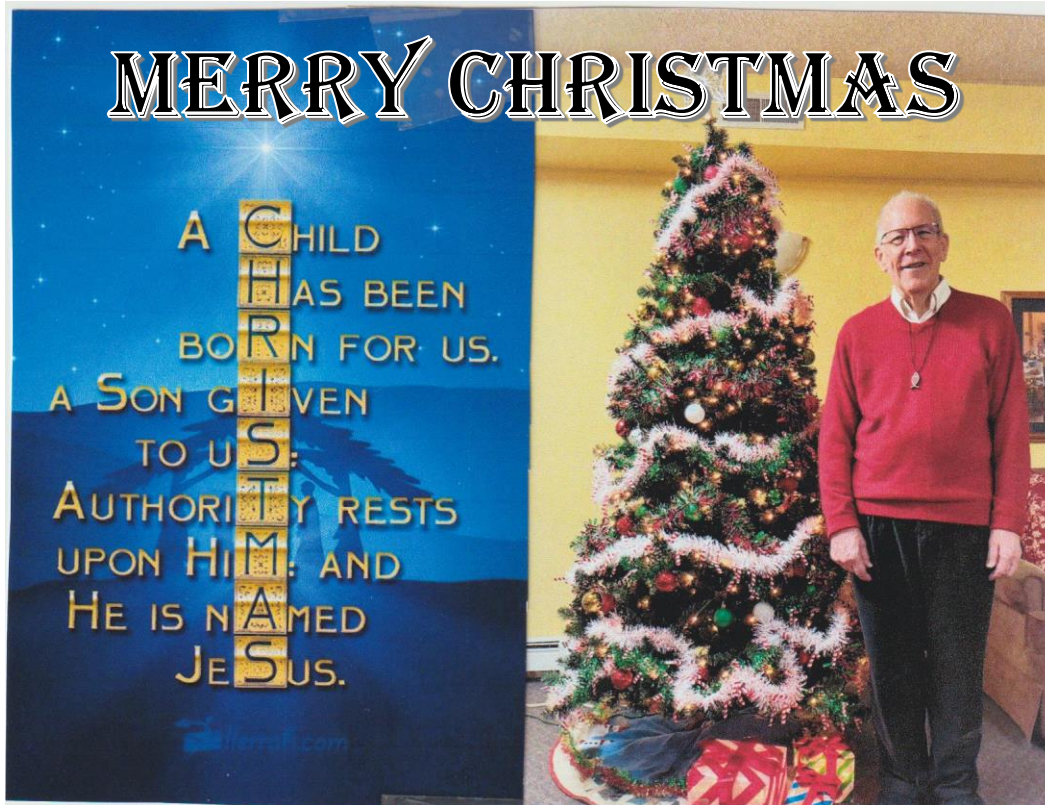
Church Treasurer Needed

Kari Lindner has informed me that she will be stepping down as the Treasurer of Trinity effective January 1, 2022.

I thank Kari for her service as Treasurer, using her time and talents to God's glory.

Kari is willing to train a replacement and help out until a new treasurer is selected.

If you have skills in accounting and feel moved by the Lord to take on this position, please contact Blain Henkel at (920) 729-4445.



I wish everyone a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas. May the Joy, Love and Peace of the season bring comfort to you as you celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus and joyfully look forward to His return to take us to live with Him forever.

This year, because of travel restrictions, I had the opportunity to help with VBS at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School in Delevan, Wisconsin. The theme was "ANCHORED."



The true story of Paul's shipwreck really had the student's interest. The excitement began when they had to carry the cargo on the ship crossing the gangplank and later as the storm grew worse, they had to throw the cargo overboard. Paul told the captain that everyone needed to eat a little as no lives would be lost, all the children were given rice cakes. They also enjoyed the crafts, games and singing.

I look forward to the new year, anticipating and waiting to see how God will lead.

As I close, I once again wish you a Very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

May God fill you with the True Joy of Christmas,

David Pfeifer

209 Grant Street

Apt 213

Elkhorn WI 53121

Phone #920-585-4262

YEAR 2, DECEMBER 2021

CALLED TO GO: KYIV, UKRAINE

*The newsletter of Amanda Groshek
(teaching English, sharing Jesus)*



STAY IN TOUCH:

Email:
amanda.groshek@missionofchrist.org

Blog:
[Called to Go
\(on Wordpress\)](https://calledtogo.wordpress.com)

WISDOM

Journaling in ninth grade E.L.L.

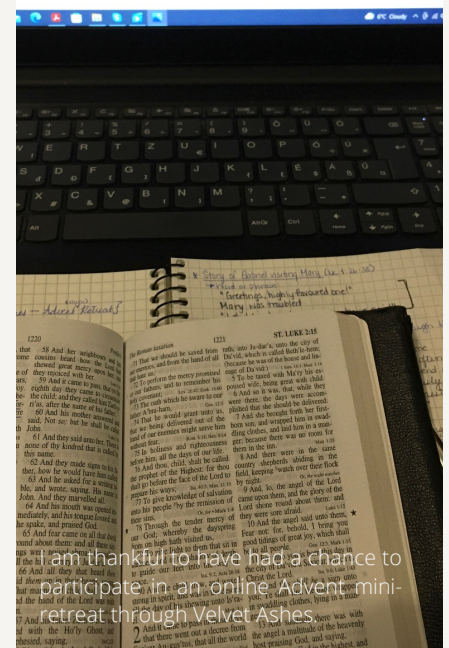
At the start of *most* of the ninth grade ELL classes, there is some sort of journaling activity. The idea behind it being that we only get better at writing by doing it -- a lot. And also that it eases the brain into thinking for the day.

A week or so ago, the prompt was just one word: wisdom.

Students are allowed to write whatever they want about the prompt for the next ten minutes. Afterwards, they can share if they want, but they don't have to if they don't want to. They know that I will read it.

Several talked about the difference between wisdom and knowledge; but a few decided to write about the wisdom of God. Their thoughts and reflections on God's wisdom were beautiful and humbling to read. It is exciting to see how He continues to work in their lives, building them up and encouraging them in their faiths.

Please pray for these students as they continue in their walks with Him.





Christmas chapel with the secondary students

CHRISTMAS AT KCA

Different activities happening at school in preparation for Christmas

Christmas music plays over the PA system in the morning as students are entering the building, usually also being greeted by name by a menagerie of teachers. The lobby area by the entrance is also decorated with a tree, faux-fireplace, presents, stockings, snowmen, etc. There was a competition surrounding door decoration and Bible themes. But it doesn't just look like Christmas is coming at our school, there are also a variety of activities and programmes that go in hand in hand with the holidays and helping others as well.

Student Council organized a Shoebox Project, where students and staff could bring in different items -- soap, toothpaste, washcloths, socks, toys, etc -- for boys or girls and they would get packed into shoeboxes, gift wrapped, and sent to orphans in Eastern Ukraine.

Another teacher has a basket in her classroom where staff and families can leave donated socks, honey or cards with

notes to be sent to Ukrainian troops who are stationed in the Eastern part of the country. Gifts and words to encourage them in these cold, winter days when they might not have a chance to be surrounded by family or loved ones.

There was the Christmas pageant on Saturday -- the Spirit of Christmas -- and have been several Christmas parties and festive activities as well. Many of the high school classes are doing Secret Santa, and it's been fun being the presenter of gifts from the Secret Santa to the recipient. After not being able to have a Christmas programme last year, it was great to be able to attend with parents and siblings yesterday as the joy of the Christmas story is shared through the retelling and singing of carols.

Amidst the busy-ness of December, what wonderful reminders of why we celebrate Christmas: the birth of Jesus, who is the greatest gift of all!



Teachers sang carols at our staff Christmas party on Friday.

Prayer Requests:

- As first semester draws to a close, I am thankful that we were mostly able to be in person this semester. I am thankful for my classes, students, and coworkers. Prayers for students as they have finals next week Mon-Wed.
- Thanksgiving for the gift of Jesus and for all the ways that we are able to share that with the students and families at our school, and ways that our school community is able to reach out and serve the larger community in Ukraine.
- Prayers for good health for everyone and for students as they continue to grow in their faith and as the semester continues





A KISII CHRISTMAS

Venic smiled when I asked her how they celebrate Christmas in Kisii Land.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services are the highlights of the Feast Day.

Christmas Eve service begins around 8pm and goes past midnight. Then, Christmas morning, they gather again around 10am for several hours of singing, preaching and celebration.

When I asked her about Christmas presents, she smiled and said, "We exchange gifts on Boxing Day." (December 26th)

Because the parish pastor has five congregations, not every congregation can have the Sacrament that day. That is why we serve here, to help raise up more qualified pastors!



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email to walter.Steele@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

Meet Deaconess Venic



Deaconess Intern Venic Gasare leading a Youth Seminar

Robyn and I drove to Nyagesha Lutheran Church, in the Kenyan highlands to visit one of my students, now on her deaconess internship. Venic has completed her course work toward a Diploma in Diakonia and is now working within Nyagesha Parish, which includes about five congregations. She is a member of the Kisii Tribe, who live in the high country in the western part of Kenya. Her father, now retired, served for many years as an evangelist in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Kenya (ELCK).

Among her many responsibilities, she works with the youth of the congregations she serves. The day we visited her she was teaching a Youth Seminar on "Responsibilities of Christian Youth." She stressed ways in which they could serve in the church, contributing to the life of their congregations. She also discussed with them how their lifestyle, including speech and dress, communicate to others their commitment to Christ. She wants them to know that they too can tell others about Jesus.

The Kisii people were among the first to respond to the pure teaching of the Gospel as it was taught to them by Lutheran missionaries. The ELCK, in their region, sponsors many primary and secondary schools. While the Kenyan government places teachers into these schools to teach the secular subjects, the Lutheran Church provides the religious instruction and school chaplains. This means that the schools are means by which the saving Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ can be proclaimed, not only to the Lutheran students, but also to all in the community. Venic counsels students in both the primary and secondary schools — (see next page)

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- *For Venic as she finishes her internship and prepares to serve as a commissioned deaconess.*
- *For the Kisii Lutherans, that they continue to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to members of their tribe.*
- *That the Kisii Lutherans continue to reach beyond their own tribe to others with the saving message of the Christ Child, Jesus.*
- *For continued faithful support, as our Lord continues to work through us there at Matongo and beyond.*
- *For our students' safe travels over the Christmas break.*
- *For all of us, that we may have a joyous and edifying celebration of the NATIVITY OF CHRIST JESUS.*
- **BLESSED AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!**

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— especially the girls.

Located between the Nyagesha Congregation and the primary school, the Church has a school which serves handicapped children, those with mental and emotional challenges. Venic is learning how to serve them—providing her with new challenges.

As part of the Deaconess training program at Matongo, the women take Home Economics courses, which provide them with skills to support themselves and their families as they serve the Church and community as deaconess. In the photo below, five deaconess students currently at Matongo displayed their handiwork—clergy stoles they made and embroidered. Upon graduation, each deaconess receives a Singer Treadle Sewing Machine. These machines, which they earn through their hard work are funded by people like you—members of congregations of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Venic will get hers in May.

Thank you for your support of our work as we serve the Lord here in Kenya!



Venic's Pastor with students from the School

Remember, you can help us continue to teach Future church workers here in East Africa by your prayers and financial support at:

lcms.org/givenow/steele

Or at the **world-famous Mission Central**

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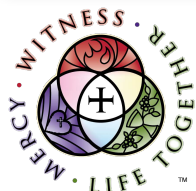
Diaconal Students Displaying their Handiwork

For more information on our work and our progress check out:

Our Website: SteelesInAfrica.com

LCMS page: lcms.org/steele

Or Facebook: Walter Steele



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Walter and Robyn Steele, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Steele/Kenya." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/steele.