



# Trinity

## Lutheran Church

## This May Be Your Last Tidings!

The monthly Tidings is going digital in an effort to be better stewards of the resources of paper, ink, and mailing costs. Starting February 1, if you wish to receive in the mail a printed copy of the newsletter, **you must contact the church office** (by January 18). Printed copies will be available in the Lobby and office if you wish to pick one up personally each month.

If you have not shared an email address, please do that now so that the digital copy of the newsletter and periodic news updates can be shared with you. Please contact the Trinity office [amber@trinity-ec.org](mailto:amber@trinity-ec.org) to provide or update your current email address.



## Adult Study: Embracing Faith

A five session adult learning series is set for Thursday evenings from 6:30–7:30 P.M. beginning January 3. "Embracing an Adult Faith: What it Means to Be a Christian" will use author Marcus Borg's video presentations to lead participants into discussion on the most fundamental questions of Christianity. The series includes study on: God, Jesus, Salvation, Community, and Practice. To register, sign-up at the Information Center in the Lobby today or email [trinity@trinity-ec.org](mailto:trinity@trinity-ec.org). The cost is \$10, and the class is limited to 15 participants. If you're looking for a good introduction to Christian fundamentals or wish to engage in growing your faith through learning and small group study, this class is right for you! For more information, contact Kathy Gjesfeld at [kgjesfeld@hotmail.com](mailto:kgjesfeld@hotmail.com)

## Giving to God: Your Response

Giving to God is a sign of one's spiritual health and an avenue for growing in love for God. Right now, members of Trinity are asked to return your "Giving to God" financial commitment card for 2013. Please make a decision of what you'll give to God through our church next year and return the card this week, or submit it online at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org). If you're not a member but your life is blessed by this congregation, then please join in this act of faithfulness, too! Thank you.

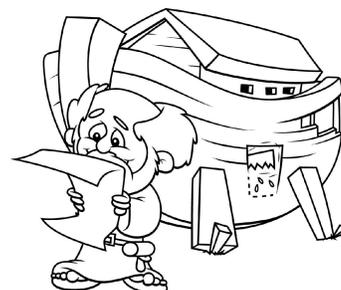
## Noah's Ark Preschool Open House

Come meet the teachers, hear about our wonderful faith based curriculum, and see the classroom where children explore, discover, and meet friends! The Open House will be held on Sunday, January 13, at 10:30 A.M. and on Monday, January 14, at 6:00 P.M. We can't wait to meet YOU!

Registration dates for the 2012–2013 Noah's Ark School Year:

- Tuesday, January 22—Registration begins for currently enrolled preschool children.
- Tuesday, February 5—Registration begins for Trinity Lutheran Church member children.
- Thursday, February 7—Registration begins for siblings of currently enrolled Noah's Ark children and non-member Come & Play/Friday Friends children.
- Tuesday, February 26—Registration opens to the public.

All registrations are accepted on a call-in basis only (715.832.6601) beginning at 8:00 A.M. For more information, visit our website at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org) and click on the Noah's Ark page under the GROW menu or e-mail [noahsark@trinity-ec.org](mailto:noahsark@trinity-ec.org)





## Dear Friends,

Thank you for a great year of 2012. I am filled with gratitude for you and all the people who engaged in praying, supporting, and advancing the mission of Trinity. We grew in several ways, and I'll share more in the Annual Report available on January 27.

One key asset of our church is its youthfulness. From the open and progressive spirit of our senior members who support the investment dedicated to our church's children to a large and growing population of young children, we are a youthful congregation. We are blessed as a church to have the resources available in children and youth, and God is providing us an amazing opportunity to grow a new generation of Christian leaders.

Research shows how essential spiritual guidance is for kids if we desire them to be faithful as adults. Barna Research reveals that the exposure to spiritual training as children and teenagers has remarkable bearing on adulthood. More than 8 out of every 10 adults remembers consistently attending worship and Sunday school before the age of 12. 69% said they attended religious programs weekly.

David Kinnaman, president of Barna Group, says the study provides clarity that the odds of one sticking with faith over a lifetime are enhanced in a positive direction by spiritual activity before the age of 18. And it raises the intriguing possibility that being involved at least a few times a month is correlated with nearly the same sticking power as weekly involvement—especially among teenagers.

Parents, you are key in the shaping of your children for a lifetime of faithfulness. As a church, we all have a role in enhancing the success of the spiritual growth of children. I hope in 2013 you'll resolve to always, every time you're in Trinity's building, seek out a child, greet him or her, and strive to know the names of at least five kids and teens. In doing so, you'll be making a life-long difference and growing the Christian church for coming generations, too!

May God bless your life as the new year unfolds and prosper the lively mission we share together.

Peace be with you.

Pastor Kurt Jacobson



## "Arise, Shine, your Light has come... the Light that shatters the darkness."

You and your family and friends are invited to an Epiphany Candlelight Service on Wednesday evening, January 9, at 6:30 P.M. Prelude music including violins, cello, guitars, flute, saxophone, and piano will begin at 6:15 P.M. Come celebrate the Epiphany season at this service of Light and Hope.

## Baptisms, Babies & Beautiful Photos!

Don't miss the baptism celebration in worship on Sunday, January 13, and Wednesday, January 16, when we look back at photos of the 50 people baptized at Trinity in 2011! We're going to read about Jesus' baptism and see how it has an important message for our lives today. Come to worship and hear again the news of Jesus' baptism and how it applies to your life!

## Annual Congregational Meeting of Trinity

Join us on Sunday, February 3, in the worship center following the 9:45 A.M. worship service for the Annual Congregational Meeting. This constitutionally directed event brings together all confirmed members to hear reports from the staff, review 2012, and act upon the 2013 proposed budget. The 2012 Annual Report will be available on Sunday, January 27.

## Jamaica Bound Silent Auction

On Sunday, January 27, we will have a large variety of items for the young and the young-at-heart including handcrafted items, wonderful wood project items, gift certificates, many services, and much, much more. Donations can be dropped off at the Information Center any Sunday before then or in the office at any time. Contact Kathy Rau with questions either by e-mail [raukamara@aol.com](mailto:raukamara@aol.com) or by phone 715.379.1115.



## New Council to Meet

The Council of Trinity meets for the first time on January 8. The 2013 Council consists of:

- Term 2013: Jan Hildebrandt, John Rush, Tom Savaloja
- Term 2014: Dave Benning, Sharon Bram, Peggy Casper, Nathan Nybrotten, Brandon Thorsness
- Term 2015: Emma Cruciani, Herschel Day, John Moen, Diane Nelson, Kim Passi, Derek Prestin, Rick Rislser
- Appointed: (Treasurer) Jason Boon

## Coming Soon Living the Questions

“Living the Questions” is coming to Trinity starting Thursday, February 7, at 6:00 P.M. for seven weeks. LtQ is a popular video and internet-based small group exploration of progressive Christianity featuring premier religion voices of our day. LtQ is ideal for anyone who wants to take the initial steps in Christian growth or for those who look for greater spiritual formation. “Living the Questions” will help seekers and long-time believers alike discover the significance of Christianity in the 21st Century and what a meaningful faith can look like in today's culture.

Register now by signing up at the Information Center on Sundays or by emailing [trinity@trinity-ec.org](mailto:trinity@trinity-ec.org) The cost is \$10.00 Space is limited to don't wait!



## Men's Book Study

On January 5, the Men of Integrity will begin a book study of Rev. Timothy Keller's book “*Counterfeit Gods.*” In “*Counterfeit Gods,*” Keller applies his trademark approach to show us how a proper understanding of the Bible reveals the unvarnished truth about societal ideals and our own hearts. Cost for the book is \$15. Contact Pastor Jim Page if you would like a book for this study! The Men of Integrity will meet in the Fireside Room at Trinity from 8:00 A.M.–9:00 A.M. on Saturday mornings.

## Trinity Book Club

You're invited to join the Trinity Book Club on Tuesday, January 15, in the Lobby at 6:30 P.M. to discuss “*Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith and Love,*” by Dava Sobel. This book was inspired by a long fascination with Galileo and the surviving letters of his daughter, a cloistered nun. *Galileo's Daughter* presents a portrait of a person hitherto lost to history, described by Galileo as “a woman of exquisite mind, singular goodness, and most tenderly attached to me.”

Please feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not. Talk if you want, or just listen. We hope to see you there!

## One Small Step to Wellness: Where Do You Start?

Do you feel overwhelmed by all of the health messages and advice out there? Or maybe you want to get healthy but don't really know where to begin. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has launched a website dedicated to providing accurate and reliable steps that all of us can use to lead healthier lives. The website address is: <http://smallstep.gov>. If you do not have a computer, I will share a few of the small steps with you: 1) Do sit-ups in front of the TV. 2) Drink water before a meal. 3) Walk instead of drive to work whenever you can. 4) Eat half of your dessert. 5) Avoid food portions larger than your fist.

## Just One Week

Join us in January for “Just One Week.” This is a simple starter way for our congregation to focus on health and wellness. This tool will insert three small healthy practices into the life of our congregation for just one week, the week of January 20 to the 27: centering, physical movement, and healthy eating. Be watching for more information about Just One Week.

## Healthy Meal Ideas!

Are you serious about eating more healthy meals in 2013? Check out these websites for some great meal ideas:

- [cookinglight.com](http://cookinglight.com)
- [cleaneating.com](http://cleaneating.com)
- [eatingwell.com](http://eatingwell.com)
- [freshhealthycooking.com](http://freshhealthycooking.com)
- [foodfit.com](http://foodfit.com)





## Looking for a Pastor

The effort to secure a candidate for the Associate Pastor position of Trinity continues. In November a candidate presented by Bishop Pederson declined an interview. The effort to secure female candidates has been more challenging than anticipated. Thus, at this time, the Call Committee awaits further candidates from the Bishop.

Some people have asked about why only female candidates are being sought at this time. Since 1991 Trinity has had at least one female on the pastoral team (in the 2000's we had two females along with Pastor Kurt for a few years). A gender-diverse team reflects the congregations mix of male and female and offers people choices and diversity that deserve to be continued. Thus, your prayers are very important in asking God to lead pastors to Trinity to consider this position.

At this time, Bishop Pederson has asked the Council to consider increasing to a 1.5 position so that he could forward clergy couples to our committee for consideration. The Council discussed this on December 11 and approved including in the proposed 2013 budget a provision for covering this increased expense. However, they did not endorse moving forward yet. Bishop Pederson will meet with the Council on January 8 to discuss questions and concerns raised in December.

For the time being, an interim pastor is not being considered due to availability of pastors who fit the needs and in hopes that the position will be filled in the coming months. Pastors Kurt and Jim are carrying additional responsibilities. They are being assisted by the Parish Nurse, Director of Visitation Ministries, and other staff who assist in ways that are helpful. But this is not an arrangement that can continue indefinitely without consequences which could impact the vitality of Trinity's ministries and missions. Thus again, your support and prayers are requested.

Complete information about the call process, the Call Committee, and the history of their work thus far is available at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org)

## Moving or Going South?

If you're heading south for the winter, please inform us of your new address. Let us know when you're leaving and how long you'll be away, and we'll be sure to get Trinity mail to you in a timely fashion. Whenever you change address, please let Trinity know! To change your address, contact Amber at [amber@trinity-ec.org](mailto:amber@trinity-ec.org) or 715.832.6601.

The staff extends sincere thanks to all who remembered us during the celebration of Christmas. Your cards and delicious goodies were appreciated. Most of all, your thoughtfulness and support touched us richly. We are grateful to God for calling us to serve this congregation and to experience your friendship and goodwill in so many ways throughout the year. God's blessings to you!



## Scholarship for Seminarian

Trinity established the Pastor Jack and Lois Olson Endowed Scholarship Fund at Luther Seminary in 1990 after his retirement. The fund provides financial support for deserving students with first preference for members of Trinity.

In the past two years, Trinity member Jamie Brieske has received awards from this Fund. She is currently serving a year-long internship at Hope Lutheran Church in Eau Claire.

## New Luther Park Director

The Board of Luther Park Bible Camp has named Keith Newman Executive Ministry Director. He replaces interim director Craig Corbin. Neuman is currently the Executive Director of Bethelwoods Presbytery Camp and Conference Center, York, South Carolina.

Luther Park is located on Prairie Lake near Chetek, WI and is owned by Trinity and 130 other ELCA congregations in NW Wisconsin. Learn more at [lutherpark.org](http://lutherpark.org)

## Inviting You to Italy

Trinity friends are going to Rome and Tuscany September 17–26, 2013, and you and your friends are invited on this special journey. We'll visit Vatican City, charming towns, magnificent monuments, and more. Trip brochures are available in the lobby information rack. For more information, contact Joan Lorenz at [joan@higginstravel.com](mailto:joan@higginstravel.com) or Pastor Kurt Jacobson at [kurt@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kurt@trinity-ec.org)

## Usher in 2013

If you worship at 8:15 A.M., we really need YOU to join an usher team! Teams consist of 8–12 people and serve for a month of Sundays alternating throughout the year. No experience is necessary. Excellent team captains will orient you, and you'll help provide hospitality and service to your church. Sign-up at Clipboard Central to be on an 8:15 A.M. usher team for 2013, and we'll contact you with additional information.



## Worried About Taxes?

The US Congress continues to wrestle with taxation, and the return of an estate tax raises the attention of many looking to the future. "Estate Planning Smarts" author Deborah Jacobs says, "Giving is the simplest estate-planning technique." Every dollar you give away to charity now saves on estate taxes and you'll get a break on your income tax while getting a sense of satisfaction."

## New Year Resolution Ideas

While you're making a new year resolution, do two more things! Pick up free devotional booklets in the information rack in the lobby and resolve to make devotions part of every day next year. There are two booklets, so take both! Large-print copies available, too. Then, be sure you've made a financial commitment to God. Offerings to Trinity are really offerings to God! Commitment cards are available in the information rack. You may do this online at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org) Giving page.

## We Shared Abundantly this Christmas

Thanks to all who shared the spirit of generosity and love this Christmas. Because of your generosity, we were able to distribute toys, jackets, snowpants, clothing, household products, and food to 28 families in the community. This annual Christmas Sharing Project addresses needs of families with school-age children who have been identified by local school counselors as well as the county jail chaplain. Thank you to all who helped by purchasing gifts and food, by donating money, and by sorting and delivering the items to the families. The quantity of care and the expression of love that goes out into our community and the lives of these families by this sharing is unbounded. Trinity makes a difference in people's lives, and you have a part in that mission. Thank you for your generosity.

## Global Missions: Building Benefits Kids

Trinity is dedicated to global missions that make tangible God's love in Christ. This month a team of men will be in Jamaica January 24–29 beginning the first phase of a second building for Jabneh Christian Academy in Savanna La Mar. Last winter we completed a 20' x 60' classroom building for this school that enrolls 80 children ages 3–14. It's part of the ministry of Marantha Church, and Trinity's had a long relationship with Marantha in Jamaica.

Will you help us build phase one? We need to raise \$3,000 for this project. Consider sponsoring a window, door, piece of wall, or roof in this 20' x 40' building.

Pick up a sponsorship slip in the Lobby of Trinity on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. Your donation will purchase materials—the men pay their own expenses and also contribute toward materials. For more information about Trinity's Global Missions, visit [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org) or email [kurt@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kurt@trinity-ec.org)



## Thank you!

As we reflect on Trinity's many outreach ministries this year, Trinity's Social Concerns Committee and the Food Pantry Board wish to thank you, the members of Trinity, and our compassionate and generous volunteers for your time, your donations, and your prayers. Together we have served in Christ's love to address many needs in our community.

Thank you also to the following businesses and organizations that have generously blessed us with their financial gifts which have supported the Trinity Food Pantry, the Shoe Project, and Friends of Flynn:

- Arnold & Lois Domer Fund
- Bethesda Lutheran Brethren Church
- Bethlehem Lutheran, Altoona
- Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of America
- Buckets for Hunger
- Charley's Market
- Dick & Marlene Cable Family Fund
- Dickey's Barbeque Pit
- Eau Claire Area School District Custodian's Union, AFSME– Local 560
- Eau Claire Community Foundation
- Eau Claire Kmart
- Feed My People Food Pantry
- Festival Foods
- Finnegan's Community Fund
- Gordy's
- Hope Methodist
- Kwik Trip
- Life Touch
- Panera Bread
- Regis Builders Club
- South Builders Club
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans



## 25 YEARS of the ELCA

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. We are a church rooted in Scripture, tradition, the Lutheran Confessions, and the rich histories of our congregations. It is through God's grace that we are made new day by day to proclaim Jesus Christ and boldly participate in God's work. As Luther said, this faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing.

As we celebrate our 25th anniversary, we get to look back at the people and events that have shaped us as a church. We celebrate the stories that have made us vibrant and distinctive yet brought us together as nearly 10,000 congregations, 65 synods, and numerous churchwide ministries freed in Christ to love and serve neighbors in our communities, our country, and around the world.

What God has done through us is indeed worth celebrating. In 25 years, we have:

- Started 435 new congregations.
- Ordained nearly 8,000 pastors.
- Sent more than 2,000 missionaries to serve around the world.
- Contributed more than \$350 million toward the alleviation of hunger and poverty.

The year of our 25th anniversary begins January 1, 2013, with the theme "Always being made new." I invite you to join me in celebrating these 25 years together in Christ.

In 2 Corinthians 5:17 Paul writes, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"

In Jesus Christ we are not unchanged. It is through our willingness as a church to boldly participate in God's work in the world that we are made new day by day. I am grateful for your leadership, support, and prayers in making the work of this church possible.

Thanks be to God!

In God's grace,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson  
 Presiding Bishop  
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## Circle Study

### Deborah

Thursday, January 17, 9:30 A.M.

Trinity

Hostess: Nancee Burbank

Leader: Carol Bartingale

### Dorcas

Wednesday, January 16, 1:00 P.M.,

Trinity

Hostess: Elaine Lonning

Leader: Group

### Martha/Mary

Tuesday, January 15, 7:00 P.M.

Trinity

Hostess: Marilyn Johnson

Leader: Vila Nygaard

### Miriam

Wednesday, January 16, 9:30 A.M.

Trinity

Hostess: Shirley Anderson

Leader: Group

### Ruth

Wednesday, 1:30 P.M.

Hostess:

Leader:

### Sarah

Wednesday, , 9:30 A.M.

Hostess:

Leader:

## In The Mail!

*Thank You Notes from Christmas Sharing Project Recipients!*

From Tara & Tom,

Thank you to all at Trinity Lutheran who helped our family this holiday season.

This will not go forgotten. Merry Christmas.

From Kim and Family,

Merry Christmas and Best wishes for a Happy New Year. Thank you.



# A Flurry of Good Reading in Our Library



## For Adults

- *Raising Wise Children* by Mark Matlock. The author explores such issues as: understanding the nature of biblical wisdom; helping children make wise decisions; identifying and strengthening marks of a wise person in your child; and much more. (306.874)
- *Homer's Odyssey* by Gwen Cooper. A book for animal lovers. This is a fearless feline tale of learning about love and life with a blind wonder cat. (FIC C00)
- *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power* by John Meacham. In his newest book, Meacham presents Jefferson as the most successful political leader of the early republic. The Jefferson story resonates today not least because he led his nation through ferocious partisanship and cultural warfare amid economic change and external threats. (B MEA)
- *Flight Behavior* by Barbara Kingsolver. This book is the latest work of the award winning author, Barbara Kingsolver. Come in and check it out—look for her other works as well. (FIC KIN)

## For Young People

- Three books by Newberry winner Christopher Paul Curtis: *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963*; *Bud, Not Buddy*; and *The Mighty Miss Malone*. (+FIC CUR)
- *Bless This Mouse* by Lois Lowry. In this book, the reader will meet the mice of St. Bartholemew's Church. The story gets exciting when a ceremony called the Blessing of the Animals is fast approaching, and Saint Bartholemew's will soon be filled with pets ... including cats! (+ FIC LOW)
- *A Dog on His Own* by Mary Jane Auch. This is sure to please dog-loving kids. (+FIC AUC)
- *The Day Roy Riegels Ran the Wrong Way* by Dan Gutman. This is based on the true story of Roy Riegels, a center for the California Golden Bears, whose wrong-way run cost his football team the Rose Bowl. (+FIC GUT)
- *Henry Aaron's Dream* by Matt Tavares. This captivating biography of Henry Aaron's young life—from his sandlot days through his time with the Eau Claire Bears to the day he played his first spring-training game for the Braves—is an inspiring homage to one of baseball's all-time greats. (+ B TAV)

## Children's Books

- *Little Sweet Potato* by Amy Beth Bloom. (++) FIC BLO)
- *Extra Yarn* by Mac Barnett (+ FIC BAR)

## Does Having Children Make Parents More Active Churchgoers?

How does having a child change a parent's level of church involvement? This question was explored in a new research study conducted by the Barna Group in partnership with Orange, a division of the Think Group. The nationwide study conducted among nearly 700 parents of children under the age of 18 asked respondents to describe how having children affected their connection to a church or faith community.

- No influence. The largest share of parents (50%) reported that having children did not influence their connection to a church. This perspective was most common among parents in the Northeast and West as well as among college graduates. Among atheists and agnostics, nine out of 10 said that becoming a parent had no influence on their connection to a faith community. The same was true among nearly seven out of 10 adults associated with a faith other than Christianity. However, among parents who are Christian, a notably smaller share (47%) said that the presence of children was unrelated to their church life.
- Reconnected. About one-sixth of parents (17%) said that having a child helped them reconnect with church after a long period of not attending. Lower income homes were more likely than average to offer this assessment. Hispanic parents were also likely to describe their parenting path in this way.
- Less active. Overall, 4% of parents said that having children actually decreased their involvement with a church. This was most common among parents who are single and never married as well as Asians.
- New commitment. Parenthood rarely sparks brand-new experiences of faith for people: only one out of every 20 parents (5%) said that having children helped them become active in a church for the first time. Midwest parents were among the most likely to express this view, as were Catholics and Hispanics.



# Children's Ministries

## Open Gym Tuesdays

Beginning on Tuesday, January 8, from 10:00–11:30 A.M., the Trinity Room will be open for parents/grandparents and their young children (toddlers–preschool) to come in and use our equipment in a large safe space. Marlee Knickerbocker will supervise the area and offer a story time and snack during the last half hour. There is a \$3 charge for each child at each session; \$5 for two children from the same family, and \$7 for three. No registration is required; however, please email or call Mary Schoenknecht to indicate your interest at [marys@trinity-ec.org](mailto:marys@trinity-ec.org) or 715.832.6601. Members, friends of members, and non members are welcome to attend.

*Winter/Spring Day Camps have openings! To register call Mary Schoenknecht for registration information at 715.832.6601*

## Camp Come and Play Semester 2

• For children with birthdays between 9.1.2009 and 8.31.2010. We meet on Wednesdays from 12:15–2:15 P.M. for 19 class periods beginning January 2. The cost is \$250 which includes snacks and supplies for activities and can be paid in installments.

**Music & Movement Mondays** • For children ages one through three. We meet from 9:15–10:00 A.M. beginning January 7 for 16 class periods (Please note: we do not meet on January 28, February 18, or March 25). The cost of \$113 includes cost of supplies/equipment and may be paid in installments.

**The Great Pretenders** • For children who are four by 12.31.12. We meet from 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Tuesdays beginning January 8 for 17 class periods (Please note: we do not meet on February 19 or March 26). The cost of \$218 includes cost of supplies and snacks. Fees may be paid in installments.

**Thrilling Thursdays** • For children who are four by 12.31.12. We meet from 9:00–11:00 A.M. OR 1:00–3:00 P.M. on Thursdays beginning January 10 for 18 class periods (Please note: we do not meet on March 28). The cost of \$230 includes cost of supplies and snacks. Fees may be paid in installments.



# Noah's Ark News

Happy New Year! Can it really be 2013! The days and years are flying by.

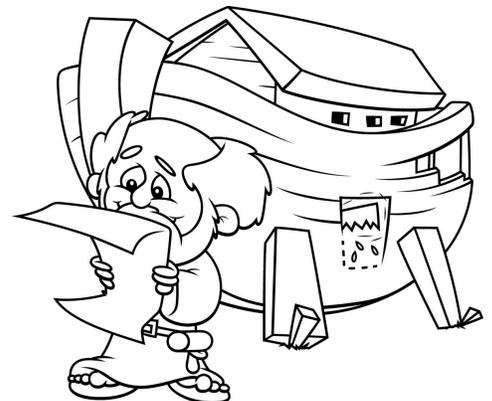
It was a blessed Advent and a very Merry Christmas on the "Ark." The Noah's Ark children are still singing their 2012 Christmas Party Program songs. Maybe you were there and heard "The Story." It was amazing! We plan on reviewing the whole story with a live Nativity in our classroom when we return to school after vacation! It's such a special memory.

The NEW YEAR brings a special event soon after school resumes on Wednesday, January 2. The Noah's Ark 2013–2014 Open House is on Sunday, January 13, at 10:30 a.m. and on Monday, January 14, at 6:00 P.M.

There are 2013–2014 Noah's Ark Preschool brochures in kiosks around the building. They will also be available in Sunday bulletins. Take one to a friend, and tell them about our preschool. We are a great place to be! Registration will open to the Trinity congregation on Tuesday, February 5, at 8:00 A.M. Call the church at 715.832.6601. I'll be answering the phone, and I can't wait to hear from you. If you have questions before that, please call or stop by our Open House! All other registration dates are in the 2013–2014 Noah's Ark brochure. You can't miss it; it's bright blue!

Hugs to you all...and may you find Peace in 2013!

Jeanne Cooper, Preschool Director





# YOUTH MINISTRIES

## Youth Dates to Remember

### Wednesday, January 2

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 9 in the Trinity Room from 7:00–8:30 P.M.

### Sunday, January 6

- Club 78 Teen Study in the Trinity Room from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- High School Youth Group in the Youth Room from 7:00–8:00 P.M.

### Wednesday, January 9

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.
- High School Book Study in the Fireside Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.

### Sunday, January 13

- Club 78 Teen Study in the Trinity Room from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- High School Youth Group in the Youth Room from 7:00–8:00 P.M.

### Wednesday, January 16

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 9 in the Trinity Room from 7:00–8:30 P.M.

### Sunday, January 20

- Club 78 Teen Study in the Trinity Room from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- High School Youth Group in the Youth Room from 7:00–8:00 P.M.

### Wednesday, January 23

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 in the Trinity Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.
- High School Book Study in the Fireside Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.

### Sunday, January 27

- Club 78 Teen Study in the Trinity Room from 10:35–11:05 A.M.
- High School Youth Group in the Youth Room from 7:00–8:00 P.M.

### Wednesday, January 30

- CrossWord Rehearsal in the Worship Center at 5:30 P.M.
- Club 78 and Cub 9 in the Trinity Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.
- High School Book Study in the Fireside Room from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M.



## Friends of Flynn

Wednesday, January 16, from 4:00–5:15 P.M. is an opportunity for youth to pack weekend meals for students at Flynn Elementary School. We will meet at Feed My People Food Bank, 2610 Alpine Road, on Eau Claire's west side. Check the Tool Bench for the sign up sheet.

## Donuts Fundraiser

Sign up at the Tool Bench to participate in the Donut Fundraiser on Sunday mornings. This fundraiser allows youth to earn money for their student account. These funds are then available to put towards Trinity sponsored events, retreats, and summer trips.

## High School Youth Group

Trinity's High School Youth Group will regroup in the new year on Sunday, January 6, from 7:00–8:00 P.M. in the Youth Room. Pastor Jim will help us kick off the new year as our guest speaker. Do you have any questions you would like to ask Pastor Jim?

## High School Book Study

High School Students have an opportunity to nurture their faith through a three week book study on **W e d n e s d a y s**, January 9, 23, and 30 from 7:15–8:30 P.M. in the Fireside Room. We will use the book "Walk out of Worry: Choosing God's Path to Peace." Learn how to identify worry and where it comes from, how to be free from anxiety, and how to put trust in God. Email Cassie by January 6 at [cassie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cassie@trinity-ec.org) to sign up.



## Community Table

Food is a basic need of humankind, and it is our privilege to serve those who go without! We will be serving a meal to those in our community at the Community Table on Friday, January 25, from 4:30–7:00 P.M. Both students and parents are needed to provide this service to the community. A sign up sheet is available at the Tool Bench.





## African Church Marks 30 Years

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi marks three decades. Trinity is partnered with the Blantyre parish in southern Malawi. The ELCM main church is in the capital city of Lilongwe where Bishop Bvumbwe resides. We have received the following news release from the ELCM:



Bishop Dr Joseph P Bvumbwe encouraged members of Lilongwe Cathedral congregation of Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi (ELCM) to work very hard for the church to grow.

Bishop Bvumbwe made this encouragement during 30th anniversary celebration of the congregation. Speaking during the celebration the Bishop, who was the guest of honour, said that the establishment of ELCM was not easy as it faced difficult challenges.

*"Reaching this date was not a joke. Many challenges have been faced but, by the grace of God, the road has been completed. The 30th anniversary celebration is for all of us members of the congregation whether someone started long time ago or yesterday,"* said Bishop Joseph Bvumbwe in his speech.

The Bishop urged the congregants to start a new life as the celebration marked the beginning to another level of unity among members and also reminded them that being 30 years of the church's existence in the country is the sign of growth.

*"No doubt there must be difficulties amongst us, but this celebration must remind us so that our congregation grows more stronger. If you start with sleeping on a mat in your house and you think is a problem you will not grow. But if you think is a challenge you will grow,"* explained the Bishop.

He, however, encouraged the youth to execute their talents towards the development of the church since the church depends on them.

On behalf of Cathedral, Mr George Maduka, the chairman of the celebration organizing committee and the newly elected member of Lilongwe congregation council, said that Bishop Bvumbwe is a committed leader and the congregation was proud for his presence at the function.

*"I thank the Bishop for allowing us to have this celebration. I know he is busy, but his attendance to this event is a blessing to us. We always enjoy his company and commitment."* explained Mr Maduka.

Lilongwe is the first congregation of ELCM which started on 21 November 1982. The celebration, which took place on 9 December 2012, marked the beginning of August 2013 ELCM national celebration.

## After-Hours Pastoral Care

The Trinity pastors work in cooperation with the Parish Nurse, the Director of Visitation Ministries, and area chaplains at hospitals and other care facilities to provide for Trinity members when an unexpected health event happens. In the rare occasion that this comes into your life during the night time or weekend, please know the Trinity pastors are ready to respond when you phone them directly using the numbers listed on the back cover of this newsletter. Please keep it handy or mark it in a permanent place in your home. When such events happen and you or your family member is being treated in a hospital or care facility, the staff there will respond to your request to contact a pastor. Don't hesitate to ask.

## Giving Online

Enjoy the easy access of charitable giving with our online method at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org) Automatic contributions are available



from your checking account, savings account, or from your credit or debit card. You may also submit your 2013 pledge online. For assistance, please contact Amber Moltzau at 715.832.6601 or [amber@trinity-ec.org](mailto:amber@trinity-ec.org)

## Friendship Group

Join us on Wednesday, January 9, at 10:00 A.M. in the Trinity Room.



## Received November 2012 Memorials & Gifts

### Porch Planters Fund

- † In honor of Audrey & Morris Brumberg: Susan Brumberg Schaefer, Morris & Audrey Brumberg

### Children's Bible Fund

- † In memory of Jerry Roach: Roger & Phyllis Burrows, Pam Burrows
- † In memory of Kjerstie Brynn Pressler: Mike & Dori Ritland
- † In memory of Marti Nelson: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- † In memory of Donna Selin: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

### Memorial Fund

- † In memory of Eleanor Larson: Carl & Lorraine Higgins
- † In memory of Howard Bullock: Carl & Lorraine Higgins, Arnold Talford

### Food Pantry Fund

- † In memory of Jerry Roach: David & Jeanette Suchla
- † In memory of Donna Selin: Ronald & Marilyn Thompson
- † In honor of their grandchildren: Ronald & Marilyn Thompson
- † In honor of Suzanne Becker: Jim & Connie Beck
- † In memory of Dale Buchholz: Nona Buchholz
- † In memory of Jane Hathaway: Tom & Sheila Zahorik
- † In honor of Leatrice Solberg: Tom & Sheila Zahorik

### Piano Fund

- † In memory of Dale Buchholz: Donald & Yvonne Buchholz
- † In honor of John Ayres, Jim Ayres, Jeff Ayres, and Jayne Bachler: Ann Ayres
- † In memory of Kjerstie Pressler: Brian & Kristin Pressler
- † In honor of Britta Pressler and Bjorn Pressler: Brian & Kristin Pressler

### Endowment Trust Fund

- † In memory of Marti Nelson: Ron Retzlaff

### Health Ministry Fund

- † In memory of Evalee Kunkel: Jackie Krumenauer

### Youth Ministry Fund

- † In memory of Marian Dingman: Jeanne Cooper, Steve & Anne Josephson

### Friends of Flynn Fund

- † In memory of Jane Hathaway: Kirsten Alvarez & Dean Van Amber

### Harmony in Spirit Fund

- † In memory of Marti Nelson: Peter & Rita VanStelle

### Trinity Choir Fund

- † In memory of Marti Nelson: Gary & Mary Rambo

### Mortgage Fund

- † In memory of Donna Selin: Roger & Phyllis Burrows

## Giving Gifts

Christmas has come and gone; gifts have been given and received. A new year begins, but it is never too late to give these eight gifts that don't cost a cent:

- the gift of listening,
- the gift of affection (hugs, kisses, pats on the back, and handholds),
- the gift of a written note to thank someone for help or to affirm how wonderful they are,
- the gift of a sincere compliment,
- the gift of a favor (do something kind for someone else),
- the gift of solitude (allowing a family member to be by themselves when they ask to do so),
- the gift of a cheerful disposition,
- the gift of a smile which is always contagious and appreciated by all!

In fact, these gifts will help build respect and empowerment for all who dare to give them away.

Marti Hofer, Parish Nurse

Healthful Hints, The Church Health Center

# "Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News"

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1314 East Lexington Blvd, Eau Claire WI 54701

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Phone: (715) 832.6601 • Fax: (715) 832.6700 • E-mail: [trinity@trinity-ec.org](mailto:trinity@trinity-ec.org) • Web Page: [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org)

## Ministers

People of Trinity

## Congregational President

George McLeod

## Pastors

Kurt M. Jacobson  
715.832.9726  
[kurt@trinity-ec.org](mailto:kurt@trinity-ec.org)

Jim Page  
715.834.7092  
[jim@trinity-ec.org](mailto:jim@trinity-ec.org)

## Building & Grounds

Don Peterson  
Melissa Buchli

## Nursery Attendant

Elizabeth Meyer

## Ministry Support

Gail Brian  
Financial Ministry Assistant  
[gail@trinity-ec.org](mailto:gail@trinity-ec.org)

Amber Moltzau  
Office Administrator  
[amber@trinity-ec.org](mailto:amber@trinity-ec.org)

Sharry Hebert  
Food Pantry Coordinator  
[sharry@trinity-ec.org](mailto:sharry@trinity-ec.org)

Cindy S. Beck  
IT/Ministry Assistant  
[cindy@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cindy@trinity-ec.org)

## Noah's Ark Pre-School Teachers & Day Camp Leaders

Ginny Lien  
Jill Kasmarek  
Marlee Knickerbocker  
[ginny@trinity-ec.org](mailto:ginny@trinity-ec.org)  
[jkasmarek@att.net](mailto:jkasmarek@att.net)  
[jknick6054@aol.com](mailto:jknick6054@aol.com)

## Choir Directors

Gary Rambo—Trinity Choir  
Jeanne Cooper—God's Little Singers  
Shirley Sands—Totally Joyous Christians, Children's Choir,  
Harmony in Spirit  
Ryan Poquette—Trinity Tollers  
Kris Pressler—Worship Music Leader  
Brian Pressler—Worship Music Leader

## Missions

Maranatha Church in Kingston, Jamaica  
Blantyre Lutheran Parish in Malawi, Africa  
Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

## Seminary Student

Jamie Brieske—Luther Seminary

## Ministry Directors

Mary B. Schoenknecht  
Children's Ministries  
[marys@trinity-ec.org](mailto:marys@trinity-ec.org)

Jeanne Cooper  
Noah's Ark Preschool  
[noahsark@trinity-ec.org](mailto:noahsark@trinity-ec.org)

Shirley Sands  
Worship & Music  
[shirley@trinity-ec.org](mailto:shirley@trinity-ec.org)

Marti Hofer R.N.  
Parish Nurse  
[marti@trinity-ec.org](mailto:marti@trinity-ec.org)

Pat Garber  
Visitation Ministry  
[pat@trinity-ec.org](mailto:pat@trinity-ec.org)

## Youth Ministry Leadership Team

Lisa Goetz  
Youth Ministry Assistant  
[lisa@trinity-ec.org](mailto:lisa@trinity-ec.org)

Anne Josephson  
Club 78 Coordinator  
[anne@trinity-ec.org](mailto:anne@trinity-ec.org)

Cassie Brenden  
Club 9 Coordinator  
[cassie@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cassie@trinity-ec.org)

- 
- Please submit all articles for the Tidings electronically in MS Word, WordPerfect format, or in the body of an email. Submit to: [cindy@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cindy@trinity-ec.org)
  - All submissions must be your own work. Any copyrighted material (code, images, or otherwise) must include written permission from the original source.
  - Deadline for the February Newsletter is January 22.