



The Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church
217 Brackenridge SW, Sleepy Eye, MN

Web: www.trinitysleepyeye.org

Vol. 56

January 2024

No. 1

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Mon—Thurs
9am—3pm

STAFF

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Grant Fischer
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Darlene
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507 276-8013
secretary@trinity
sleepyeye.org

*Financial
Secretary*
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music@trinity
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Pat Lowther

In This Issue

Articles....	
Pastor Grant....	2
Tidings News...	3
Family...	4-5
Notices	6
Stewardship...	7
This and That.....	8
Parish Report.....	9
Worship Assistants....	10
Calendar.....	11

“Meals that Matter” are
available downstairs.



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship 9:00 am
Fellowship Hour 10:15 am
Trinity Church School 6:30 pm Wednesdays



Trinity's Mission Statement

We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome, nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.



*My faithfulness
and steadfast love
shall be with him,
and in my name
his horn shall
be exalted.*

Psalm 89:24



From Interim Pastor Grant...

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For our slight, momentary affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen, for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Interim times for congregation are anxiety producing events. There are always questions: “When can we expect the next pastor?” “What’s the Call Committee doing?” “Is the Transition Time finished with the Mission Site Profile?” and the list could go on.

Trinity is only in the first quarter of this interim time and yes I have already heard some of these questions. The leadership of Trinity has decided not to rush through this interim, feeling that maybe in the past there was too much of a rush to call a new pastor. I applaud the leadership for their decision. But that does not mean nothing is happening.

In the new year a Transition Team will be formed to examine the focus and direction of Trinity’s ministry. Every congregations goes through cycles decline and renewal, so it is important to examine where Trinity is at now and where it wants to go in the future with new pastoral leadership. A part of this examination will include a clearer pastoral ministry description. Every pastor has developed their own way of doing ministry and sometimes that doesn’t always fit the needs or the expectations of a particular congregation. So it healthier to have that discussion before misunderstandings happen. There will also be a discussion on the leadership structure and how that impacts the direction and focus of Trinity’s mission and ministry. A new generation of leaders are stepping forward to serve so it is important to hear their voices and learn how best to direct their energy and support their direction for ministry. The question being, “Is Trinity’s present leadership structure working as it once has or as it needs to in today’s reality?”

We have all kinds of open questions to resolve, so keep praying for Trinity’s leadership as we move forward into a new year and don’t lose hope, God’s own Spirit will lead Trinity into a new future of service in Jesus name.

Interim Pastor
Grant Fischer





Due to postal changes, Trinity Tidings will no longer be mass mailed. There will be copies in the Narthex which can be picked up and they will be emailed to all whom Trinity has current email addresses. Our homebound members will continue to have a smaller copy mailed to them. If you do not have email, please let Darlene know and you will receive a copy as well. Thank you for your understanding in this change.



Children, Youth *and* Family



Trinity Wednesday Church School

We have begun Trinity Church School on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30! Our students will be following the Sunday School Curriculum at the evening classes. This change has been made after asking our parents if this change would help with busy children's activities. Please join us!

Our Church School students will begin again January 10th! Please watch for notices!

Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. January 10th they will be Packing food and tying blankets at Mark Thomas!



Confirmation

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Coordinator
Trinity Lutheran Church
Sleepy Eye, MN
507 794-5051

Job Description

Trinity Lutheran Church is a welcoming church focused on evangelism and mission in the community of Sleepy Eye and beyond. As a welcoming and nurturing church, we are shaped by prayer, worship, scripture and the Holy Spirit, where everyone's gifts are valued, where people's spiritual needs are met, and God's love with the world is shared.

Position: Faith Formation Youth Ministry Coordinator (Part-time)

Summary of Position: Faith Formation Youth Ministry Coordinator oversees and directs Christian Education for the youth and children's ministries, and manages the development and growth of the Christian Education and Youth programs while building relationships with families and their children.

Supervision: Christian Education Board and Board of Young People's Work

Supported by: Senior Pastor, Personnel Committee other church staff and members of Trinity Lutheran Church

15 hours per week which are flexible to meet the needs of the church based on planned activities and evenings and weekends required as needed. Compensation: \$16/hr

Further information and Application are on our website www.trinitysleepyeye.org under About Us/ Employment or in the Church office.

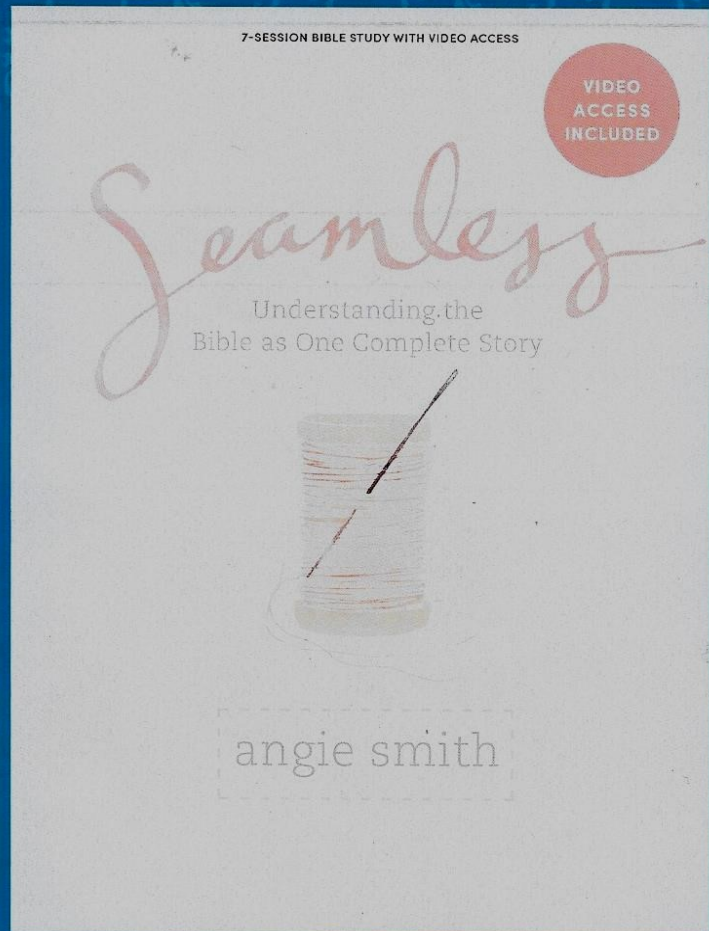
Youth Board Update

Since September 6th, our confirmation class (consisting of 23 7th-9th graders, four small group guides, two teachers and Pastor Grant) has met 13 times. We have gone on four service or experience nights including our most recent when we caroled at the Care Center and Countryside. These special nights have meant a lot to our group- practicing being the HANDS of Jesus- and we look forward to our next two service nights in the new year. Topics for our class nights began with Martin Luther and the Reformation, and we spent the last five class periods on the Small Catechism. We are also planning for our mentor program beginning in Lent and our confirmation students will also have roles in Lenten services.

Upcoming youth events include a trip to Mount Kato whenever we get snow. We hope to have our final details on a high school summer trip soon!



*Wednesday
Morning
Bible Study*



For more
information or to
obtain a book,
contact Darlene in
the church office or
Cheryl Neidt.

**Beginning January 3, 2024
9:00 –10:00 a.m.**

All are welcome!



GOOD STEWARDSHIP

To the faithful and generous stewards at Trinity Lutheran Church

Many of you have responded to the appeal by the Board of Stewardship last October. For that you are thanked. But there may be circumstances when we cannot answer an appeal.

When I Don't Have a Generous Spirit—

How do I give when I don't have much to begin with? Times have been tough. Money's been tight. I don't want to take for granted the blessings I do have, but how can I fill the needs of others from an empty cup?

Proverbs 11:25 says: "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed". Trust the Lord in a radical-and creative-way. And, while we shouldn't expect it, sometimes having a generous spirit toward others can give God a chance to bless us too.

Where to start? Use the prayer for generosity, to thank God for what we've been given and to ask for inspiration as to how we can be more like him.

A Prayer for Generosity

God who notices the widow and her tiny but generous gift, and who knows what it means to give all, may your spirit of generosity come over me. Let me be creative in what I view as plenty. Father, help me find ways to offer those things which I do have in service to you. Give me opportunities to bless others from the gifts you have given me. Amen.

Please pick up your packet of offering envelopes that are in the narthex mailboxes. Each confirmed member is provided a packet but only two fit in the mailbox. Stop in the church office on Sunday if your family needs the rest of your packets. If one chooses, the envelopes in the pew holders can be used as well.

Statements for 2023 will be available by mid-January. Offerings to be applied to 2023 should be given by January 7.

Giving through December 24—\$272,848.92

Total budget for 2023 was \$298,000.00

Thank you, generous stewards,

Board of Stewardship



THIS & THAT

Read the
Bible
in a Year



Week of December 31

Su Luke 2:22-40
M Luke 2:15-21
Tu James 3:13-18
W James 4:1-10
Th James 4:11-17
F Luke 6:27-31
Sa Matthew 2:1-12

Week of January 7

Su Mark 1:4-11
M Romans 4:1-12
Tu Acts 22:2-16
W John 1:29-34
Th 2 Corinthians 10:1-11
F Acts 13:16-25
Sa Matthew 25:1-13

Week of January 14

Su John 1:43-51
M 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1
Tu Acts 5:1-11
W Luke 18:15-17
Th Revelation 18:11-20
F 2 Peter 3:1-7
Sa Luke 10:13-16

Week of January 21

Su Mark 1:14-20
M 1 Corinthians 7:17-24
Tu Acts 5:33-42
W Mark 3:13-19a
Th Romans 9:6-18
F Revelation 2:12-17
Sa Matthew 8:28-9:1

Week of January 28

Su Mark 1:21-28
M Acts 21:17-26
Tu 1 Corinthians 7:32-40
W Mark 5:1-20
Th Galatians 5:2-15
F 1 Corinthians 9:1-16
Sa Matthew 12:9-14



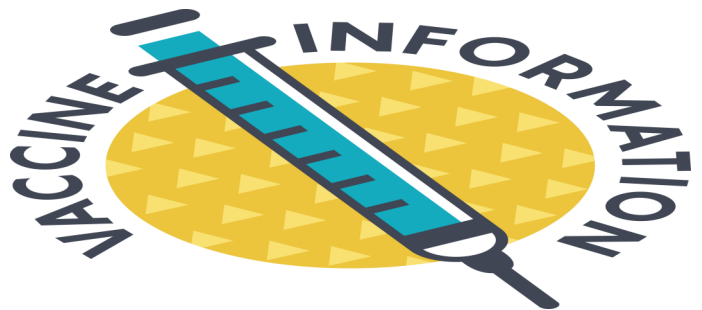
Please join us for Trinity's "Dining Out", following church services 1/21/2024. "Breaking Bread Together" is an opportunity to get to know each other better and share stories. We will meet at 11:00 AM at the Golf Course Meeting Room. Our goal will be to "Dine Out" the 3rd Sunday of each month!

Blood Drive Sleepy Eye Community Event Center

110 12th Ave NE
Sleepy Eye, MN

Tuesday, January 9, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: Sleepy Eye to schedule an appointment.



SEMC has the New Flu and the Bivalent COVID booster available. You have call SEMC at 794-3691 to schedule an appointment. Forms for the vaccine are available at the church in the narthex or on the SEMC website.

Boosters are also available at Randy's Drug. Please call ahead. Flu shots are available anytime.

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

Our Services are broadcast on Channel 8 each Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m. or on our webpage anytime. Share the Good News



DECEMBER

PARISH REPORT



Worship Services Week of...

Date	Attendance
12/3	115
12/10	99
12/17	179
12/24	258
12/31	Not Available

Week of... Offering

Date	Offering
12/3	\$4,316.63
12/10	\$18,489.36
12/17	\$9,135.27
12/24	\$31,956.92
12/31	Not Available



"GIVE... TO GOD THE THINGS THAT ARE GOD'S."

MATTHEW 22:21, NRSV

Monetary gift given by Virgine Staffer in memory of her parents and husband, Tom.



Thank you for sending the weekly bulletin. Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

Yvonne Kittleson

Thanks to our Trinity members for remembering the Staff at Christmas! Pastor Grant, Darlene, Pat, Mary, and Pat.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY WITH THE COOKIE WALK! Whether you baked, worked or bought, you are vital to make this work for people in need. Together, we raised \$1,231.00. Thanks also to Thrivent for donating \$250.00 toward our efforts. Heartfelt thanks for making the 33rd year of Trinity's Cookie Walk such a success.

Blessings to you all,
Darlene Brummund,
President of your WELCA

Dear Members of Trinity Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for your generosity in your recent donations of food to Ivy House. You helped stock our pantry with meals, soups, veggies, fruit, snacks and more for our kids! We are also offering our remaining food and snacks for our families. We gave a whole box to a mom we serve! We are all so grateful for your support. May you all have a Happy New Year.

In Christ, with gratitude,
Ivy House



Please remember to inform the church office of any address or phone number changes to insure you keep receiving your monthly copy of the Tidings and to help keep our records up to date.

Send an email to the church office at secretary@trinitysleepyeye.org and let Darlene know you want your newsletter via email !!

WATCH OUR SERVICES ON TRINITY'S WEBPAGE ANYTIME
www.trinitysleepyeye.org

THE TRINITY TIDINGS NEWSLETTER IS NOW ALSO POSTED ON
WWW.SLEEPYEYEOONLINE.COM
WATCH THIS SITE FOR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS.

TRINITY IS NOW ON FACEBOOK ~~ CHECK IT OUT!!
(Trinity Lutheran (ELCA) Sleepy Eye MN)



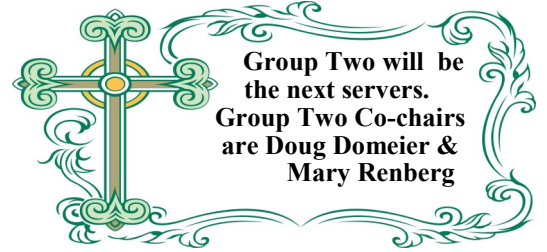
10 Worship Assistants



JANUARY 2024



January: Mary Renberg & Sara Sellner



Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Acolytes

- 1/7 Davin Suess
- 1/14 AuDee Darnell
- 1/21 Kaylie Fulmer
- 1/28 Natalie Fulmer

Readers

- 1/7 Phyllis Kleven
- 1/14 Sarah Lendt
- 1/21 Mark Miller
- 1/28 Neil Neidt

Communion Assistants

- 1/7 Neil Neidt ~at the rail
- 1/21 Dave Vosbeck, Brian Polesky
Larry Baumgardt

Sound Tech

Russ Sorensen

January Ushers

Dale & Diane Eckstein

January Greeters

Brian & Carol Polesky



FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Acolytes

- 2/4 Kelsey Ladd
- 2/11 Blaine Arneson
- 2/18 Shea Evers
- 2/28 Jacob Fullmer

Readers

- 2/4 Cheryl Neidt
- 2/11 Terry Newgord
- 2/18 Sue Pedersen
- 2/28 Mike Petersen

Communion Assistants

- 2/4 Lee Wahlborg-at the rail
- 2/11 Larry Baumgardt, Mark Miller
Darlene Brummund,
- 2/14? Neil Neidt-at the rail

Sound Tech

Russ Sorensen

February Ushers

Dennis Mangan & Mark Miller

February Greeters

Eric & Juliann Wahlborg

Lenten Services 6:30 pm.

Acolytes

- 2/14 Levi Johnson
- 2/21 Kaden Braun
- 2/28 Gavin Fischer

March Usher & Greeter

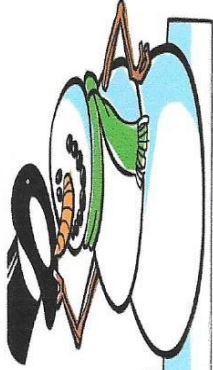
Jon Hansen

- 2/14 Caleb Oscarson, Shea Evers, Anders Coulson, Brayden Heiderscheidt,
- 2/21 Kaylie & Natalie Fulmer, Jacob Fulmer, Brayden Heiderscheidt,
- 2/28 AuDee Darnell, Callie Evers, Jacob Fulmer, Carson Uecker








Readers

- 2/14 Megan Sellner
- 2/21 Levi Johnson
- 2/28 Megan Sellner





JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
December 31, 2023 9 am Worship 10 am Fellowship Hour 	1. Office Closed 	2 6:30 pm AA	3 9 am-Women's Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 7 pm Parish Planning Council Budget Meeting	4 7 am-Men's Bible Study	5	6
7 8:15 am Trinity Choir 9 am- Holy Communion 10 am Fellowship Hour 	8 9 am Quilting Noon WELCA 	9 6:30 pm AA Blood Drive Sleepy Eye Community Event Center 110 12th Ave NE Sleepy Eye, MN Tuesday, January 9, 2024 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	10 9 am-Women's Bible Study 1 pm Ross Park 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Trinity Church School 7 pm Confirmation Service Project	11 7 am-Men's Bible Study	12	13
14 8:15 am Trinity Choir 9 am- Worship ~ 10 am Fellowship Hour	15 9 am Quilting 	16 6:30 pm AA	17 9 am-Women's Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Trinity Church School 7 pm Confirmation 7 pm Stewardship	18 7 am-Men's Bible Study	19	20 Tidings Articles Due!
21 8:15 am Trinity Choir 9 am- Holy Communion 10 am Fellowship Hour 11 am Breaking Bread Together	22 9 am Quilting	23 6:30 pm AA	24 9 am-Women's Bible Study 1 pm Ross Park 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Trinity Church School 7 pm Confirmation	25 7 am-Men's Bible Study	26	27
28 8:15 am Trinity Choir 9 am- Worship Congregational Meeting 10 am Fellowship Hour 	29 9 am Quilting	30 6:30 pm AA	31 9 am-Women's Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Trinity Church School 7 pm Confirmation			

Glory to God

in the
highest, and
on earth
peace, good
will toward
men.

Luke 2:14



Worship Schedule

SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 AM

Fellowship Hour 10:10 AM

WORSHIP ON LINE

ANYTIME ON TRINTYSLEEPYEYE.ORG

See the front cover for contact numbers.



Trinity Wednesday Church School

**Trinity Church School
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm**

**Confirmation Classes
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm**

