

TRINITY LUTHERAN'S JANUARY NEWSLETTER



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STAYING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LEADERS...

President: Richard Clinch 376-6124

Vice President: Rhonda D'Aigle 373-3138

Treasurer: Pat Kilmain 745-2365

Secretary: Mary Brothers 841-4862

Worship: Deb Till 746-1637

Stewardship: Glenn Jacob 354-6105

Education: Paul Krauszer 357-7714

Outreach: Deb Burlinski 746-3334

Property Management: Dana Tesch 717-8499

Reverend: Diane Krauszer 354-3944

CDC: Jen Horacek 745-5683

Health/Wellness: Richard Clinch 376-6124

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-Calendar of Events

WORSHIP HELPERS FOR JANUARY...

Jennie & Barrett Barge, Shirley & Wayne Berg, Paul & Nancy Fox, Betty Hein, Patti Hurt, Jennifer Ivory, Pat Kilmain, Cathy Moorman, Lew & Brunhilde O'Brien, Dana Tesch, and Pat Younack.

FROM REVEREND DIANE

Dearly Beloved,

My prayer for you during this Christmas season is that the joy of God's great gift may permeate your daily life. May the wonder of Jesus, Emmanuel- God with us, fill your hearts! May the love expressed in the babe in the lowly manger flow to you and from you as you celebrate God's great love for all human kind.

Blessed Christmas Season,
Pastor Diane

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell Thy people save,
And give them victory over the grave.

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.

O come, O come, great Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the law
In cloud and majesty and awe.

O come, Thou Root of Jesse's tree,
An ensign of Thy people be;
Before Thee rulers silent fall;
All peoples on Thy mercy call.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.

Translation by John Mason Neale

LETTER TO THE CHURCH

Dear Trinity Church,

Merry, Merry, Merry Christmas to all of you. You are such a loving, helping family of Christ. I pray for all of you and those you love and care for. Happy winter. Be Happy, joyful, hopeful. Easy for me to say. I'm in la la land where there are flowers and cacti blooming and the rocks, pavement, and dirt are usually dry. Happy New Year, too. You are what I miss the most about Alaska. I return March 1. Peace be with you.

Love,
Betty

EPIPHANY PARTY



Please join us January 5, 6:00 p.m. for an Epiphany Party in the Trinity Room. Potluck dinner will be provided for the Epiphany feast. All are welcome. Come and join us for a night of fun and games.

Epiphany, also known as the Three Kings' Day is the season of light. It follows after the 12 days of Christmas on January 6. Traditionally eaten on this day is a kings' cake. Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and Jesus' miracle at the marriage at Cana are the most focused during the season of Epiphany.

TREASURER'S REPORT



As we approach the end of December, we are looking forward to a new year. During 2017 the church has worked on several ministries. The community garden was very successful and we were able to provide the Palmer Food Bank with an abundance of fresh vegetables for their clients. Children from the Our Lady of the Valley Catholic school worked with us on the garden: they started lots of plants, and came many Wednesday night's Weed and Feed. In addition we have started a new Freezer Ministry to provide meals on an emergency basis. We continue to make emergency food packs to give to homeless and/or hungry people. We once again held a Making Music event to aid Family Promise, and we continue to aid Family

Promise families on a regular basis.

Another long-term ministry is our partnership with the building and our tenants. We have had several extraordinary expenses for the building this year, including a break in the water main on Cody St. and repairs to our aging heating system. The cost of utilities has continued to rise, and having most of the building rented, more electricity and gas (heat) is being used. Our two largest costs for the building are insurance, \$2,155 per month (\$25,460 a year) and property taxes, \$10,000 a year. At this time we do not have enough to cover the property tax payment of \$5,000 due in February. Would you give a gift to Trinity this joyous season so our church can continue to share the good news and great joy of God's love through our ministries and our building?

Pat Kilmain,
Treasurer

SABBATICAL UPDATE

Jan 31 Pastor Diane leaves on sabbatical
Feb 4 Pastor Hazel Davidson -Intern

Feb 11 Pastor Hazel Davidson -Intern
 Feb 14 Ash Wednesday 7:00PM Pastor Hazel -Intern
 Feb 18 Pastor Hazel Davidson -Intern
 Feb 21 Mid-week 6:00pm Lenten services at River of Life Pastor Bill Ottum
 Feb 25 Pastor Hazel Davidson -Intern
 Feb 28 Mid-week 6:00pm Lenten Services at River of Life Pastor Bill Ottum
 March 3 Trinity Council retreat led by Rev Lisa Smith Feigle 10AM-4PM at Trinity
 March 4 Trinity member: Dena Luchsinger-sermon Richard Clinch -Presides communion
 March 7 Mid-week 6:00pm Lenten Services at River of Life Pastor Bill Ottum
 March 11 Trinity member: Richard Clinch –sermon Deb Till -Presides communion
 March 11 Hazel Davidson’s internship final evaluation due Send to Bishop’s office
 March 14 Mid-week 6:00pm Lenten services at River of Life Pastor Bill Ottum
 March 18 Trinity Member: Deb Till –sermon, Janet Jacob –Presides communion
 March 21 Mid-week 6:00pm Lenten services at River of Life Pastor Bill Ottum
 March 25 Rev Lisa Smith Feigle (DEM Synod office) Pastor Lisa will preside at communion
 March 29-31 Holy Week Pastor Hazel Davidson
 April 1 Easter Pastor Hazel Davidson
 April 8 Mr. Caesar Marciales (United Methodist Layperson) Janet Jacob Presides at communion
 April 15 Bishop Shelly Wickstrom
 April 22 Mr. Alan Budahl (Lutheran Social Services) supply Richard Clinch-Preside at communion
 April 27-29 Alaska Assembly in Anchorage with Bishop’s election
 April 29 Trinity member: Deb Burlinski -sermon, Deb or Richard Presides at communion
 May 6 Pastor Diane Krauszer sermon

Here are the other ongoing activities and those who will be planning and possibly leading them.

Adult Sunday School- Living the question, short studies from Thoughtful Christian, Lutheran Bible Ministries lectionary study or other DVDs. Janet Jacob leader 745-4163

Mid week Bible Study – Gather or Horizon bible studies, read a novel together Thoughtful Christian Bible Studies, Islam video , watch a movie and have a theological discussion Leader?

Trinity Singers (Choir) Jan Walton 746-1242 to direct. Rhonda D’Aigle pianist 232-3971

Weekly Bulletin: Micaela will format the bulletin each week. Cathy Moorman will edit them with her. Call the Church office 745-0726 with announcements and other information by Thursday each week.

Preschool Chapel Jan Walton 746-1242 Thursdays at 10:00 am

Helping ministry - No gas cards will be available while Pastor Diane is away. The council may distribute discretionary funds at its discretion with a vote. If you need financial help, please submit a request in writing to the council. For emergencies call the council president, Richard Clinch. 376-6124

Pastoral care: If you need pastoral care call a council member or call Pastor Rick Cavens at Good Shepherd (376-3522), Pastor Bill Ottum at River of Life (688-6677) or Pastor Martin Eldred at Joy Lutheran (694-9601). If you are dealing with a death, utilize the gift of Karl and Joyce Lund, 3763-0842 or Mary Brothers, 841-4862 for grief support. Call Pastor Rick Cavens at Good Shepherd (376-3522), Pastor Bill Ottum at River of Life (688-6677) or Pastor Martin Eldred at Joy Lutheran (694-9601) for funerals.

Council Retreat: Pastor Lisa Smith Feigle (907-272-8899) will lead a council retreat on Saturday, March 3, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Council members, new and old, are asked to attend! The council president should be in contact with Pastor Lisa to set up the agenda for the retreat.

Updates and contact: I will send a monthly email report to go in the newsletter to keep everyone up to date on where we are, what we are doing and learning.

I miss you already,
Pastor Diane M Krauszer

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



The annual congregational meeting will be held January 28 following worship. Please come and be a part of this meeting. You may bring a dish or beverage for the potluck if you so desire. All annual reports need to be submitted by January 16.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF ALASKA

Happy New Year! I am thankful to all the wonderful people who have shared their time, talents and financial resources with our ministry. It is because of your concern and care that we were able to touch the lives of over 36,000 of our neighbors in need last year.

A great big thank you to everyone who supplied Christmas stockings that we distributed to the children of clients in the Food Pantry. These stockings are so well received from the parents and it helps us bring the Christmas message to over 800 children.

We served 3,650 families and close to 8,000 children at this year's Neighborhood Gift. Thanks to everyone who purchased toys for The Salvation Army or Marine Corp Toys for Tots campaigns, volunteered their time for set-up and distribution. We couldn't do this without a tremendous effort from so many in our community.

Also a large thank you to all the women who donated diapers and/or financial contributions at the Lutheran Women's Advent Brunch. We received 52 boxes of diapers and 18 packages of diaper wipes from the event and another 15 packages were dropped off at the Food Pantry. In addition there were donations of \$2,382.00 donated at the event and on-line. We appreciate the continued support from this event.

The shelves at the Food Bank of Alaska have been full this holiday season and we have also been blessed in the amount of food donated through congregations and individuals. However we are going into the first quarter of the new year that is when the Food Bank donations decrease. We can use your help in keeping our shelves full. Things like chili, soups, canned fruit, cereals, oatmeal, spam, tuna, and packages of noodle, rice or potato mixes are some of the foods items most requested.

Beginning January 1st you will again have the opportunity to contribute to our ministry through the Pick.Click.Give. when you apply for your Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend. When applying on-line, you will have an option called "the Gift of Giving." Simply follow the instructions to make a donation. In 2017 LSSA received \$14,825 in donations through this program from 202 donors. The on-line Permanent Fund Dividend application for 2018 will be available beginning January 1st at 9:00am.

Together caring for others,
Alan Budahl

RAPHAEL UPDATE



We Raphael and Fatuma I'ldaani and Wish to Thank God for the Year 2017 and rejoice for your continues Prayers for us and giving in God ministry at Lokileleng. Please note our Prayers is with you all. We Thank you for enabling us serve the Lord in sharing Jesus. We wish you All our Friends and Families in Christ and Church of Christ whom you serve a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We Praise God to have you and Praying the New year will one greater Blessing too and a year we can all do more for Jesus. We Love you All and Pray for Lord Blessing and good health for for you. please pass our Love to the members of your Churches. We rejoice to have you as Partners for God's work. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2018.

We Greatful to All of you for your prayers and walk with us in Sharing Jesus. You all are Special to us. We greatful for the role you each play in making Jesus known to our People. We long to do even more for Jesus in the new year and long to have you walk with us in Passing Lords grace to the unreached. We need You please we cant do it just by ourselves. Your partnership is important. please pass Lords grace to the unreached with us in the new year. We long to do even more for Jesus. Thank you All.

We The family do hereby thank you All for your Continues prayers and thoughts .We so do the same .We had a good time during Christmas. We had all been gathered On 24 The, night where we had night to welcome Christmas with Praises on reflection on Christmas and Next morning with Christmas service celebration. We had wonderful moments we taught Christmas time to Chair God Love with others. We had arrange Sodas Celebration and we were able to buy some Clothes to some needy ones just to make Christmas special one. We Thank you for your Support you can emergine the big role you Play. Our reflection for new year will be forcuss more for lords Kingdom. We Love you All and pray to have 2018 as the year for the Lord. We invite to have you do these. Happy New Year to you

In his joy Raphael and Fatuma I'ldaani

INTRODUCTION TO THE FOUR GOSPELS

The Reverend Jeff Hackler will be leading a class in January - *Introduction to the Four Gospels*.

Class Date and Time: Two consecutive Saturdays: January 13th and 20th
10am to 1pm at Central Lutheran Church- 1420 Cordova St, Anchorage

I. Course Description: The four Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the earliest surviving accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus. This course will provide an overview of these texts, paying special attention to the distinctive portrait of Jesus that each gospel presents. The emphasis will be on equipping you to be a better reader of the fourfold Gospel witness that testifies to the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

II. Objectives:

1. Gain a sense of the unique theology of each of the Gospels.
2. Explore the historical and social background of the New Testament world.
3. Articulate the similarities and differences among the various portraits of Jesus in the Gospels.

III. Required Texts: The New Interpreters Study Bible Abingdon Press Fortress Introduction to the Gospels by Mark Allan Powell

This course is open to anyone who wants to deepen their understanding of the Gospels and to those interested in becoming a Synodically Authorized Minister. Pre-registration is requested at <http://www.elcaalaska.net/four-gospels.html> A fee of \$25 is requested. Scholarships are available for ELCA members. Those interested in becoming a Synodically Authorized Minister can find more information at <http://www.elcaalaska.net/sam-process1.html>.

KUWAA MISSION PRAYER LETTER



Christmas Shopping for the Greatest Gift

By Cindy Bye, CEO

The Christmas season is hectic for many people. Parties to attend, decorations to put up, baking to do, cards to send, and presents to buy. Some people are so hard to buy for, because they have everything they want. Others have everything they need, but they still want more, and no matter how much they have, they're not satisfied. We are often thankful when it is all over and life is back to normal.

Maybe Thanksgiving should be after Christmas!

I once saw a cartoon about a child in the midst of a clutter of wrapping paper and toys with a brightly lit Christmas tree, and the caption, "What a spiritual experience". That cartoon has stuck with me. Many people forget the Greatest Gift of Christmas. Indeed, many people don't realize or accept the Greatest Gift.

The Kuwaa Christians realize and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. They do not go out in a frenzy to buy gifts. They don't spend money they don't have buying trivial trinkets. And yet, they have so little in the way of material things, that anything that they would receive would be appreciated and needed. They may have a party, and there will be singing and dancing, and mostly praising God for the Greatest Gift they receive.

We recently received a note of thank you from the Kuwaa Lutheran Parish Pastor, thanking the Kuwaa Mission for the gifts that you have given to the Kuwaa People. These include clean water, continued support of their two health clinics, Bible School, school supplies, and education. The mission is now sponsoring three men and one woman to attend Evangelist Training, to better serve the spiritual needs of their people. A list of our current programs is attached. The greatest gift that you have given to the Kuwaa People is showing your love for them. They know that you care for them and pray for them. They are very thankful for your gifts and for your prayers. The things they receive are dearly needed and appreciated.

Blessings on your Christmas celebrations.

Heavenly Father, We thank you for the Greatest Gift you have given us, which was Love personified. Help us to appreciate that gift, and to live out our lives showing love for all of your people. We ask your blessings on the Kuwaa People, as they celebrate Christmas in much simpler ways than we do. We ask that you guide and protect them, and help them feel your love, as well as our love for them.

In Jesus' name,
AMEN

TRINITY CHRISTMAS BAZAAR PHOTO INSIGHT



LEARNING AND FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT TRINITY

Gathered: This 11:00 a.m. Thursday morning Bible study is held in the Trinity Room. Come and join in on the discussion. Call Phyllis Gielarowski for more information at 745-6703. (September-May.)

The Men's Breakfast Group: This group meets faithfully every Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. in the Trinity Room. After a delicious breakfast, they read and discuss the scripture for the coming Sunday. The conversation is lively and intense. For more information, call Glenn Jacob at 745-4163.

Adult Forum: Join other adults as we discuss a series of Bible studies on the practices around caring for our world, our neighbors, and ourselves. 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning in the Trinity Room. Contact 745-0726 for more information.

In Stitches: Come share your love of sewing, knitting, crocheting, quilting, and any other crafts with our fine group of knit wits. On Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Trinity Room. For more information, call Phyllis Gielarowski at 745-6703. (September-May.)

Exercise and Prayer with Pastor Diane: This group of religious athletes meet every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 8:30 a.m. in the Upper Room. Come experience the athlete in you. Prayer following exercise. Contact 745-0726 for more information.

Mat-Su Grief Support Group: Are you grieving? We are here to listen. Come to the Mat-Su Grief Support Group every Thursday in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. Call Mary Brothers at 841-4862 for more information.

Preschool Chapel: Come worship with the little ones every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary while they learn that Jesus loves them. Call the preschool at 745-LOVE (5683) for more information. (September-May.)

Trinity Singers and Players: If you like music, join the Trinity Singers and Players every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Call Jana Moser at 746-0974 for more information. (September-May.)

Sunday School: Bring kids to the Upper Room every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for a children's Bible study. Call Jan Walton at 745-1242 for more information.

Worship: Join us every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary to praise God and have communion with Pastor Diane. Contact 745-0726 for more information.

Fellowship: Join us every Sunday following service for a chance to get to know your fellow Christian friends. Snacks available. Contact 745-0726 for more information.

Weed and Feed: Come out to the TLC Community Garden every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. to weed, harvest, and care for Trinity's garden. Dinner follows at 6:30 p.m. Contact 745-0726 for more information. (May-September.)

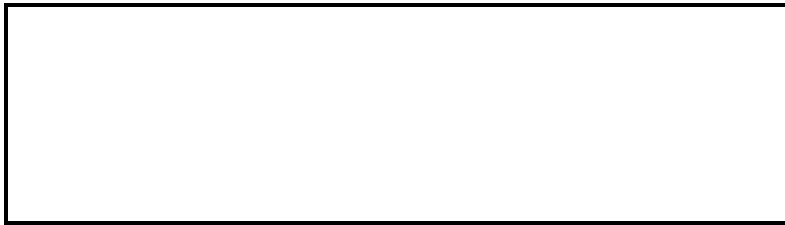
Always Something New: Stay tuned for any upcoming picnics, parties, and programs for more opportunities to get to know your fellow Christian friends.

COOKIE EXCHANGE AND FREEZER MINISTRY PHOTO INSIGHT





10355 E. Palmer-Wasilla Hwy.
Palmer, AK 99645



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	2 Trinity Singers, 7:00 p.m.	3 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	4 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m. In Stitches, 10:00 a.m. Women's Study, 11 a.m. Grief Support, 7:00 p.m.	5 Epiphany Party, 6:00 p.m.	6
7 Sunday school, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11:45 a.m.	8 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	9 Trinity Singers, 7:00 p.m. Outreach, 4:00 p.m.	10 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	11 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m. Preschool chapel, 10:00 In Stitches, 10:00 a.m. Women's Study, 11 a.m. Grief Support, 7:00 p.m.	12	13 Introduction to the Four Gospels, 10:00 a.m.
14 Sunday school, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11:45 a.m.	15 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	16 Council, 7:00 p.m. Trinity Singers, 6:00 p.m.	17 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	18 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m. Preschool chapel, 10:00 In Stitches, 10:00 a.m. Women's Study, 11 a.m. Grief Support, 7:00 p.m.	19	20 Introduction to the Four Gospels, 10:00 a.m.
21 Sunday school, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11:45 a.m. VIA Ecumenical Day of Prayer	22 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	23 Trinity Singers, 7:00 p.m.	24 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	25 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m. Preschool chapel, 10:00 In Stitches, 10:00 a.m. Women's Study, 11 a.m. Grief Support, 7:00 p.m.	26	27
28 Sunday school, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:30 a.m. Fellowship, 11:45 a.m. Singing with the seniors, 1:30 p.m. Annual Congregational Meeting, 12:00 p.m.	29 Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m.	30 Trinity Singers, 7:00 p.m.	31 Men's Prayer Breakfast, 8:00 a.m. Exercise and Prayer, 8:30 a.m. Pastor Diane away for sabbatical			