



# THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr.  
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM

Divine Service 10:15 AM



**JANUARY 2022 -- VOLUME 60 No. 1**

## FROM THE PASTOR

**The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. Num. 6:24-25**

These verses you have heard a few times before. When in the service do you hear these verses used? It is called the benediction. It is a blessing from Moses on Aaron and his sons. We use it at the close of the service to kind of send you out into the world with the Lord going before you so that you can go in peace, knowing the Lord will be with you.

It is part of the Old Testament reading for New Year's Day. It is appropriate, for with this blessing, you are being blessed by God to go out into the world again as you are going to deal with another year, another year closer to when He will come again and bring about a peace that will be eternal, both spiritually and physically.

We need the Lord's peace as we deal with where it seems the world it headed. Each year it seems things are getting worse and worse and it is harder and harder to find peace in the world. As Christians, we hear these verses regularly and yes, we look to Jesus and know we have peace with God even though it is a peace that the world cannot give.

We count on the Lord watching over us, keeping us as we live with His blessing us everyday. It is His shining face that we can look to, to be encouraged to continue to live out Christian lives knowing it is because of His grace that we have any hope or a future.

As we think on that, may this Lord, help us to be a blessing to others as we show them grace and look to tell them of the peace that passes all understanding that is had only in Jesus.

This blessing is a good way to go out to the New Year in the Lord. May the Lord bless you and keep you in the New Year.

Pastor

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## BIBILICAL RESOLUTIONS

Hold firmly to your faith (Hebrews 4:14)

Assemble with saints (Hebrews 10:25)

Pray and thank God earnestly ( 1 Thessalonians 5:17-18)

Petition God for great blessings (Malachi 3:10)

Yield not to temptation (1 Thessalonians 5:22)

Notice opportunities to serve others (Galatians 6:10)

Examine yourself daily (2 Corinthians 13:5)

Work diligently for the Lord (1 Corinthians 15:58)

Yearn for righteousness (Matthew 5:6)

Exercise godliness (1 Timothy 4:7)

Aim for sinless perfection (Hebrews 6:1)

Redeem the time, living wisely (Ephesians 5:15-16)

---Gus Nichols (adapted)

## ELDERS MESSAGE

### Celebrate

The New Year is upon us with all the attendant predictions by the media of doom and gloom.

We all face the uncertainty of inflation, health issues and just the daily news of war and rumors of war.

Yet we have lived through these same issues for all our lives and survived.

Our survival is based totally on the Grace of GOD and our belief in HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.

We gather together in HIS NAME every Sunday as a congregation and in groups to study His Word.

The prayer chain has proven to be very effective by beseeching GOD to be with those in need.

HE protects us in our daily lives from the evils of the world.

GOD is fully in control of all things.

CELEBRATE THE LORD

GIVE THANKS TO HIM FOR HIS WONDROUS GIFT OF SALVATION THROUGH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.  
F.R.O.G.

JAMES R. WILKES, ELDER

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### 2022 TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>President:</b> Dick Dommers...575-434-8735	<a href="mailto:usanabgo@yahoo.com">usanabgo@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Vice-President:</b> Bob Klose...575-491-3407	<a href="mailto:bklose@hotmail.com">bklose@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Board Secretary:</b> Jan Dommers...575-434-8735	<a href="mailto:usanabgo@yahoo.com">usanabgo@yahoo.com</a>
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<b>Evangelism:</b> Cheryl Sandenaw...575-430-1383	<a href="mailto:singer88310@yahoo.com">singer88310@yahoo.com</a>
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## EVANGELISM

The Bible asks all Christians to spread the word of God & news of Jesus to others. What better chance do we have of spreading His word (& building our church) than through our Sunday services? Many times, people coming through our doors are travelers passing through, or relatives that are visiting. But there are also times that people pass through our doors because they are either church shopping or considering becoming a Christian. Whatever the reason may be that they are coming through our doors, we want to greet them and make them feel welcome! That is why we assign specific people every week to be hosts, or greeters. The duties of hosts are as follows: Please arrive no later than 9:50 a.m. The host badges are in an empty mail box on the right end of the boxes. Please stand close enough to the door to intercept people as they enter the church. Introduce visitors to other members before and after the service. Have someone show visitors where the guest book is located and encourage them to sign it and include their address and phone number. Exit the sanctuary immediately after pastor and greet people as they leave the service.

It is very important that we make our visitors feel like we are glad they are here! Even when we aren't having host duty, we should still talk to visitors and make them feel welcome. The host duty list for 2022 has been posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. If you do not wish to participate (even if you said so previously), please put a line through your name so that it can be removed from the list. Meanwhile, I will try to put a reminder in your box when it is the month that you are assigned to be a greeter. Thank you to everyone for your time & effort.

Recently many new (never seen or used in our church) tracts have been purchased and the tract rack in the Narthex has been filled. Be sure to check it out, we may have exactly what you need there for you to read.

Meanwhile, "Are you struggling to manage your money? Feel like your finances are spinning out of control? Does the subject of money launch you into stress, shame, or even denial? If so, you are not alone. Written by someone who has struggled first-hand with financial failure, this booklet explores the emotional component of money problems and provides practical money management tools to help you gain clarity and hope for your financial future." The **Tract of the Month** for January 2022 is "**Managing Your Money**". This tract looks interesting and helpful. I hope if you need even just a little financial help that you will check it out.

In closing I would like to quote Psalm 51:10-13 & 15 (NIV). "10Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. 11Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. 12Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me. 13Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. 15O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise."

Yours in Christ,  
Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

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## CHURCH ATTENDANCE

As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient, it's important to remember why church attendance for and your family matters so much.

You can't serve from your sofa. You can't have community of faith on your sofa. You can't experience the power of a room full of believers worshipping together on your sofa.

Christians aren't consumers. We are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together.

The church needs you! You need the church!

---author unknown

## **CURRENT FINANCIAL STATUS**

At the end of November our expenses exceeded our income by (\$18,374.34) according to the November treasurer's report. Thankfully, several members of the congregation have responded with increased giving. During the month of December, as of this writing December 26<sup>th</sup>, our income for the month is \$46,371.00. This should more than cover our December expenses and wipe out the deficit. This is the second year in, we have had to rely on last-minute contributions to cover our expenses. The Board of Directors must shoulder some of the blame because we did not do a good job of keeping the members informed throughout the year. We will do a better job of this in 2022 by not only publishing income but expenses as well monthly.

Please consider your church giving for 2022 and give as God leads you.

Bob Klose, Vice President

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## **STEWARDSHIP**

**'Tis More Blessed to Give Than to Receive**

**“In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ” (Acts 20:35)**

And indeed, it is. Does this not strike a chord that resonates in us all? Which of us can't recall the look of surprise and thanks for the Christmas gifts that we labored to give to those whom we love? And the joy written on their face when that gift is received with thanksgiving means more than all the gifts we have received. It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Our Lord knew this because He practiced it. He gave of Himself – sparing not even His life in death – in order to give us back to our Father in heaven. He knew that in giving you get more because joy is multiplied in giving. The one who receives and the one who gives both rejoice in what is given and received. And, what is more, the one who receives only wants to give back to the one who gave so generously in thanksgiving.

So it is with our tithes and offerings in church. We want to give because we have received from God all that we are and all that we have. Our giving does not originate in what we must do to earn God's favor. We have God's favor because of His gift of His Son, given through Word and Sacrament. Thus, we are made free from the compulsion of giving so that our tithes and offering are freely given in thanksgiving for what God has so generously given to us.

Why then does the church struggle to make budgets? Why does the church always seem stretched so thin when it is the place where God continually gives us His forgiveness of sins? Why does the church struggle when God, out of love for us, generously pours out His grace and mercy?

It is because we are sinners. Our fallen nature makes us selfish and miserly. It leads us to believe that we can have our cake and eat it, too. Because of sin, we want God's grace and mercy; we want His blessings of body and soul. But we don't want to share it with those around us. We want to remain

comfortable in our own self-contained, neat, and tidy lives – without the headaches of loving those around us by helping them in their time of need.

“Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’” Remember that God has placed you in a church, not only to receive His grace and mercy, but to press His eternal and temporal blessings into service to your neighbor.

Your tithes and offerings ensure that those around you have a pastor to preach the life-saving and life-giving Word of God. They ensure that the lights, heat, and air-conditioning are working. They ensure there is water for Holy Baptism as well as bread and wine for Holy Communion. They even ensure that your pastor has food and clothing and presents for his own family. The gifts of God are immeasurable. They multiply and redound to everyone’s good as the fish and loaves in the feeding of the five thousand.

So, remember the words of the Lord Jesus: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” And remember the joy that attended the gifts you gave at Christmas. This same joy attends your gifts to the church.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://www.lcms.org/stewardship)

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## **FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

It is that time of year to hand out our yearly envelopes. In an effort to reduce waste in the envelopes, I have tried to tailor your envelopes to your giving pattern. As I can easily have made a mistake please let me know if I have not met your giving needs.

PLEASE Check the NUMBERS. I tried to give everyone the same numbers but DUE to the changes there are many whose envelope number has changed. For those that have been given monthly envelopes I have tried to include Mission and Special envelopes for those I know like to use them. I have plenty of extras so please don’t hesitate to ask. Either catch me at church, leave a note in my box, or call me 921-8602.

Hopefully, early in the New Year we will have the option of online giving and as soon as we are able to offer this Robyn and I will give you updates and training.

Thank you for your patience as I am getting these to you a little late this year.

Have a Blessed Christmas and New Year!

Vicki Leonard, Financial Secretary

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## **LWML**

### **It’s a New Year -- On Your Mark! Get Set! Open Your Bibles!**

Many Christians have considered challenging themselves to read through the Bible in one year. Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is offering you that very opportunity! The Gospel Outreach Committee has created a monthly reading plan to guide you. Check out the [January Bible Reading Calendar](#). Open your Bible and “GO”!

The Gospel Outreach Committee prays you are richly blessed as you spend time in God’s Word each day. [https://unite-production.s3.amazonaws.com/tenants/lwml/attachments/332793/2021-01\\_Read-through-Bible-in-one-year.pdf](https://unite-production.s3.amazonaws.com/tenants/lwml/attachments/332793/2021-01_Read-through-Bible-in-one-year.pdf)

## **MISSION UNPACKED -- Jan. 24-Feb 20, 2022**

**Register Now: [International.lcms.org/missions.unpacked](https://international.lcms.org/missions.unpacked)**

No luggage needed! For 4 weeks, without leaving your home, you can travel, explore the world, and learn how God is working through LCMS international missions. *Missions Unpacked* is a free, online mission education experience offered by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Office of International Mission. Beginning on January 24th, 2022, there will be opportunities to learn about the mission work happening in one region of the world each week. Experience the local culture through language, food, and dance, plus meet missionaries in live Zoom presentations

### **EVENTS**

Once again a BIG THANK YOU to our generous congregation in supporting the Mission Projects for providing Food at Thanksgiving and Christmas gifts to families identified by our church family.

January **JAN 15, 10:30** a.m. we will have Bible Study after we Un-decorate the Church and then join for fellowship for Lunch at a Local Restaurant. January's Mission Project will be collecting cans of Coffee for our Kitchen.

### **DISTRICT MISSION GRANTS 2020-2022**

**The Table at Bethlehem Lakewood, CO - Grant amount = \$5,000** - The Table ministers to the working poor and homeless in Lakewood, Colorado through the serving of a weekly meal, then followed with church services and Christian fellowship. Meals are served in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church commons area with church volunteers serving the meals and leading the services. There is no financial assistance and it is currently funded by attendees and donations. The approximately \$150/week is becoming insufficient as attendance increases, and this grant would be used to purchase food for this ministry.

### **NATIONAL MISSION GRANTS 2021-2023**

**Mission Goal Update as of October 31, 2021 - \$724,437.36 has been received. Praises!**

**Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach - Lutheran Deaf Outreach — \$50,000:** - Lutheran Deaf Outreach wants to help Deaf people have a saving relationship with Christ by training Deaf and Hearing people to share Jesus with Deaf people. They work through congregations to reach Deaf people and families in their community. There are over 500,000 Deaf people, plus their families, in the United States. The need is great to equip more Deaf leaders through Jesus Signs Training Workshops so they may effectively witness the saving message of Jesus Christ. This grant will assist in expanding training through the sharing of resources, by assisting pastors, and by instructing individuals to lead the workshops. It will also help with workshop expenses to expand training and provide resources throughout the United States.

**Gifts of Love – Returning God's Blessings:** -- Have you included LWML in your Will, Trust or as a Beneficiary on your life insurance, retirement plans, or IRA? Contact an LWML Gift Planning Counselor for help: [lwmlgiftplan.org](http://lwmlgiftplan.org)

**Remember:** You get can all kinds of information, resources, bible studies, devotions, support by going to the LWML website: [LWMLRMD.org](http://LWMLRMD.org) (Rocky Mountain District) or [LWML.org](http://LWML.org) (National).

by Yvonne Steeby, Trinity LWML President

**Any questions? Contact Yvonne, Bev, Hannah, Christine, Sue, or Cyndi H.**

**LWML On The Go, is available through your podcast provider, at [lwml.org](http://lwml.org), and on the LWML App.**

## **THE MEANING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

Most Advent wreaths use three colors – purple, pink and white. However, some may use blue in place of the purple.

### **1<sup>st</sup> CANDLE – (purple) THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE**

We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. *“And again, Isaiah says ‘The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in Him.’ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”* (Romans 15:12-13)

### **2<sup>nd</sup> CANDLE– (purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION**

God kept His promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to “get ready”. Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! *“As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: ‘A voice of one calling in the desert, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all mankind will see God’s salvation.’* (Luke 3:4-6)

### **3<sup>rd</sup> CANDLE – (pink) THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY**

The angels sang a message of JOY! *“...and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds living in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. ‘Suddenly a great company of the heavenly hosts appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests. ‘When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.”* (Luke 2:7-15)

### **4<sup>th</sup> CANDLE – (purple) THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE**

The angles announced the good news of a Savior. God sent His only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! *“For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not parish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him.”* (John 3:16-17)

### **5<sup>th</sup> CANDLE – (white) “CHRIST CANDLE”**

The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for His death, His death was for our birth! *“The next day John say Jesus coming toward him and said, ‘Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”* (John 1:29)

## **THE HISTORY OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

As with many long-standing customs, the origins of the Advent wreath are somewhat debated. Some histories of the advent wreath say that Christians simply adapted an even earlier custom from pre-Christian Germanic tribes. Supposedly, then, these pagan people tried to break the darkness of winter with candles and invoke the sun god to return with the warmth and light of spring. In addition, the evergreen wreath would remind them that there is still life and the circle of time would again come back to spring.

According to this viewpoint, Christians later placed new and Biblical meaning to the old customs. Now the candles pointed to Jesus, the Light of the world (John 3:17-21.) The evergreen wreath now reminded believers that our Savior God grants new and everlasting life in Jesus. The wreath was also a symbol of victory, for a garland wreath was often placed on victors in contests or conquests. So naturally, a Christian can think of the crown of life that Jesus has won for us. The four candles in an Advent wreath would then emphasize the four week period of penitence and preparation during Advent, as we eagerly await the coming of the Light of the world to bring new life and hope.

The advent wreath became quite popular in homes in post-Reformation Germany. It seems pretty certain that in many German homes families had a custom of lighting four candles during advent, candles placed in a wreath of evergreens. When these candles were lit, Scripture and prayer was part of the custom and the family devotion time was a time of instructing the children about Christ's coming. Later, the custom crossed over different denominational lines and other faith traditions adapted its use. Today, you can find Advent wreaths in many Protestant and Roman Catholic churches.

## **THANK YOU**

I want to thank all the carolers who visited me, it was truly "great! What a wonderful church family I have!

Virginia Nielsen

# JANUARY 2022 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

## ELDERS

Jan. 2 Jim Wilkes  
Jan. 9 Jesse Elkjer  
Jan. 16 Matt Anderson  
Jan. 23 Jim Wilkes  
Jan. 30 Jesse Elkjer

## ACOLYTES

Jan. 2 Reilly Quinn  
Jan. 9 Macey Sebring  
Jan. 16 Madie Sanchez  
Jan. 23 Ryan Sebring  
Jan. 30 Zac Sanchez

## READERS

Jan. 2 Lola Ableidinger & Ruth Wilkes  
Jan. 9 Shirley Enyeart & Dick Dommers  
Jan. 16 Bob & Sandy Klose  
Jan. 23 Louis Mauriot & Kelly Thomas  
Jan. 30 Youth

## TELLERS

Jan. 2 Lola Ableidinger & Nora Sotak  
Jan. 9 Sandy Klose & Susan Kelly  
Jan. 16 Joyce Macon & Bob Klose  
Jan. 23 Yvonne Steeby & Becky Worley  
Jan. 30 Shirley Enyeart & Vicki Leonard

## HOSTS

Jan. 2 Pastor & Ruth Buttke  
Jan. 9 Matt & Jill Clark  
Jan. 16 Ben & Erika Clark  
Jan. 23 Lisa Collins  
Jan. 30 Pastor s& Lisa Cramm

## SOUND TECH

Jan. 2 Ben Clark  
Jan. 9 Louis Mauriot  
Jan. 16 Matt Anderson  
Jan. 23 Bob Klose  
Jan. 30 Louis Mauriot

## USHERS

Jan. 3 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer  
Larry & Bev Van Duyn  
Jan. 10 Matt Anderson Marvin Bunker,  
Jesse Elkjer, Susan Kelly  
Jan. 17 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson  
Ray Krueger, Bob Thede,  
Jan. 24 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose  
Dave Teller  
Jan. 31 Youth

## JANUARY FLOWERS

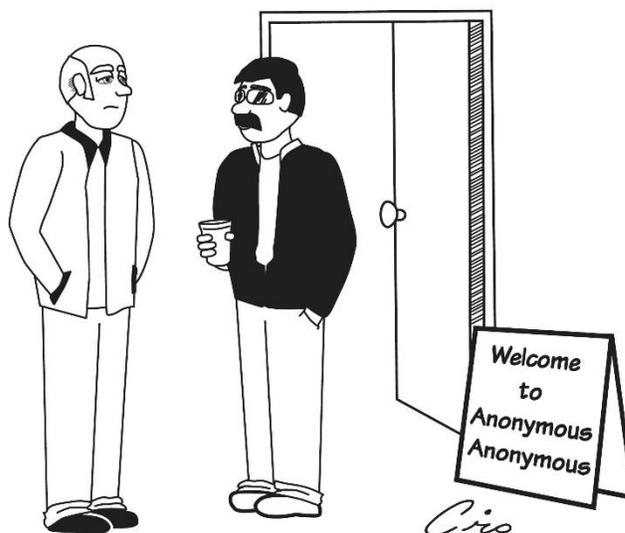
Jan. 2 Robyn Luevano  
Jan. 9 Bob & Susan Kelly  
Jan. 16 Virginia Nielsen  
Jan. 23 Pastor & Cyndi Heithold  
Jan. 30 Bob & Sandy Klose

## JANUARY ATTENDANCE

Lisa Collins

## JANUARY ALTAR COMMITTEE

Hannah Keeler  
Gayan Moore



"It's a 12-step group for church members who like to write angry letters but not sign their name."