

January 2024

Volume 66

Number 1



# The Lamplighter

## THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS GOES ON

The month of January looks to the future of the new year and builds on the past. The month is named for Janus, the figure in ancient Roman religion and myth with two faces—one looking forward and one looking back. As you enter 2024, the year in which the congregation celebrates a Century of Grace, looking back and looking forward will be happening in our life together.

The space between the past and the future is transition territory. Transitions by definition involve change, and change is always challenging. A colleague posted on Facebook a poem by Howard Thurman that I find very appropriate to this time of transition from Christmas to the season of Epiphany:

### *The Work of Christmas*

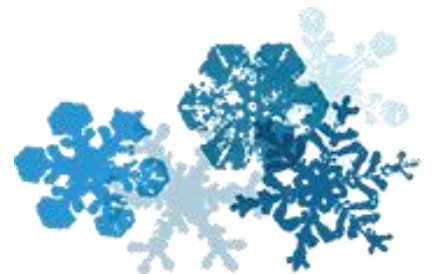
When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins,  
To find the Lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.

Throughout the season of Epiphany, we hear about the beginning of Jesus' ministry, the impact of that ministry on "the nations," (that includes us, now) and our call to follow Jesus in that ministry. What will that ministry look like here as you continue to consider where you have been, your gifts for sharing the gospel in this community, and your challenges and opportunities for growth? A crucial resource for moving into the future is **hope** in God's love working through us, as individuals and as a congregation. If we have hope and a trust in God's presence and guidance, we are better able to participate in that "work of Christmas," no matter how difficult it can often be to face that work.

Doing the "Janus" work of self-reflection, congregations do well to ask three basic kinds of questions: "Who are we?" "Who is our neighbor?" and "What would God have us be doing?" Related to those basic questions are other questions: "Where have we been?" and "What resources and gifts have we been given for doing God's work?"

I ask God for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, so that there will be many blessings on the journey of this new year. May God show us how to carry the work of Christmas into every season.

Thanks so much to the congregation for your cards and your very generous Christmas gift.





**REMINDER!** Please check the church calendar in the office before scheduling an activity at the church. Thanks for your help!



**THANK YOU TO THE DECEMBER WORSHIP SERVANTS:**

**Recording/sound engineers:** Adam & Jody Pomfret;  
Andrew & Elizabeth Eichmiller.

**Lay assistants:** Pete Gustafson, Gordon Afdahl, Carol Hawn, Patricia McIntyre, Gayle Bland

**Ushers:** Gordon & Linda Afdahl, John & Kim Schoffstall, Tina Teeters, Aiden Pomfret, Andrew & Elizabeth Eichmiller, Marvin & Barb Mericle

**Altar Care:** Jody Pomfret, Donna Gustafson, Suzi Bloomer, Sue Gosse, Denise Taylor

**Communion Bread:** Donna Gustafson, Barb Mericle, Denise Taylor, Sandy Teeters

**Please Note:**

**Annual Reports Due** - Thur. 4 @ 9:30a  
**Chair Reports Due** - Thur. 11 @ 9:30a  
**Council Retreat** - Sat. 13 @ 9am  
**Congregational Meeting** - Sun. 21 after service  
**Newsletter Items Due** - Mon. 22 @ 9:30a



**BIRTHDAYS**

- |                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1/3 Charles Parks     | 1/25 Adam Pomfret |
| 1/16 Corrine Erickson | 1/26 Sue Gosse    |
| 1/9 Trenton Shook     | 1/29 Helen Andres |
| 1/13 Jean Chance      |                   |
| 1/16 Jody Pomfret     |                   |
| 1/17 Marvin Mericle   |                   |
| 1/23 Donna Gustafson  |                   |



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1/2 James & Denise Pendergast
- 1/12 Joe & Darlene Kuzmission
- 1/16 John & Kim Schoffstall



**BIRTHDAYS**

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 2/3 Rudie Butler       | 2/14 Jim Ross        |
| 2/7 Rev. Dana Newhouse | 2/16 Jenna McFarland |
| 2/8 Andrew Baber       | 2/17 Robert Dierdorf |
| 2/8 John Schoffstall   | 2/19 Maggie McLennan |
| 2/9 Sean McLennan      | 2/22 Cody Spallone   |
| 2/11 Randy Bland       | 2/23 James Woolsey   |
| 2/11 Aiden Pomfret     | 2/26 Luke Yeagley    |
| 2/11 Sandy Teeters     | 2/27 Arianna Greene  |
| 2/12 Beth Faust        |                      |
| 2/13 Jim Rodenberger   |                      |
| 2/14 Margie Phillips   |                      |



**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2/2 Harry & Virginia English
- 2/25 Adam & Jody Pomfret

## VOLUNTEERS FOR JANUARY

**Counters for January:** Pete & Donna Gustafson



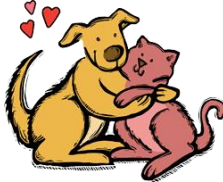
<u>DATE</u>	<u>Lay Assistant</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Communion Assistants</u>
1/7/24	Linda Afdahl	Ray & Suzi Bloomer	Denise Taylor (set up/clean up) Denise Taylor (bread)
1/14/24	John Neuenschwander	Gordon & Linda Afdahl	Suzi Bloom (set up/clean up) Carol Hawn (bread)
1/21/24	Tom Weir	Gayle Bland & Aiden Pomfret	Jody Pomfret (set up/clean up) Kim Schoffstall (bread)
1/28/24	John McIntyre	Pete & Donna Gustafson	Suzi Bloomer/Pat McIntyre (set up/clean up) Donna Gustafson (bread)



Dear Trinity Family,

I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart for welcoming me into the church this year. I feel so blessed that God led me here and it has been so great to have a church feel like 'home' again. Thank you also for the many well wishes I received when I fell ill and for your generous Christmas gifts. I am looking forward to continuing to serve in the year 2024!

-Jenna



### Using Planned Giving to Make A Gift to Trinity

If you are considering making a gift to Trinity Lutheran Church or its endowment, the Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) can assist you. This gift may involve cash, property, stocks, bonds, or other resources. The gift may be included in your will through estate planning or be an outright gift at any time. The ELCA can assist you in making this gift and in taking advantage of all tax laws.

If you are considering a gift, please contact Pete Gustafson at [gustafso25@gmail.com](mailto:gustafso25@gmail.com). He will put you in touch with a planned giving expert at the ELCA.

#### *Did you know?*

An "RMD" is a *Required Minimum Distribution* from your Traditional IRA. RMD is required beginning with tax year after you become 72 years old. RMDs remitted *directly* to a Qualified Charity (such as Trinity Lutheran Church), are *not included* in your taxable income. Consequently, the income taxes you pay are less.

RMDs sent by the IRA administrator directly to a charity are "Qualified Charitable Distributions" (QCDs) and are not included in your taxable income subject to Federal or state income tax. QCDs are not deductible as an itemized deduction.

If you are required to have Required Minimum Distributions from your IRA accounts, speak to your Financial Advisor about QCDs. After consulting with your financial advisor, let your IRA custodian know you wish to make a QCD. Be sure to provide them with the information they request. Do not ask the IRA custodian to send the QCD to you. They must send the QCD directly to the charity.

CHARITY



Taxes from RMDs







**QUILTERS** will meet Sat., Jan. 13 at 9am. Bring your scissors and rested hands!

### MEN'S BREAKFAST

Cackleberries on Tuesday 1/9 & 1/23 @ 8:30am.



### FIRST FRIDAY CARDS:

The December gathering of an evening of cards was held on Friday, December 1 in the fellowship hall. We celebrated the seasons of Advent and Christmas with food (eggrolls were new on the menu), fellowship (lots of news from various parties) and a friendly game of cards (of course, the scorekeeper won.) The game was fast paced and the lead changed with almost every hand. There were agreements (13 cards is a lot of cards to hold at one time) and disagreements (who dealt this mess!). In the end we left as friends and the actual score was quickly forgotten. Join us to start the new year with First Friday cards on Friday, January 5, at 6 pm in the fellowship hall. Bring food to share and a smiling face.



### TRINITY WOMEN:

Trinity Women will hold their monthly meeting on

Wednesday, January 10 at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. Suzi Bloomer is the hostess and will present the Bible Study from Psalm 27: Waiting for the Lord

### TRINITY RINGERS

continue rehearsals on Wednesday at 5:15 pm. Bring your rested and relaxed hands and wrists, your sharp eyes, and be ready to laugh and play some music. Thanks for your dedication and willingness to play.



Questions, see Suzi Bloomer (812-877-4273).

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, Jan. 21st immediately following the service.

PLEASE plan on attending!



Ruth Circle is gathering on Wed, 1/17 at 10am in the library.

### THE ONE WHO SINGS PRAYS TWICE! JOIN THE CHOIR!

It is said that the one who sings prays twice. There is no better way to accomplish that than to join the choir. New voices are always welcome. Rehearsals resume in the New Year on **Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm.** Why not make a New Year's Resolution to try singing in the choir in 2024. If you have any questions please speak with our music director Sara Johnson or any choir member. You can speak with Sara following worship on Sunday mornings, reach her by phone at (812)360-0897 or email at sarajjohnson72@yahoo.com.

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!**

### TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY 11:30-12:30 COME AS YOU ARE!

Topical Bible study using the book, *102 Fascinating Bible Studies*, written by a Baptist pastor, Preston A. Taylor. The unusual thing about this study is that each of the 102 chapters stand alone. There are 102 topics arranged in alphabetical order. Each chapter contains ten Bible passages with questions related to the topic.

We read the Bible passages and discuss the questions. We usually spend two meetings on each chapter. Talk to Johnny Neuenschwander who sets up the Zoom meetings. He will send you a link and reminder. Everyone is welcome to participate.

If viewing the pdf while you are online, you can click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9142075889?pwd=VkU5R3BydFMzMzZOZzgyS3kvdjFzdz09>





We extend our gratitude to those who have helped to provide music for our 10 am worship services in December. The Trinity Choir provided offertory music on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>; the Trinity Ringers provided prelude and offertory music on December 10<sup>th</sup> and provided a bell toll for the lighting of the Advent Wreath on each Sunday; Charles Parks shared a special solo on Advent 4; and Patricia and John McIntyre provided our offertory music on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Thanks also to John McIntyre who composed the Advent tolls. In addition, we were blessed with three guest musicians from SMWC on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Many thanks to drummer Adam Stattner and sopranos Carmen and Vivian D'Agostino who were part of the choir that day.

We also were blessed with wonderful music on Christmas Eve. Special thanks are offered to our guest flutist Amanda Fallon and to the Trinity Ringers, Trinity Choir, the wonderful singing of the congregation, and John McIntyre for composing the choir anthem and for leading our singing of Silent Night with his guitar.

Thanks are also offered to our corps of cantors: Charles Parks, Patricia McIntyre, John McIntyre, Bill Strecker, Elizabeth Eichmiller, and John Neuenschwander for their faithful service throughout the year.

Thanks be to God for Jenna McFarland, our Parish Administrator and for Suzette Bloomer who filled in the week before Christmas when Jenna fell ill. Thanks for providing all our printed and online worship materials, keeping us informed of our schedule of activities and performing many unseen but necessary tasks.

And last, but certainly not least, our gratitude is extended to Pastor Karen for her leadership of our worship on Sunday mornings, her guidance of our congregation, her meaningful messages and her pastoral care. We are blessed to have her leadership of Trinity.

Trinity is blessed to have many talented people sharing their talents in service to Christ throughout the year.

**Thank you all!**



**BE PRAYING FOR...**

Christina Browne, Carla Chapman, Corrine Erickson, Braden Hunt, Kristan Hunt, Jade, Janet, Don Johnson, Kris Johnson and Debbie, P.K. Johnson, Jean Lapp, Jack & Carol Lee, Mary Lee, Deval Lennon, Bruce and Karol Martindale, Richard Martindale, Judy McGregor, Pastor Dana and Susie Newhouse, Briar Osborn, Charles Parks, Pastor Ben and Pastor Susan Stallings, Sarah Stroik, Sarah VanSell, and Rhoda Wood.

## Bottle Cap Collection

We are collecting bottle caps for Reach Services in Terre Haute. Info on what is accepted is located in the Narthex. We look forward to collecting caps and lids & building more benches! For more information, contact Elizabeth Eichmiller @ 812-698-3365 or ebrochin95gmail.com

**Pastor's Discretionary Fund** assists with individuals in need of assistance, primarily utility needs by working with the Salvation Army. Any help replenishing this fund is greatly appreciated. *Mark your offering envelope .*

Calling all adults! Come join in on

Adult Sunday School held

every Sunday

before service at 9am!



## 2023 PENNY POWER OFFERING

On the last Sunday of each month, our pennies are donated to Lutheran World Hunger in order to buy milk for children in a developing country.

January	71.68
February	36.45
March	55.93
April	71.20
May	41.23
June	89.26
July	60.30
August	66.43
September	30.04
October	62.32
November	70.71
December	to be announced...



**2023 Total: \$655.55**

*Equals 65,555 cups of milk for needy children!!*



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

### EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Earthquakes in Turkey and Morocco have cause wide-spread devastation. Lutheran World Relief is prepared to serve here as we continue to help in Maui following devastating wildfires.

Your help is needed.

Give to Lutheran Disaster Response

P O Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Give by phone: 800-638-3522

Give online: [disaster@elca.org](mailto:disaster@elca.org)

## That's Life

The most destructive habit - Worry

The greatest Joy - Giving

The greatest loss - Loss of self-respect

The most satisfying work - Helping others

The ugliest personality trait - Selfishness

The most endangered species - Dedicated leaders

Our greatest natural resource - Our youth

The greatest "shot in the arm" - Encouragement

The greatest problem to overcome - Fear

The most effective sleeping pill - Peace of mind

The most crippling failure disease - Excuses

The most powerful force in life - Love

The most dangerous pariah - A gossip

The world's most incredible computer - The brain

The worst thing to be without - Hope

The deadliest weapon - The tongue

The two most power-filled words - I Can

The greatest asset - Faith

The most worthless emotion - Self-pity

The most beautiful attire - SMILE!

The most prized possession - Integrity

The most powerful channel of communication - Prayer

The most contagious spirit - Enthusiasm



THANKS  
FROM THE  
HEART

**THANKS:**

to all who participated in the angel tree. We delivered 65 gifts to C.O.D.A. We appreciated the Thrivent Action Team gifts that helped boost that number.

To all who contributed preemie and newborn items for layettes at Union Hospital. We collected 150 gifts for the Chaplain's Office.



The **2024 Sign Up** sheets are now posted in the Narthex!!

Recycling and the Blessing Box are great services our church offers, and it can't be done without *YOUR* help!

The flower chart is also posted with a lot of availability!



Altar Flowers



**BLESSING BOX ITEMS**

We continue to collect non-perishable food items and personal care items for the blessing box. Please see the list posted in the narthex of acceptable items. No perishable food, please. Items can be left in the basket in the Narthex. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

Dear Trinity Family,

Please accept my heartfelt gratitude for your many cards, gifts and remembrances during Christmas time. I especially appreciate the financial gift from the church. Your generosity is humbling. I am privileged to be working with such a wonderful group of people. I pray for God's blessing on us all in 2024.

In Christ's love and service,  
Sara J.





## Bible Quiz


Complete this proverb: "Like snow in \_\_\_\_\_ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

A. springtime  
B. summer  
C. seedtime  
D. autumn



Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.)

# PUZZLE



## HAPPY NEW YOU!

Changing the calendar each January is a reminder that God makes all things new.

*Directions: Use the clues and the calendar code to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV.*

JANUARY 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	God	night	word	in	love	Jesus
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
glory	therefore	speak	give	light	Christ	a
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
saw	beginning	anyone	waters	help	is	many
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
he	again	through	earth	made	while	back
28	29	30	31			
new	if	and	creation			

The second Monday \_\_\_\_\_  
 The last Monday \_\_\_\_  
 The 16th \_\_\_\_\_  
 One day before the 20th \_\_\_\_  
 The day before the first Friday \_\_\_\_  
 The last weekday of the second week \_\_\_\_\_  
 The day after the 20th \_\_\_\_  
 The day after 18th \_\_\_\_  
 The first day of the second weekend \_\_\_\_  
 The last Sunday \_\_\_\_  
 The last day of the month \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.

# NEW YEAR'S NOISE-MAKERS

Ring in the New Year with these fun noisemakers!



**What you need:**

- Wooden craft sticks
- Metallic paint (gold and silver)
- Paint brushes
- Jingle bells (gold and silver)
- Hot glue gun
- Metallic ribbon
- Scissors
- Adult help

**What you do:**

1. Paint half the sticks gold and half silver. Let dry.
2. Glue three bells to each stick.
3. Cut a six-inch piece of ribbon for each stick. Tie a bow and glue it to the noisemaker. Celebrate!





**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

**Pastor: Karen Husby: 812-230-2628**  
**President: Sue Gosse: 812-299-5251**  
**Vice President: Andrew Eichmiller: 812-797-2720**  
**Secretary: Jody Pomfret: 812-243-1130**  
**Financial Secretary: Greg Essig: 812-514-8055**  
**Treasurer: Gordy Afdahl: 812-877-0903**

*Organist/Music Director: Sara Johnson: 812-360-0897*  
*Administrative Assistant: Jenna McFarland: 812-240-3970*  
*Church: 812-232-7628*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>  Office Closed	<b>2</b> 5:15p 100th Anniv. Committee	<b>3</b> 6:00p Finance Meeting	<b>4</b> 9:30a Annual Reports Due	<b>5</b>  6p First Friday Cards 6p St. Stephen's 12th Night Dinner	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9a Sunday School 10a Worship	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8:30a Men's Breakfast 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	<b>10</b> 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir 7p Trinity Women	<b>11</b> 9:30a Chair Reports Due	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9a Council Retreat 9a Quilting
<b>14</b> 9a Sunday School 10a Worship	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	<b>17</b> 10a Ruth Circle 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir	<b>18</b>  Gourmet Coffee Day	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9a Sunday School 10a Worship Congregational Meeting	<b>22</b> 9:30a Newsletter Items Due	<b>23</b> 8:30a Men's Breakfast 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	<b>24</b> 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9a Sunday School 10a Worship Penny Power	<b>29</b>  National Puzzle Day	<b>30</b> 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	<b>31</b>			

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

**Phone:** 812-232-7628

**Pastor Husby:** 812-230-2628

**TLC email:** office@trinityterrehaute.org

**TLC website:** <https://trinityterrehaute.org>

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Fri. 9:30a-1:30p

### Sunday Services

10a IN-PERSON &

ONLINE SERVICE

[https://www.youtube.com/  
@trinitylutheranchurchterre4439](https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurchterre4439)



## TRINITY'S PURPOSE STATEMENT

Growing in  
Grace,  
Sharing  
Christ's  
Love.



### Accompanying Guiding Principles

- Rooted in the Grace of Christ
- Listen, trust, and move with the Holy Spirit
- Generously share God's Gifts
- Love our neighbors
- Accept and welcome all

Trinity Lutheran Church  
2620 Ohio St.  
Terre Haute, IN 47803



Growing in  
Grace,  
Sharing  
Christ's  
Love.