

Trinity Tidings

DECEMBER 2006: Trinity Lutheran Church, Pre-school, Childcare, Kindergarten 331 W. George St. West Chicago, IL 60185
PHONE: (630) 231-1175 WEB SITE: <http://www.trinitywc.com>



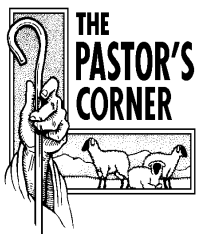
Special Services

November 29 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
December 6 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
December 13 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
December 16 5:30 PM Christmas Choral Service

December 20 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
December 23 5:30 PM (Advent 4)
December 24 10:00 AM (Advent 4)
December 24 5:30 PM (Christmas Eve)
December 24 11:00 PM (Christmas Eve)
December 25 10:00 AM (Christmas Day)
December 31 7:00 PM (New Years Eve)

January 14th 1:00 PM Tastefully Simple

Christian Stewards are Loved and Loving, Given and Giving!



December is the month to celebrate Christmas. As Christians our thoughts return to Bethlehem and that first Christmas when ***God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have***

eternal life (John 3:16 NIV). Yes, God loved the world, even though it is infected with sin, and He proved His love by sending His own Son to be the Savior of that fallen world. We call that love grace, which means undeserved love, because we are sinners who deserve only God's wrath and eternal punishment. But Christmas, Good Friday and Easter Sunday change everything for us as God's people.

Worldly people will celebrate Christmas in a sentimental and superficial way as they take some time off from work and gather with family and friends to eat, drink and exchange gifts. They may wish each other a "Merry Christmas" but not in the same way we Christians say it. We see Christmas as a first step in God's plan of salvation. As Christians we see the shadow of the cross passing over that manger in Bethlehem. We hear again the words the angel spoke to the frightened shepherds: ***"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11 NIV).***

We Christians see Christmas as the down payment of God's fulfillment of His promise to save His people from their sins. We are reminded of the truth that when God wanted to show His love to the world, He did not send a letter or a messenger, but He sent His one and only Son. Such wondrous love! Such a marvelous gift!

Christian stewards are loved and loving and are given and giving. Because God first loved us we can love Him and love others. The Apostle John in his first letter wrote: ***"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth" (1 John 3:16-10 NIV).***

We have been loved so much and given so much. Our response to God's love and gifts is seen in our loving and giving to others. All that we are and all that we have are gifts from God, the true Owner and Giver of all things. Christmas is a vivid reminder for us to show our love by giving, not only to our church, but also to others, and to do it with great joy because ***"God's stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do!"***

From the School

Family Routines

Children develop best in an environment of order and consistency. They are happier when they know what to expect. To a young child, a predictable world is a safe world.

By setting up regular, reliable times and procedures for daily events, parents and teachers provide a dependable environment. Routines also help avoid the power struggles that so often occur between adults and children.

You'll find life with your child goes more smoothly if you set up and consistently carry out regular routines such as bedtime, wake-up time, mealtimes, chore times, play times, and homework times. It might help to have a list of the sequence of daily events posted where your child can refer to it as necessary (for example, Bedtime- put on pajamas, brush teeth, read story). Use simple drawings, or have your older child help with writing out the words to the routine schedule. They feel a part of the planning and are more apt to agree to work with you when homework comes or bedtime arrives.

Of course, some changes in schedules and routines are unavoidable. And while children prefer routine, they are resilient enough when a familiar routine has to be disturbed.

There are two basic points to remember:

Be consistent. Children are the most content when the same thing happens at pretty much the same time every day; and

Explain deviations from the routine. If you have to change your plans, let your child know ahead of time, if possible, and explain the situation and the change you are making.

With the holidays quickly approaching, many routines will be changing at home and at school. This is okay as long as you realize that if you feel overwhelmed or upset because routine is different- your child probably does too. Try to include some downtime just for fun during this busy time of the year.

IMPORTANT DATES

Fall Fundraiser Delivered on November 28th— monies due on December 5th.

Book Fair: Wednesday, December 6th from 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Mansfield TTh Class: Family Christmas Gathering (Dec. 19 at 10:30 a.m.)

Mrs. Mansfield MWF Class: Family Christmas Gathering (Dec. 20 at 10:30 a.m.)

Miss Strobel's Class: Family Christmas Gathering (Dec.19 at 4:00 p.m.)

Miss Gregory's Kind. Class: Family Christmas Gathering (Dec. 20 at 4:00 p.m.)

Fireman Lee-December 8 safety visit

Christmas Break –December 22-January 7 (NO PS/ K/MDO) DAYCARE OPEN

Center closed: December 25 and January 1.

PS & K classes return on January 8th, 2007.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR FALL FUNDRAISER, BOOK FAIR, AND ALL OUR OTHER PROGRAMS SUCH AS SHOP & SHARE, BOX TOPS, CAMPBELLS LABELS, AND FUNDABILITY. WE APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S EFFORTS TO HELP MAKE OUR SCHOOL THE SUCCESS WE FEEL IT IS!!

REMINDER: OUR PARENT CLUB STILL NEEDS ACTIVE MEMBERS. COME JOIN US.

OUR SCHOOL STILL HAS OPENINGS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES FROM 2-12. CALL (630)231-5849 TO FIND OUT WHAT IS AVAILABLE.

Wishing everyone a joyous and blessed Christmas, and a very happy New Year.

*"It's Christmas! It's Christmas!"
I sing and shout.
Your birthday, Your birthday,
Is what it's about.
Happy birthday, Jesus! Amen.*

CHRISTMAS CHORAL SERVICE 2006

Come one, come all, and experience wonderful music and Scripture during our annual Christmas Choral Service. Trinity's choirs and Sunday School would like to praise God with "HOPE, LOVE, PEACE AND JOY". The service will take place on Saturday, **December 16, 2006 at 5:30pm**. There will be a potluck afterwards so people are encouraged to bring a dish to pass. This year, we will be dedicating the Free-Will Offering during the Potluck to the United States Armed Forces and peacemakers around the world. Additional donations are welcome and will be sent to the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces. If you wish to make a donation, cash and checks will be accepted (please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church). We look forward to seeing you there!

Special Divine Services for the Holidays

Advent Season

November 29 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
 December 6 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
 December 13 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)
 December 20 7:00 PM (Soup Supper starts at 6pm)

Christmas Season

December 23 5:30 PM (Advent 4)
 December 24 10:00 AM (Advent 4)
 December 24 5:30 PM (Christmas Eve)
 December 24 11:00 PM (Christmas Eve)
 December 25 10:00 AM (Christmas Day)
 December 31 7:00 PM (New Years Eve)

TASTEFULLY SIMPLE Returns!

Back by popular demand, Trinity Lutheran School is proud to host another TASTEFULLY SIMPLE fundraiser! This event will take place on Sunday, January 14, 2007, at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend and sample some favorite winter products that will be sure to warm the coldest day. TASTEFULLY SIMPLE offers "a wide selection of convenient, easy-to-prepare gourmet foods designed to help people spend less time in the kitchen and more time enjoying the rest of their lives." For more information on the company, visit www.tastefullysimple.com.



ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

Philip & Amber Zelman
12/18/2004
Harry & Bruce Alfrieda
12/25/1945

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER

Jacklyn Latham	1
Patricia Jensen	1
Christopher Fagalde	3
Trevor Bartels	7
Jennifer Grobe	7
Jill Grobe	7
Arlene Zarate	7
Rita Dauber	9
Peter Conrad	9
Edward Dierking	10
Grant Weaver	10
Andrea Rosedale	12
Donna Kuhn	15
Sara Jensen	15
Katherine Hollen	18
Ronald Rakow	19
Lawrence Zinser	22
Jessica Leeseberg	25
Ashlee McLeod	30

Look who's having a Birthday!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

IN DECEMBER

Sara Jensen	2
Carolyn Hansen	2
Barbara Keller	3
Autumn Planek	5
Ronny Howard	6
Donna Brothers	12
Santo Lee	12
Jazmyn Behrends	13
Nancy Planek	18
Noelle Fillo	23
Seth Beutke	24
John Pautler	24
Jamie Schmidt	25
Andrea Gustafson	29
John Siekmann	30
Darcy Lee	30

Assistant Schedule for December 2006

DATE	TIME	WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	USHERS	LAY READERS	ACOLYTES	CHOIRS	COUNT TEAM
DECEMBER 2 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft David Zarate	Eldra Rakow			
DECEMBER 3 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Richard Kovarik	Carl & Dee Mennecke	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
DECEMBER 3 Communion	10:30 a.m.	Mark Beutke	Dennis Weaver Doug Schmidt	Doug Schmidt	Jonathan Bartels	Joyful Noise	Doug & Jamie Schmidt Wayne & Kristi Gregory
DECEMBER 6	7:00 p.m.	Mark Beutke		Mark Beutke			
DECEMBER 9 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia Richard Rolseth	Eldra Rakow			
DECEMBER 10 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Lois Kovarik	Sara Jensen		
DECEMBER 10 Communion	10:30 a.m.	Dennis Hargreaves	Dan & Heather Greubel	Dan Greubel	Logan Bruce		Judy Leeseberg Karla Bruce
DECEMBER 13	7:00 p.m.	Mike Cracraft	Dan Rakow Dick Kovarik				
DECEMBER 16 Choral Service	5:30 p.m.	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft David Zarate	Eldra Rakow		All	
DECEMBER 17 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Richard Kovarik	Lois Kovarik	Dan Rakow		
DECEMBER 17 Communion	10:30 a.m.	John Pautler	Chris Fagalde Doug Schmidt	Chris Fagalde	Aaron & Megan Fagalde		Cheryl Perkis Greg & Sharon Garcia
DECEMBER 20 Communion	7:00 p.m.	Mark Beutke	Carl Mennecke Dick Kovarik	Mark Beutke			
DECEMBER 23 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia Richard Rolseth	Eldra Rakow			
DECEMBER 24 Communion	10:00 a.m.	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Sue Matejka	Dan Rakow		Jeni Siekmann Laura Grobe
DECEMBER 24 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Mark Beutke	Dan Rakow Richard Rolseth	Mark Beutke	Jonathan Bartels	Little Lambs Hosanna Choir	
DECEMBER 24 Communion	11:00 p.m.	Dennis Hargreaves	Dennis Weaver Doug Schmidt	Dennis Hargreaves		Joyful Noise	
DECEMBER 25 Communion	10:00 a.m.	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Richard Kovarik	Sue Matejka	Amber Matejka		
DECEMBER 30 Communion	5:30 p.m.	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft David Zarate	Eldra Rakow			
DECEMBER 31 Communion	8:00 a.m.	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Carl & Dee Mennecke	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
DECEMBER 31	10:30 a.m.	John Pautler	Doug Schmidt Dennis Weaver	Doug Schmidt	Logan Bruce		Doug & Jamie Schmidt Wayne & Kristi Gregory
DECEMBER 31 Communion	7:00 p.m.	Greg Garcia	Dick Kovarik Carl Mennecke				

DECEMBER 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8am Divine Service 9:30am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	4 LWML meeting!!	5 6PM School Board Meeting 7pm Sunday School Teacher's Meeting	6 9 am Worship 6PM Soup Supper 7PM Midweek Advent Divine Service	7 4:30-5PM LL Choir 6:45-7:15 PM HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	8	9 5:30pm Divine Service
10 8am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	11 7pm Parish Planning Meeting	12	13 9 am Worship 10 am DCC 6PM Soup Supper 7PM Midweek Advent Divine Service	14 11am WC Terrace 4:30-5pm LL Choir 6:45-7:15pm HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	15	16 5:30pm Christmas Choral Celebration
17 8am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	18	19 News Articles are Due	20 9 am Worship 6PM Soup Supper 7PM Midweek Advent Divine Service	21 11AM WC Terrace 4:30-5PM LL Choir 6:45-7:15 PM HC 7:30pm Joyful Noise	22	23 5:30pm Divine Service
24 10am Divine Service 5:30pm Divine Service 11:00pm Divine Service	25 10am Divine Service	26 Church Office Closed	27 Pastor Ballan on Vacation	28	29	30 5:30pm Divine Service
31 8am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service 7:00 pm Divine Service						