

Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church, Childcare, Pre-school, Kindergarten
331 W. George St. West Chicago, IL 60185

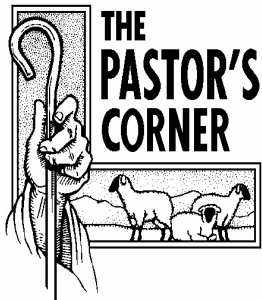
Church Office: (630) 231-1175

Website: <http://www.trinitywc.com>

School Office: (630)231-5849

DECEMBER

- Dec. 3 - 6:00pm Soup Supper
7:00pm Divine Service
- Dec. 6,7 - LWML Bake Sale
- Dec. 8 - 7:00pm Parish Planning Meeting
- Dec. 10 - 6:00pm Soup Supper
7:00pm Divine Service
- Dec. 11 - Pastor attending Circuit Conference
- Dec. 17 - 6:00pm Soup Supper
7:00pm Divine Service
- Dec. 24 - 5:30pm Divine Service/Christmas Eve
11:00pm Divine Service
- Dec. 25 - 10:00am Divine Service/Christmas Day
- Dec. 31 - 7:00pm Divine Service/New Year's Eve



Merry Christmas vs. Seasons Greetings

Do we really know who God is? Many know I like to use the phrase, "Jesus, the Christ" to call upon God. Why, because it is a very exact way to describe who is God. When I am referring to Jesus, the Christ, I am noting the one who is called Jesus, the second person of the Trinity, who is the Christ, the one who makes atonement for our sins.

What am I trying to avoid? Some people say, "Oh, I believe in God." This response is not the best. It is like difference between saying, "Seasons Greetings" vs. "Merry Christmas." Seasons greetings doesn't do much for me, but Merry Christmas notes Christ, especially the Christ child born to Mary, which we celebrate on December 25th.

Any one can say "Seasons Greeting." Any western religion, including Islam, Judaism, and even paganism can answer, "I believe in God." So this isn't the answer that a Christian believer wants to give. For the God in whom we believe is not generically divine. He has revealed Himself in a specific and definite self-revelation in the incarnation (when God takes on flesh and blood) of the Son of God of Mary.

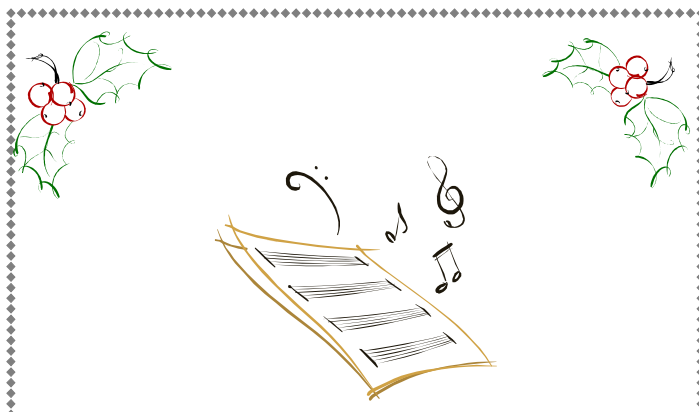
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There is nothing more un-generic than to be born in a specific place, in a specific time, of a specific woman. This is not an act of "general" divinity, but the act of the God of God, who chooses to reveal Himself this way for the salvation of the world. This is the self-revelation of the God who seeks not merely to be made known to humans, but who comes to act decisively in the world for their salvation.

Those who fail to confess that God of God became man of Mary do not confess the Christian God, but something that has more in common with the generic gods of other religions.

So as we enter the Christmas season, don't be ashamed to say, "Merry Christmas." There is a lot packed into those simple words. Also don't forget about the celebration of God's gift for you and the whole world as we celebrate the gift of Christmas, God taking on flesh and blood to redeem us.

Pastor Balla



Christmas Choral
Celebration

Join us on Saturday December 13th at 5:30pm for "God's Gift to the World", a Christmas celebration with Trinity's choirs and Sunday School. Then continue celebrating at the Potluck in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish.

***A Freewill offering will be taken for our school.



LWML BAKE SALE

LWML will be sponsoring a bake sale to benefit Trinity Lutheran School.

Do you have a sweet specialty or baked treat you would be willing to donate? Perhaps you'd like to try someone else's homemade creation?

Join us on December 6 & 7

If you have any questions please contact Lois Kovarik or the church office.

ALTAR GUILD IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Here is what we do:

- ~ Hang banners relating to the church season
- ~ Dust the chancel area of the church
- ~ Change candles and check oil in altar candles and eternal light (please see pastor if you do not want to handle candle oil)
- ~ Prepare communion ware for each service
- ~ Clean communion ware after each service
- ~ Straighten kneeler cushions
- ~ Change altar and pulpit paraments as well as eternal light globe to coordinate with appropriate church season

If there are any questions, please contact the church office at (630)231-1175.

**BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES
IN DECEMBER**

Jacklyn Latham	1
Patricia Jensen	1
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
Sara Jensen	15
Donna Kuhn	15
Katherine Hollen	18
Ronald Rakow	19
Jessica Leeseberg	25
Deborah Karns	27
Ashlee McLeod	30



DECEMBER

Sara Jensen	2
Carolyn Hansen	2
Barbara Keller	3
Brooke Hennessy	3
Janet McCarten	4
Autumn Planek	5
Katherine McClintock	5
Santo Lee	12
Donna Brothers	12
Jazmyn Behrends	13
Mary Turnquist	17
Nancy Planek	18
Tyler Ballard	20
Noelle Fillo	23
Caterina Fry	24
John Pautler	24
Seth Beutke	24
Jamie Schmidt	25
Andrea Gustafson	29
Darcy Lee	30
John Siekmann	30



.....THE CHURCH OFFICE

If you have an article you would like placed in the Tidings or bulletin or need to update your contact information etc., please contact Lisa in the church office.

Phone: 630-231-1175
Email:secretary@trinitywc.com

Secretary hours:
9:00am-2:00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Treasurer's Report

Income	\$107,622.01
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$102,782.57</u>
	\$4,839.44



FROM THE SCHOOL

Tired of writing checks for tuition every week or month?
Help is on the way...

Thrivent Financial's *Simply Giving* Program is a convenient way to pay for your tuition. *Simply Giving* provides a no-cost way for families to have tuition payments automatically withdrawn from their bank accounts. Families will be able to choose the frequency of the automatic payments of weekly, semi-weekly or monthly. Tuition payments will be made to the school through a pre-authorized withdrawal from your bank account and deposited on the same day into Trinity's account. Family's **DO NOT** need to be Thrivent members to use this service. Further information will be available soon.


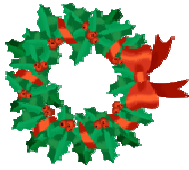




Thank you to all of you who volunteered and donated items to our Used Toy Sale. Your help and donations were greatly appreciated! A special thank you to Dian Cracraft who organized the sale for the school, she did a great job.

Assistant Schedule for December 2008

DATE	TIME	WORSHIP ASSIST.	USHERS	LAY READERS	ACOLYTES	CHOIRS	COUNT TEAM
December 3 Communion	7:00 pm	Ron Benes	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Ron Benes			
December 6 Communion	5:30 pm	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia David Zarate	Eldra Rakow	Emylie Latham		
December 7 Communion	8:00 am	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Dick Kovarik	Lois Kovarik	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
December 7 Communion	10:30 am	Doug Schmidt	Melissa Garcia Wayne Gregory	Doug Schmidt			Doug & Jamie Schmidt Wayne & Kristi Gregory
December 10 Communion	7:00 pm	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Dick Kovarik	Sue Matejka			
December 13 Communion	5:30 pm	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft Richard Rolseth	Eldra Rakow	Logan & Lindsay Bruce	All Choirs	
December 14 Communion	8:00 am	Ron Benes	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Ron Benes	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
December 14 Communion	10:30 am	Dennis Weaver	Wayne Gregory Clark Weaver	Nancy Planek			Kathy Bartels Karla Bruce
December 17 Communion	7:00 pm	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Dick Kovarik	Lois Kovarik			
December 20 Communion	5:30 pm	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia David Zarate	Eldra Rakow	Paige Hennessy		
December 21 Communion	8:00 am	Wayne Matejka	Dan Rakow Carl Mennecke	Sue Matejka	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
December 21 Communion	10:30 am	Doug Schmidt	Wayne Gregory Melissa Garcia	Doug Schmidt	Jack Fillo		Cheryl Perkis Greg & Sharon Garcia
December 24 Communion	5:30 pm	Wayne Matejka	Melissa Garcia	Eldra Rakow		Hosanna Little Lambs	
December 24 Communion	11:00 pm	Doug Schmidt	Dennis Weaver Clark Weaver	Doug Schmidt	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla	Joyful Noise	
December 25 Communion	10:00 am	Ron Benes	Dan Rakow Dick Kovarik	Ron Benes			
December 27 Communion	5:30 pm	Mike Cracraft	Aaron Cracraft Richard Rolseth	Eldra Rakow			
December 28 Communion	8:00 am	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow Dick Kovarik	Lois Kovarik	Sara Jensen Sarah Balla		
December 28 Communion	10:30 am	Dennis Weaver	Dan & Heather Greubel	Dan Greubel			Jeni Siekmann Laura Grobe
December 31 Communion	7:00 pm	Greg Garcia	Sharon Garcia Dan Rakow	Melissa Garcia			

DECEMBER 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 1 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service LWML BAKE SALE	1 7:00pm Parish Planning Meeting	2 7:00pm Sunday School Teacher Mtg	3 9:00am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Divine Service	4 11:00am WC Terrace	5	6 LWML BAKE SALE 5:30pm Divine Service
7 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service LWML BAKE SALE	8 7:00pm Parish Planning Meeting	9	10 9:00am Worship 10:00am DCC 4:30pm Hosanna 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Divine Service	11 Pastor attending Circuit Conference 4:30pm Little Lambs 7:30pm Joyful Noise	12	13 10:00am All choirs practice for Christmas Choral Celebration 5:30pm Divine Service
14 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	15	16	17 9:00am Worship 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Divine Service	18 7:30pm Joyful Noise	19	20 5:30pm Divine Service
21 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	22	23	24 5:30pm Divine Service 11:00pm Divine Service	25 Christmas Day  10:00am Divine Service	26	27 5:30pm Divine Service
28 8:00am Divine Service 9:15am Sunday School Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	29	30	31 New Year's Eve  7:00pm Divine Service			 5:30pm Divine Service