

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2016



Trinity Lutheran Church

We exist to share the good news of life through Jesus with the world and to nurture believers in their faith, all to the glory of God.

Trinity Lutheran School

We exist to help families in Aberdeen and the surrounding communities by providing children with quality academic and Christ-centered education, in a loving and caring environment.

Get Back to the Basics



Fill in the blank. "It's the most _____ time of the year."

We know what the song says, but is that always how we feel? For some, "It's the most *hectic* time of the year." For others, "It's the most *stressful* time of the year." Store owners might say, "It's the most *profitable* time of the year." For some, unfortunately, it becomes the most *selfish* time of the year. Still others will say, "It's the most *expensive* time of the year." Sadly for some, "It's the most *unhappy* time of the year."

How can we make sure Christmas really is a time to rejoice and celebrate? Very simple. Get back to the basics. Jesus Christ was born. God's one and only Son came into this world. That in and of itself is reason to rejoice. But there's more than that to marvel at, in fact much more.

Jesus Christ who was born on that first Christmas, also suffered and died to pay for my sins and win heaven for me. Because he rose again, I know I will rise too and live forever.

Through faith I know what Jesus has done and I enjoy all the blessings of his salvation as my own. By God's grace I know, "Christ the Savior is born." By that same grace I also know, "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!"

So as I celebrate Christmas, I can also look ahead to Good Friday and Easter. As I do, I can see just how much my God loves me and what he was willing to do so I can have and enjoy the greatest blessings of all.

I can rejoice and celebrate because I know that I am God's dear child. I am glad that he will not treat me as my sins deserve. I know he still loves me and always will. I know for sure he is always with me to help me and bless me. I can rejoice and celebrate because I am going to live forever.

The Christmas season might be the most hectic, stressful, and expensive time of the year. But it still can be a wonderful time. If I struggle to find a reason to rejoice and be glad at this time of year, I need to get back to the basics.

Christ was born!
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.

Salvation has been won and the greatest blessings of all are ours through him. That's why we celebrate.

Pastor Rawerts

CHRISTMAS BY CANDLE LIGHT

On December 11, our Trinity Women will be hosting a Christmas Festival program called "*Christmas by Candlelight*". The program begins at 4:00 p.m. All ladies are invited. If you have any questions, please speak with Ardys Gosch.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women of Trinity: You are invited to join us for a weekly Bible Study to look more closely at God's Word and how it can be applied to our lives as women in today's world. We meet Wednesday mornings at 8 AM in the Fireside Room (when school is in session). It is a time of sharing and fellowship for women in the congregation, as well as other ladies you may know who are not members of our church. If you have any questions, please contact Trista Dunsmoor.

TRINITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Thursday, December 8, at 6:00 p.m., we will be having our Trinity Christmas party for the congregation. On that night we will have a potluck meal followed by an evening of games. Both women and men are invited to join us.

NEW CHRISTMAS CARDS AVAILABLE

The new Christmas cards have arrived and are available for purchase. Check out the new selection. The cards are located at the back of the Fellowship Hall.

SERVICES ON THE INTERNET

People are now able to watch our worship services on the internet. Simply go to our website, trinityaberdeen.org and click on 'Church Service Videos'.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REHERSALS

The Sunday School students will be practicing for the Christmas Eve program on the following dates and times:

December 11	10:45 AM
December 17	9:00 AM
December 28	10:15 AM
December 24	9:00 AM



CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Christmas for Kids will be held Saturday, December 10, 2016, from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. We need volunteers to help with serving the children that morning. There are volunteer sign-up sheets on the bulletin table. If you have questions about "Christmas for Kids", please speak to Kelly Van Veen or Pastor Rawerts. If you would like to register your child for "Christmas for Kids", there are a sign-up sheets on the bulletin table or call the church office at 225-6081.

POINSETTIAS:

Christmas will soon be here. Once again we would like to beautify our church and Fellowship Hall with poinsettias, wreaths and candles in celebration of Jesus' birth. If you would like to help decorate our church in this way, please put your name on the name sheet on the guest registration stand by December

10 and give \$10.00 to Marilyn Kjenstad, Bev Gosch, or Gary Bretsch by this date.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL BOOKFAIR DECEMBER 4-11, 2016

The *Bookaneer Book Fair* begins with a special preview debut on December 4.

On **Wednesday, December 7**, the books will be available from 8:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.



Book levels range from preschool through eighth grade, and will be available from 8:30 a.m. until about 3:30 p.m. each day (unless you make other arrangements).

These books make great *Christmas gifts* for all ages. All proceeds from the books will go toward new books, library furniture and library/school needs.

GPLHS CONCERT

Great Plains Lutheran High School will present its annual Christmas concert on December 4 at 4:00 PM. The choirs and the band will share the message of Christmas in honor of the Christ-child. There will be a free-will offering received. Refreshments will be served following the concert. You are invited to come and bring a friend.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWSBYTES

God continues to richly bless Trinity Lutheran School! Here are some recent notes and news related to our school.

FRIDAY CHAPEL SERVICES



Each Friday, at 8:05 a.m., we begin our day with chapel. All parents, relatives and friends are invited to join us. An offering is collected each Friday to teach our students the importance of mission work. This year the chapel offerings will help support Jesus Cares, a ministry that brings the love of Jesus to adults with special needs.

GROCERY RECEIPTS

With Thanksgiving, Christmas, and all the upcoming holidays and festivities, please remember to turn in your grocery receipts from Ken's and Kessler's. The proceeds from the receipts are used to purchase special items for our school. There is a box for the receipts on the bulletin table.

ONLINE GRADEBOOK



Parents are able to login to check grades on a daily basis. Please talk to your teacher to obtain an ID and a Password. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher with any questions.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



We have plenty of opportunities to help out our PTO group and school. PTO will be running a concession stand for the Girls' YMCA Tournament on December 2 and 3. If you are able to help out in the concession stand, please speak with Amy Rawerts or Mr. Aaron Kjenstad. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin table.

BARS FOR TOURNAMENT CONCESSIONS

We are looking for donations of bars to sell at the YMCA Tournament. Please do not cut the bars, and please label anything that may have peanut butter or nuts of any kind. The bars may be dropped off at the church kitchen on Friday, December 2. Thank you.

STUDENT AID FUND

Here at Trinity, we have a huge selection of ways to reach out to people. We have our internet website, sermons on the internet and CDs; we have visitations to our shut-ins, the Fellowship Hall, our new gymnasium. But most of all we have Trinity Lutheran School—a very instrumental way of providing God’s word every day to our Trinity youth and the youth in our community.

Through our Student Aid Fund, we at Trinity try to assist families who want to send their children to Trinity Lutheran School and are unable to afford the tuition. Without our Student Aid Fund, these families would not be able to bring their children to our school and learn about God. Perhaps we have another Peter or John in our midst, but we may never know because our Student Aid Fund is depleted. Please help us build it up again. *"Let the little children to come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."* (Matthew 19:14)



HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Eve Song Service

December 18 6:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service

December 24 6:00 PM

(Our Sunday School children will lead us as we worship our newborn Savior.)

Christmas Day Service

December 25 9:00 AM

(We will have a special Christmas service.)

New Year’s Eve Worship with Communion

December 31 6:00 PM

