

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2017



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.

THANKFUL FOR A SAVIOR

Sometimes you get disgusted. Sometimes your stomach feels queasy. Sometimes you get angry. In your mind, you wonder, "How can people do such things?"

It is difficult to pick up a newspaper or sit through a newscast without hearing about some crime committed by one human being against another. Murder, abuse, robbery, terrorism, illegal drug activity are only some of the crimes reported on an almost daily basis. It's depressing to watch the news sometimes.

All these things are reminders that the world is sinful. People are sinful. Sin is out there, probably much more than we will ever realize. And the sad truth is sinful people do sinful things.

Sometimes I hear about the evil which people do and the wish is in my heart, "I hope someday they get what they deserve." And what do those people deserve? The same thing I deserve.

"The one who sins is the one who will die" (Ezekiel 18:4 NIV 11). Whoever does not do everything God says is under his curse

(Galatians 3:10). The murderer, the wife-beater, the drug lord, the terrorist certainly deserve God's punishment. But I do too, because I have also sinned.

My sins might be different, but they are still sins and they make me just as guilty before God as anyone else. So God has every right to turn against me and make my life miserable. He has every right to take away all that is near and dear to me. He has every right to torture me forever in hell.

I don't want him to do those things. I hope he doesn't do those things. And he won't. Why? Because the Lord keeps his promises. When the first sin was committed, the Lord promised a Savior would come.

As we enter the Christmas season, we remember the Lord kept his promise and sent his Son to be our Savior. The baby born in Bethlehem went to the cross on Calvary and made things right between us and our God. As the beloved Christmas hymn says, "Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."

Reconciled means we are on good terms with God. I might be disgusted with myself because of my mistakes, but I know God is not

disgusted with me. I might be angry at myself, but he is not angry at me. He doesn't hate me. He is not going to turn against me. He will always love me and always help me. I know heaven is my home.

That's why I am glad once again for the opportunity to celebrate Christmas for what it really is, the celebration of the birth of God's Son to be our Savior. I rejoice at the opportunity once again to hear and ponder the true message of Christmas: Today in the town of David, a Savior was born for you. He is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11 EHV)

CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT

On December 3, 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.

TRINITY WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Thursday, December 14, at 6:00 p.m., we will be having our Trinity Women's Christmas party. 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.

WELCOME BAGS

On the bulletin table we now have 'Welcome Bags'. The 'Welcome Bag' is filled with helpful information for someone who is new to our community, including information about our church. If someone new moves into

your neighborhood, please feel free to take a 'Welcome Bag' to give to them.

TRINITY CHRISTIAN COMPANIONS

We have formed a new group called "Trinity Christian Companions." This group has been formed to offer people the opportunity to visit members in our congregation, especially our shut-ins. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you would be interested in making visits. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Rawerts.

SPECIAL OFFERING UPDATE

Our present budget once again includes an additional called worker to meet the demands of our expanding school. Therefore, we have been asking the members of Trinity to consider a special offering that is over and above our regular firstfruits offerings. The goal of this offering is \$15,000. So far, we have received about \$7,800 in special offerings. We ask that our members prayerfully consider the possibility of making a special offering to help us meet our budget. Please label this "TLS Expansion" on the "Other" line on your offering envelopes.

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 16	9:00 AM
December 17	10:15 AM
December 23	9:00 AM
December 24	10:15 AM



CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Christmas for Kids will be held Saturday, December 9, 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 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 17 and give \$10.00 to Marilyn Kjenstad, Bev Gosch, or Gary Bretsch by this date.

GPLHS CONCERT

Great Plains Lutheran High School will present its annual Christmas concert on December 10 at 3:30 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 BOOKFAIR DECEMBER 2-10, 2017



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

On **Wednesday, December 6**, 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 3:30 p.m. each day (unless other arrangements are made).



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.

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.

GROCERY RECEIPTS

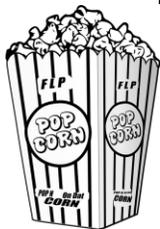
With Thanksgiving, Christmas, and all the upcoming holidays and festivities, please remember to turn in your grocery receipts from Ken's and Kessler's. The proceeds from the receipts are used to purchase special items for our school. There is a box for the receipts on the bulletin table.

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 1 and 2. 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 1. Thank you.



HOLIDAY SERVICES

Advent Eve Song Service

December 17 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 9:00 AM

(There will be no service that evening.)

