

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2020



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.



EPIPHANY GIVES US CERTAINTY

"Where is he who has been born King of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him" (Matthew 2:2 EHV).

Our Christian faith gives us absolute certainty and complete confidence. What a great blessing this is! We are absolutely certain and completely confident about our standing with God. We know for certain that he loves us and is always working to bless us. We are absolutely certain and completely confident that Jesus has done everything so that we are God's dear children who will live forever.

The Lord works in special ways to give us this certainty and confidence. We can see that as we celebrate the season of Epiphany.

On Epiphany we remember how the Lord led the Wise Men to Jesus. Yes, Jesus was born a Jew and did his work among them, but he came for all people. But by leading the Wise Men to Jesus, the Lord

makes it plain that this new-born Savior came for non-Jews as well.

Knowing this gives me certainty. If I am ever tempted to wonder whether God's gift of salvation is for me too, I can think of the Wise Men. God led them to recognize the star in the sky as the fulfillment of a prophecy and brought them to Jesus. By doing this, God showed that the promise made in the Old Testament is indeed true. This Savior really did come for all people, that includes me.

During the season of Epiphany, we hear again the story of Jesus' baptism. The Holy Spirit descended on him and God the Father announced this is his Son. We also hear of miracles Jesus did. All these things give us absolute certainty that Jesus really is the promised Messiah.

What a blessing it is to have this absolute certainty and complete confidence. If the devil tries to fill my mind with doubts about believing Jesus is the true Son of God and the Savior of the world, I can always go back to news I

hear again every season of Epiphany. The Father's words and Jesus' works assure me, "Yes, he really is the Savior of the world. He really is my Savior too."

Knowing this also gives us confidence as we enter into a new year. Many unknowns lie before us. It is easy to wonder and worry about what we or our loved ones may face in the months ahead. But I know that Jesus is the Son of God who saved me and rules the world for me. He promises to be with me always and to help me and bless me in all things. Knowing this gives me absolute certainty and complete confidence as I enter the new year.

Pastor Rawerts

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

We will take the Christmas decorations down on Monday, January 6, 2020, at 6 PM. Please feel free to join us.

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please pick up your 2020 offering envelopes from your mailbox or the table next to the mailboxes. If there is an error or you cannot find your envelopes, please let Penny know.

RECIPES NEEDED

We would like to make a cookbook for our church. The book will contain only *salads* and *desserts*. We have someone who will print it and bind it for us at no charge. If you are interested in contributing to the cookbook, please turn your recipes in to Penny. The recipes may be typed, printed, or emailed to her. You may contribute more than one recipe in each category.

CALLED WORKER APPRECIATION AND NEW MEMBER DINNER

On Sunday, January 26, we will have a special fellowship meal for our called workers and new members. Please bring a dish and a salad or dessert to pass. Coffee and juice will be provided. We will begin our meal at 11:20 AM. At this time we will consider the blessings the Lord gives us through those who serve in the public ministry. We will also give a special welcome to all who have joined our congregation during the previous year. Please join us.

ANNUAL REPORT

We need to start compiling the annual report for the year 2019. If you are responsible for a report, please start the process of preparing one. Please have your report to Pastor Rawerts by January 20th.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent Choice Dollars for 2019 must be directed to a nonprofit organization by March 1, 2020, or the Dollars will be directed by Thrivent. There are 3 ways to do this: (1) Call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice". Thrivent is open from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. (2) You may go online to thrivent.com/thriventchoice. (3) You can do a conference call with Jan Mohr at 725-2025. (Jan's hours vary, so leave a message and she will call you back.) If you have any questions, please call Jan.

QUARTERLY VOTERS' MEETING

The Quarterly Voters' Meeting will be held January 26, 2020, beginning at 10:15 AM.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

A new women's Bible study will be meeting at noon on Tuesdays in the Fireside Room beginning January 7, 2020. We will be doing some 19 minute Bible studies. This way people can come on their lunch breaks, or if they can't always make it, these smaller Bible studies will allow enough time to get back to work and they won't be behind or miss anything from week to week. If you have any questions, please call Trista at 605-228-1346.

APPAREL STORE ONLINE

Trinity Lutheran School is now selling school apparel online. Go to: teamlocker.squadlocker.com and click on "Find Your Store" near the top right, enter "Trinity Lutheran," and select "Trinity Lutheran Tornadoes" to begin shopping.

TRINITY CHRISTIAN COMPANION VISITING PROGRAM

Visits are being made to our shut-ins by a handful of Trinity members. We would like to revisit the program with Trinity members to explore a few things:

- *What exactly is the Christian Companion Visiting Program?
- *Are there members of Trinity who are interested in participating in visitations?
- *Who are we visiting and could the list be expanded?
- *What is expected of a visitor?

We will have a short meeting on Sunday, January 19, 2020, at 10:15 AM to discuss these items.

E-GIVING INFORMATION

We trust that members who have enrolled in e-giving enjoy the convenience and ease of the process. As a reminder if you would still like to participate in the offering during the service – either write "I give electronically" on the outside of your offering envelope or contact Al or Penny and request an "I give electronically" card to drop in the offering plate. This is by no means required but gives an option to folks who would still like to participate in the physical offering process. It is personal preference.

PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

The Preschool and Kindergarten Open House will be on Tuesday, January 14, 2020, from 3:30- 7:00. Preschool open house will be held in the new preschool room with Mrs. Sperry. The kindergarten open house will be held in Miss Lendt's classroom. Anyone who might be interested will be invited to come or can talk to Ms. Kristy Lendt or Mrs. Doreen Sperry with any questions.

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'.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWSBYTES

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

Trinity Lutheran School Health Fair

On Friday, January 10th, TLS will be having a health fair for students in grades K – 8th. From 1-3:p.m. We will have a representative from a dentist's office to discuss good oral hygiene, an audiologist to check hearing, and someone to screen the vision of students. There will also be a session showing the importance of exercise.

BOX TOPS



As you are shopping and baking this time of the year, don't forget to clip out those Box Tops! Put them in groups of 50 and place them in a baggie or just bring them (in any amount), anytime and give them to Ms. Cooper or Mrs. Biegler. Also remember you may scan your grocery receipt to see if any of your purchases have electronic box tops.

GROCERY RECEIPTS

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.

CHRISTMAS LINGERS ON

Sometimes, January brings a little bit of a letdown. Presents are put away. Friends and relatives are gone. The fun and excitement of the holiday season is over. We're back to the regular hum-drum of everyday life.

And yet, as Christians we can take some of that holiday spirit with us. Even though the holiday season might be done, Christmas lingers on. By the grace

of God, we know the true reason for celebrating Christmas. We have been rejoicing because God sent his Son to save me from the punishment I deserve because of my sins and to give me life that will last forever. I am sure of God's love at all times and I know the Lord is always blessing me in the way that is truly best for me.

Those are blessings we enjoy all the time, not simply on December 25. Jesus is my Savior and my Lord every day. The holiday celebration might be over, but the blessings of Christmas linger on. David says, "Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life" (Psalm 23:6 NIV 84).

That means the joy of Christmas can continue even after the holiday season is over. Even in doldrums of January, I'm still rejoicing because God sent his Son for me. In the warm, spring sunshine, I'm glad that my Savior came for me. Even in the dog days of August, I'm happy that Jesus brought me salvation. When I struggle through tough times, I'm glad I have a Savior to cling to, a Savior who will help me through all things.

The holiday season might be over, but still Christmas lingers on. The love the Lord shows me, and the joy I find in him, move me to respond with love and thanks every day, not just on December 25. Every day provides me another opportunity to live for my God in joyful response to blessings he gives me through that baby born in Bethlehem.

The holiday season might be over, but Christmas lingers on. Every day I am blessed because of Christmas. Every day I can be filled with the joy I had on Christmas.

