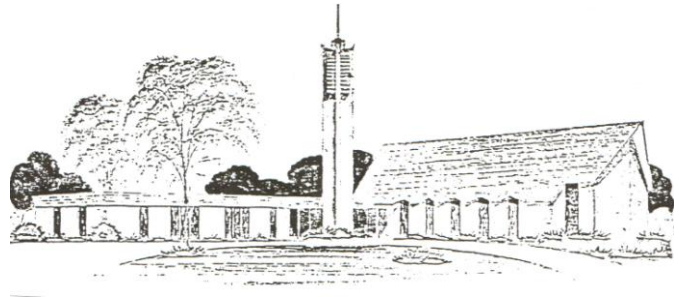




December 2009



Impressions

Early in November people from several area churches gathered at Trinity for a joint business meeting. The best part was hearing about the upswing in the life of many area congregations. Members of North Fond du Lac, Eden-Tabor, Oakfield, and our own Trinity spoke highly of changes in progress. The fellowship was sweet. At the same time, our missions committee, which served a scrumptious meal, met and exceeded its fundraising goals through the free-will offering. Very nice.

But are we doing enough as a church to reach out to the community and to meet the needs of our membership? Am I doing enough as a pastor? No, I am not.

In particular, I am sure that there are unmet pastoral needs that I don't know about. Even when I do know about them, they are often beyond my ability to meet unless I am asked to do so. I can't step into family crises unless asked. When a life change is proving to be a challenge, a health crisis or the loss of a loved one, from the outside, I

cannot always figure out when the right time to visit is, or whether a visit is desired.

I have tried reading people's minds before, but I am not that good at it. I greatly appreciate the fact that I am able to visit the entire membership thanks to the persistent invitational calling of Laverne Senn and Lila Ebert. This project has been going on for 12 months, and as long as Lila and Laverne are up to making the arrangements, I will continue to make the rounds. I also depend on people like Chuck Rhein, Karyn Michels, and Mary Muehlius who let me know when they think someone who has not asked for a visit secretly hopes for one.

Speaking for myself, I secretly hope that my doctor will start making house calls, like doctors used to do. Furthermore, I want him to call me and make the arrangements, without a request on my part. I don't want to call him.

But it's not going to happen.

At Trinity, we try hard to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs, not just of the membership, but of anyone who asks. This is my advice: if you would like a visit, if you would like to share and pray for any reason, do what you would do if you wanted to see your doctor, dentist, or massage therapist (I don't do massages).

Call the church office and ask, "Can I set up an appointment to speak with Pastor John? I want to tell him what a blankety-blank he is." Or: "It's about time he came over." Or: "I have some homemade cookies I want to share with him."

"Yes," will be the answer, "when would you like that to happen?" "Yes," will be the answer. Always.

~ Pastor John Hobbins



TRINITY NEWS

80+ BIRTHDAY CLUB
Happy Birthday to the following who celebrate December birthdays:



Prayer concerns beginning the month of December:

Steve Hayes, Dr. Lee & Kay Friedrich, Darlene Westphal, Faith Beck, Damon Kavonius, Judy Renderman, Tim Jandre (Bruce & Deb Bintzler's son-in-law), Sandi Weiland (Fran Coulter's sister), U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Josh Wege (soldier from Waucousta that was injured in Afghanistan), Bonnie Zimmer (friend of Meatball & Jackie Zimmerman), Dennis Stucke (Judy Stucke's son), Susan Bhend (Cindy Hodny's sister-in-law), Thomas Buffin (Glenn Eichstedt's brother-in-law), Vicki Engels (Kaye Lindberg's sister), Charlie Bast (son-in-law of Nancy Andrews), our members and friends in nursing homes, and to all who serve in the military.



Correct Phone Numbers

Please update the church office with your current phone numbers as many of what are listed are no longer working numbers. We, or other members, may want to contact you but need the correct number in order to do so. Thanks for your help.

Fellow Church Members,

Just a note to bring you up to date on our Budget Shortfall:

Nov. 18, 2007 was	\$ 24,500.00
Nov. 16, 2008 was	\$ 27,600.00
Nov. 15, 2009 was	\$ 32,789.00

Please do whatever you can to help us reduce this shortfall.

Larry Schraufnagel
Financial Chair



Your 2010 Offering Envelopes will be available for you to pick up beginning December 6th in the Fellowship Hall.



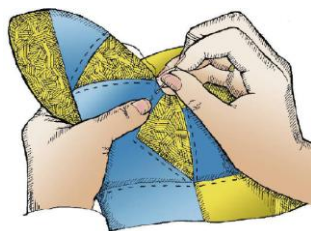
“Oh, the weather outside is frightful, inside it’s so delightful ... When there’s nothing to do but sit, Let us knit! Let us knit! Let us knit!”

It’s that time of year when we look forward to seeing our mitten tree filled with hand knit and purchased mittens and caps. Please help us fill the tree by Sunday, December 13th. We will then deliver everything we have collected to the Salvation Army. Thanks for always being generous with your time and money.



We had a great turn out for our first meeting. A men’s fellowship for those 70 years and older is planned to meet again on Tuesday, December 8th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. Coffee, tea, and cookies or muffins will be provided.

The Quilting Group is meeting again, but are in desperate need of any good, clean, used blankets of any size. Please put them in our cupboard by the west door. Thank you!



***Loaves and Fishes
December 7th***



Trinity Church will be serving for Loaves and Fishes on Monday, December 7th at Church of Peace, 158 South Military Road in Fond du Lac. We will need servers and cooks, bars and cookies, and lots of fruit – there will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex. We will also accept donations. Please call Bobbie Willis at (920) 322-0825 if you have any questions. Thank you!



***Christmas
Schedule***

***December 13 ~ 9:30 a.m. service
Children’s Presentation ~ “Carriers of
the Light”***

***December 24 ~ Christmas Eve
Services:***

***4:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
with Special Music***

***7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
with Special
Instrumental and
Choir Music***

***11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
with Special Music and
Communion***

***December 27 ~ Regular Worship
Services***

Sunday School Reminders



**Sunday School
Holiday
Celebration
Campfire
Friday,
December 4th
6:00 to 7:30 p.m.**

Join us for an evening of holiday music and campfire fun. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall to practice a few songs before we walk to Hope Nursing Home to sing for the residents. When we arrive back at church, the campfire will be roaring, and tasty snacks and hot drinks will be waiting. Come celebrate the beginning of the Advent season!

Christmas Program - "Carriers of the Light"

Each Sunday School family should have received a CD of the program so that the students can practice during the week at home. Some students will have special readings to read while others will be doing solos. Please help your child/children prepare for this very special event.

Saturday, December 12th

The full costume rehearsal of the Christmas Program starts at **3:00 p.m.** in the Church Sanctuary.

Sunday, December 13th - The Big Day

Students should arrive by **8:30 a.m.** and meet in the Fellowship Hall for one final rehearsal and to get everyone in costume. The program will be a part of the 9:30 a.m. worship service. Check your batteries and make sure your cameras are working.

Costumes

The young children will be dressing like the various stable animals including cows, owls, and sheep. Please have your child dress in all one color such as a white (or black) sweatshirt and white (or black) sweatpants for the sheet. Or all brown for the owls and cows. We will provide the ears and tails. The older children will be dressing in the famous Christmas nativity characters. Their costumes will be provided. If anyone does have animal costumes, please let Jackie Scharfenberg (920-269-7399) or Tina Rawlins (tinarawlins@verizon.net) know right away.

December 20th - Sunday School Hour

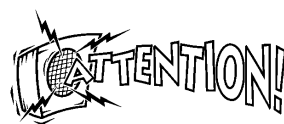
At 8:30 a.m., there will be regular Sunday School hour. Students will be celebrating the birth of our Savior.

December 27th - No Sunday School

Cookie Bakers Wanted



We need cookie bakers to whip up a batch of their favorite Christmas cookies or bars for the reception after the 9:30 a.m. worship service on December 20th and for the 8:30 a.m. Sunday School hour. Drop off your tasty treats in the kitchen before 8:30 a.m. on December 20th. Thank you!



Unclaimed Kitchen Containers

If any unclaimed containers, bowls, or utensils are not picked up by the end of the year, we will assume that they are church property and will be put away. Please check the kitchen counter to see if you have left anything there.



**Take Some
Time to Help
Save a Life**

*Make an appointment to give blood this
holiday season*

As the days get shorter and the to-do lists get longer, the American Red Cross asks eligible individuals to add one more item to that list: donate blood. By adding this one item to your list, you could save up to three lives this holiday season.

With the holidays, travel plans and inclement weather in some parts of the country, your local Red Cross experiences as much as a 5 percent drop in blood donations during the holiday season. It is important that eligible individuals take the time to make an appointment to donate blood now.

Recipients of blood products are not able to take a holiday from needing lifesaving blood. They are in constant need of a healthy blood supply. Please make the time to give blood this holiday season and change a life, starting with your own.

Upcoming Blood Donation Opportunity

Lomira Community Blood Drive
Trinity United Methodist Church
Wednesday, December 30, 2009
Noon to 6 p.m.

The Evergreen Tree

These trees, which keep their green leaves year-round, are symbolic of Christmas, eternal life and God's everlasting love. In the Bible, evergreen trees are called the "cedars of Lebanon," suggesting growth (Psalm 92:12), height (Amos 2:9), fragrance (Hosea 14:6) and steadfast faith.



Gwen's Pen

*Twenty-first
Century*

Madonna and Child



I'm no artist, nor do I have any knowledge of art, its history, or its value. But I've seen paintings, prints, statues, and drawings from the old masters to the modern artists.

When I look at a painting of The Madonna and Child, what I want to see is the love in the mother's eyes, the gentleness in her touch, the selflessness in her face, and of course, the innocence, trust and beauty of the child.

I've seen no work that captures those qualities any more clearly than my personal Twenty-first Century Madonna and Child, which I share with you here. It is pure, Godly love that surrounds the child. And we know that because we see it in the mother's face. One usually sees that love in the eyes of the Madonna, but here we are denied that avenue, for she has her eyes closed. It is, perhaps that very thing that conveys the love. She is totally removed from whatever situation surrounds her and is transported to the private spiritual place within her as she simply loves with all she has and all she is.

The infant tells her story through her open eyes. She is safe. She trusts completely in her mother's constancy, warmth, and unconditional love.

We know that God is love. Could it possibly be anything or anyone less than God who lives within that mother at that moment? Each of us has God within us, but often we don't trust it somehow. We think we have to direct our lives in our own way, when all we have to do is trust completely and know without a doubt that we are immersed in God's unconditional love. *(The child is my great granddaughter; her mom is my granddaughter-in-law. The photo was taken by the baby's grandmother.)*

Trinity Handbell News



Happy Holidays one and all. I can't believe that it is that time of year already. The bell choir did a wonderful job in November. December will be a busy month. We are playing at the Mall on Friday, December 4th from 6-7 p.m. On December 2nd, we are playing for the Soroptimists' Christmas party. The Quartet will be playing on December 9th for the Red Hat Society Christmas party. Then lastly, Christmas Eve.

Keep the spirit of the Holidays in your Heart.

Have a very blessed holiday season.

Diana Jewson
Trinity Bells Director



Lomira Community Theatre

Enjoy an evening of the Lomira Community Theatre's "Remember When ..." ~ including a four course dinner, show and dance to welcome in the New Year's in the USO style. See Tina Rawlins at 979-4428 for details and tickets.



Please remember our
Nursing Home and Homebound Members
this Christmas with Cards and Visits

Hope Health & Rehab
PO Box 280
Lomira, WI 53048

*Della Grandman
Marjorie Marquart*

Mayville Nursing &
Rehab
305 South Clark Street
Mayville, WI 53050

Alton Rosenkranz

Clearview Nursing Home
199 Home Road
Juneau, WI 53039

Lillian Stucke

Grancare Nursing &
Rehab
517 E. Division Street
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Arlene Unferth

Hazel Jordan
North Gate Senior Apts.
350 Winnebago #306
N. Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Thelma Grantman
W197 Highway 67
Lomira, WI 53048

Harriet Krueger
Inver Glen Senior Living
7260 South Robert Trail
Inver Grove Heights, MN
55077

Roger Lindgren
Cedar Ridge Retirement
Apts.
113 Cedar Ridge Drive
West Bend, WI 53095

Helen Muehlius
996 Primrose Lane
Unit 10
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Eunice Sampson
W5403 County Road Y
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Oliver Wolf
c/o Dwayne Wolf
334 East Main Street
Campbellsport, WI 53010



December Birthdays

- 1 *Janie Hodny*
Jacob Krider
- 2 *Sara Drexler*
Taylor Waas
- 4 *Graci Bucklen*
Libby Dahlinger
Debbie Idzikowski
Karla Stumpf
- 5 *Amber Brown*
Chuck Rhein
- 6 *Jasson Johnson*
- 7 *Brad Beck*
Kelly Michels
- 8 *Jimmy Jewson*
Fred Menzer
Justin Thill
- 10 *Tyler Giese*
Aiden Michels
- 11 *John Bartels*
Robert Gudex
Kathy Walker
- 13 *Jim Donald*
Shirley Klein
Katelynn Kretschmer
- 14 *Jacob Dahlinger*
Jason Piittmann
- 15 *Tyler Michels*
- 16 *Marjorie Marquart*
Chuck Westphal


- 18 *Steve Birschbach*
Pam Dewhurst
- 19 *Molly Michels*
- 21 *Elna Look*
Luke Reitz
- 22 *Lillian Stucke*
- 23 *Rich Cardenas*
- 24 *Justin Bialk*
- 26 *Jordan Cowles*
Diana Jewson
Lorraine More
Anna Piittmann
- 27 *Chris Winiecki*
- 28 *Heather Lindberg*
Alexander Thill
- 30 *Bob Hesprich*
- 31 *Mary Donald*

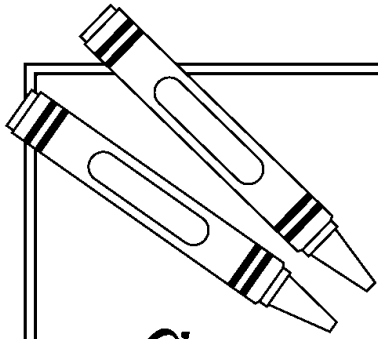


December Anniversaries

- 4 *Gerry & Cheryl Meyer*
Dr. Gary & Cathy Steele
- 29 *Dennis & Karyn Michels*
Larry & Judy Schraufnagel
- 30 *Richard & Sandy Zitlow*

December 2009 ~ Trinity United Methodist Church

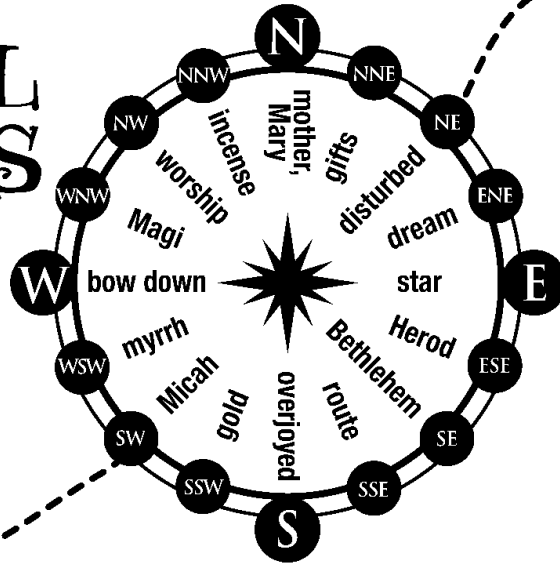
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Worship Services – 7:45 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Sunday School – 8:30 a.m.</p>		<p>1</p> <p>6:00 p.m. U.M.W. Potluck Christmas Party</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6-8 Confirmation with Mentors 6:30 A.A. 7-8:30 Handbells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Northgate Service 2:30 Hope Service 7:00 p.m. Missions Committee Mtg.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00-7:30 p.m. Sunday School Kids' Caroling and Campfire</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p>COMMUNION</p>	<p>7</p> <p>LOAVES & FISHES</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Group</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6-8 Confirmation 6:30 A.A. 7-8:30 Handbells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>10</p> 	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry</p>
<p>13 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p>Second Service – Children's Program</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>6-8 Confirmation 6:30 A.A. 7-8:30 Handbells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00-11:00 a.m. Food Pantry</p>
<p>20 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i></p> <p>4:30 p.m. Adult Fellow. Potluck Christmas Party</p>	<p>21</p> <p><i>First Day of Winter</i></p> 	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>10:30 a.m. St. Francis Home Service 6:30 A.A. 7-8:30 Handbells 7:00 Choir</p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>Christmas Eve</i></p> <p>Services at 4:00, 7:00 and 11:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p><i>Merry Christmas!</i></p> 	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>BLOOD BANK Noon – 6:00 p.m. 6:30 A.A.</p>	<p>31</p> <p><i>New Year's Eve</i></p>	<p><i>Christmas Eve Services</i></p> <p>4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m. with Communion</p>	



Just for **KIDS**

SPECIAL VISITORS

Matthew 2 tells of visitors who traveled to worship Jesus. Read that story, or see if you can answer the questions below from memory. Use the compass guide to fill in the correct answers.



1. Who was king during the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
2. Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNW)
3. How was King Herod feeling about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
4. Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
5. In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
6. King Herod lied to the wise men and told them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
7. What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
8. When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
9. Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
10. What did the Magi do first before they worshiped the child? _____ (W)
11. Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus. _____ (SSW)
_____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
12. These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as ... _____ (NNE)
13. What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
14. The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod, 2. Magi, 3. disturbed, 4. Micah, 5. Bethlehem, 6. worship, 7. star, 8. overjoyed, 9. mother, Mary, 10. bow down, 11. gold, incense, myrrh, 12. gifts, 13. dream, 14. route

December Greeters

December 6 – Harold & Janice Johnson
December 13 – Doug & Chris Kuen
December 20 – Jeff & Dawn Faber and Family
December 27 – Steve & Amy and Owen Unferth

December Acolytes

December 6 – Cheyanne Renderman and Jacob Krider
December 13 – Ben Buske
December 20 – Drew Zimmel and Molly Riehbrandt
December 27 – Colton Christopherson and Justin Poetzel

December Nursery Attendants

December 6 – Open
December 13 – Unferth Family
December 20 – Hobbins Family
December 27 – Hayes Family

December Refreshments

December 6 – Gudex Family
December 13 – Hesprich Family
December 20 – Lavarda Family
December 27 – Kindschuh Family



WORSHIP SERVICE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

First Service – 7:45 A.M.
Sunday School – 8:30 A.M.
Second Service – 9:30 A.M.

Trinity Harvest

Trinity United Methodist Church
300 Church Street
Lomira, WI 53048

John Hobbins, Pastor
Cell: (920) 948-5175
Parsonage: (920) 269-7292
Church Office: (920) 269-4411
Email: trinity@trinityumclomira.org
Website: www.trinityumclomira.org

