



TRINITARIAN

DECEMBER 2018

Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning Worship
9:00 am

Saturday Evening Worship
6:00 pm

Monday Evening Worship
6:00 pm

Bible Class Opportunities

Sunday Morning 10:15 am
Bible Coffee Hour
Led by Pastor McKenzie

Thursday Morning 8:30 am
Coffee with the King
Led by Pastor Engelbrecht

Thursday 6:30 pm
Women's Bible Study
Led by Krista McKenzie

Trinity Lutheran Church
407 Oak Street
Neenah, WI 54915

920-722-6712
www.trinityneenah.net

“Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.’” (Luke 2:13-14)

Peace. It seems like such a quaint notion these days. When you are busy running here, there, and everywhere and are still losing ground, there is no peace. When you have run out of things to do on your to-do-list (yes, there are people like that out there) and you wish you had something you had to do, there is no peace. When you turn on the tube, or flat-screen, and see all of your beliefs and values flouted on almost every program or witness news of deadly wildfires, mass-shootings, and political shenanigans run amok, there is no peace. It seems like the angels were announcing an ideal that may happen for us in the future beyond the horizon, but peace seems nowhere near us today.

Good thing perception is not reality.

The reality is that what the angels announced is already yours and mine today. Through that little bundle of joy that was delivered into the world on the first Christmas, you and I have peace with our God. He is not angry with you, upset with you, or even the slightest bit unhappy with you. He can't be because Jesus already took that on himself and did away with it. So, you have peace with your maker. That means you can be at peace now.

The noise that is all around you, the squealing and caterwauling that seems incessant in all of society, the chaos that surrounds everything that is this world, is simply the death rattle of sin and its consequences. Satan and his minions do not want to go down without a fight, and neither does your sinful nature. But they have all already been defeated. So you, Christian, are at peace even as trials and tribulations inflict a flailing world.

Peace is not, then, a quaint notion or an unobtainable goal. It was bought and paid for by the Word made Flesh on behalf of a world that runs after the flesh. Peace is not around you, it is in your heart and soul as you rest easy in the knowledge that Jesus is your peace with God and your protection from restlessness, anxiety, and guilt.

Peace to you on whom his favor rests,

Pastor M

TLC MEMBERSHIP CHANGES | NOVEMBER 2018

BAPTISM

- Calvin Julius Dahms | November 10, 2018

LOSS OF MEMBER THROUGH TRANSFER

- Catherine Clark | St. John, Fremont | November 12, 2018

LOSS OF MEMBER BY PEACEFUL RELEASE

- Robert & Ruth Crooks | November 12, 2018



Special Worship Schedule

Midweek Advent Worship 10AM & 6PM

Dec. 5, Dec. 12, Dec. 19

(Fellowship Meal Served from 4:45 - 5:45 pm)

Sr. & Jr. Choirs Prelude to Christmas Worship

Dec. 16

Children's Christmas Service

Dec. 23 at 2:30 PM @ FVL

(Busing available to FVL, see sign-up sheet in the narthex.)

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

Dec. 24 at 10PM

Christmas Day Worship

Dec. 25 at 9AM

New Year's Eve Worship w/Communion

Dec. 31 at 10AM & 6PM

No Saturday Evening Worship on December 22nd or 29th



CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

In order to help parents at a busy time of the year, our church is hosting its Christmas for Kids event on Saturday, December 1 from 9am-12pm. At this event, children will hear the Christmas story and participate in crafts, music, a nativity hunt, a photo booth, and more. During this event, moms and dads will take naps, have coffee with friends, or get some early Christmas shopping done. Register online at trinityneenah.net or pick up a registration form in the narthex by the coffee bar.

A KNIGHT OUT SPRING GALA

A Knight Out tickets are now available. This is a great opportunity to showcase our school and church! Join us on Friday night, March 8th at Bridgewood Resort for a night of fun, fellowship, delicious food, live entertainment and fundraising. Guarantee your spot by purchasing your tickets online at <https://tinyurl.com/aknightout> the cost is \$50 per person. Other ways to purchase your tickets are at the school office or find forms on the coffee bar at church, please return forms to Tammy Huza with cash, check or credit card as payment. Wouldn't tickets to this event be a great Christmas gift? Tickets purchased by December 31st will be entered into a drawing for an exclusive Knight Out package!

KNIGHT OUT BENEFIT AT BUFFALO WILD WINGS

Our next "Knight Out" will be at Buffalo Wild Wings (College Ave, Appleton) on December 4th. Friends of Trinity can stop in anytime during that day. Just tell the server that you are from Trinity and 10% of your bill will be donated to the big Knight Out fundraiser in March.

YEAR END CONTRIBUTIONS

In order to have your offerings credited to the 2018 tax year, they must be delivered to the church or postmarked in 2018. The law stipulates that offerings received in the new year cannot be credited to the prior year even if the check is backdated or placed in a prior year envelope. Please keep this in mind if you are planning a yearend contribution.

WELS CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

The WELS Church Extension Fund (CEF) exists to help WELS congregations, new and established, to build, purchase or update their properties. The CEF presents a ministry opportunity and an investment vehicle for those looking to do more than just make money with their money. Check out interest rates and ministry opportunities presented by the CEF [online](#) or call 1-866-511-7793.

LIVE NATIVITY – MARTIN LUTHER, OSHKOSH



Martin Luther Church, Oshkosh is presenting a Live Nativity on Saturday, December 1 from 4 to 7 p.m. Enter the town of Bethlehem on Algoma Blvd., and drive through the displays where Roman Centurions will greet you and direct you to the Inn. Over the voices of the town's people, you will hear the angel choir. Shepherds are busy in their fields, and then you can see them hurry off to the manger where the real

Christmas story begins. There is no charge to come to the Live Nativity as this is our gift. Come join the town of Bethlehem and share in the joy of the Christmas message.

CHRISTMAS AT THE SEMINARY

December 9, 2018 at 3 and 7 p.m.

Join the Seminary Chorus on December 9 at 3 and 7 p.m. for their annual concert, "*Christmas at the Seminary.*" Over 50 voices will share the story of Jesus' birth in songs, carols, and hymns. They will be accompanied by multiple instrumentalists. The 3 p.m. (central) service will be streamed live at <https://livestream.com/WLSLive>. Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary is located at 11831 N Seminary Dr, Mequon WI 53092.

This concert will be held in the auditorium and a free-will offering will be gathered. Open seating is available on a first come, first-seated basis. Founded in 1931, the Chorus proclaims the Word of God in song and represents the ministry of the seminary. These men are excited to talk about the work they do to prepare to serve as pastors and are eager to meet the people who support them with prayers and gifts. They would be honored if you came to hear them sing the story of the one who loved us all, Jesus our Lord.

LADIES AID

Ladies Aid will meet on December 5, 2018 at the Ground Round in Neenah at 11:00 a.m. for their Christmas luncheon. All Trinity ladies are invited to attend.

TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH DVD

Looking for a meaning Christmas gift? Why not give those you love a gift filled with the good news of our Savior? *To the Ends of the Earth* outreach movie follows Paul's remarkable visit to the city of Philippi, recorded in Acts 16. It shows how Paul connected with people from all walks of life, demonstrating that the good news of Jesus is indeed for all people—to the very ends of the earth. DVD's of the movie are available in the church west entryway for a suggested donation of \$2.00 per DVD.

APPLE VALLEY FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

On January 20, it will be Trinity's turn to work at the Apple Valley Food Pantry (at St. Matthews Church, 129 S. Mason Street, Appleton). We are in need of 8-10 volunteers, high school age or older, who are willing to help in the dock area as well as sort the incoming donations. If interested, please contact Randy & Sandy Popp at 920-740-4333 or Tom & Barb Wilde at 920-725-0014 for details.



CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT CHURCH

On Saturday, December 1st, at 8:00 a.m. join us as we gather to trim the tree, hang the garland and prepare God's house for Christmas. All willing hands are appreciated!

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

The season of Advent has arrived and shortly we will be celebrating our Savior's birth at Christmas. This year the students from both Trinity and Martin Luther Schools will join together to present their Children's Christmas Service entitled "Saints and Angel Hosts Rejoice" which focuses on the songs of Luke's Gospel.



This joint service will take place in the auditorium at Fox Valley Lutheran High School on Sunday, December 23rd, at 2:30 PM. Buses will be available for our senior members who wish to attend the service. Please see the sign-up sheet in the narthex for more information.

We hope that you will be able to join us for this special service by the students in Grades 3k-8 as they share the message of Jesus' birth in song, narrations, and recitations. Songs from Luke's gospel including the song of Zechariah ("Benedictus"), the song of Mary ("Magnificat"), the song of the angels ("Gloria in excelsis Deo"), and the song of Simeon ("Nunc Dimittis") will be sung. In addition we will celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the composition of "Silent Night". Student musicians will also present musical selections both before and during the service. The handchimes and junior choir will also perform and add to the beauty of the service.

When asked about the service, teacher Lisa Baehman said that she is excited to have the children from both schools join together to share the message of Jesus' birth. She also said that the service would be uplifting and would give the students the opportunity to make use of their musical gifts.

As we will be using the facilities of FVL, it will be necessary to ask for volunteers for set up and take down. Sign up times for either set up or take down will be published in either congregation's bulletins or "TLS Talk". Thank you in advance for your help.

On behalf of the pastors, faculty, and staff may the Lord grant you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

Kenneth Kasten, Principal

OPENING DOORS FUND

After our very successful Opening Doors funding campaign for the new school addition, we have only \$9,000 left to pay off the full amount of the loan! We are hoping to have the loan paid off before year end. Please consider this in your prayers and gifts as our children enjoy another school year using the beautiful addition we are blessed to have completed.

TLS OPEN GYM

Trinity is hosting open gyms for anyone that is of high school age or older. This is a great opportunity to get exercise and grow in fellowship with one other! People of all skill levels are welcome! Basketball open gyms will be at 7 p.m. at Trinity on the following nights: December 6 & 13.

2019 MEN OF HIS WORD CONFERENCE

Is your house built on the rock or on the sand? Will your house survive the torrential storms of life or will it wash away when the waves of life come crashing in? The world attacks our Christian values from every direction on a daily basis. To counter these attacks, the MOHW Conference provides opportunities and resources for men to grow spiritually, using God's Word to empower and equip men to carry out their God-given mission in their homes, churches, communities and the world. This year's theme is "BUILT ON THE ROCK."

Whether you attend for the keynote speaker (Jeremy Mattek, Christian Life Pastor at Immanuel Lutheran in Greenville, WI, and a contributor for Time of Grace Ministries), the relevant, thought-provoking breakout sessions (20 to choose from), or the worship experience with 600 other men (with Koine', the worship band), God's Word will speak to you.

The 10th Annual MOHW Conference will be held at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center in Oshkosh on Saturday, February 9, 2019. Additional details and online registration are available at <https://www.menofhisword.org/> for the first 650 men. Adult registration fee is \$50 and youth registration fee is \$25 – These rates increase to \$60 for adults and \$30 for youth after Jan 27th . Please join us for a day of fellowship in God's Word that you will not soon forget!

CWC BAKE SALE



BAKE SALE

The Christian Women's Circle will be selling baked goods and candy after worship services the weekend of December 1 - 3. Donations from any member would be appreciated. Goodies can be brought to the church basement between 10 AM and 12 PM on Saturday December 1st. Any questions, please contact Monica Larson 920-725-6810 or Carol Mueller 920-722-9220. The majority of the proceeds will benefit the school.

FOX VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

FVL's **Fox Folk Marionettes** will be presenting "The Search for the King" at the Apple Creek YMCA on Sat. 12/1 at 11 a.m. & 1 p.m. They will be sharing the same program at St. Paul-Green Bay for their Christmas for Kids event at 1 p.m. on Sat., 12/8. Come and enjoy this great family-friendly Christmas tradition!

The **FVL Choirs** invite you to attend their annual Christmas concert on 12/16 at 4 p.m. The concert is free and open to all. Come and enjoy these songs dedicated to the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus! The concert will be livestreamed on the FVL YouTube channel--check fvlhs.org for the link.

FVL **Musicfest 2019**, will be held 1/27 with performances beginning at noon. Doors will open at 11:30 a.m. Musicfest is currently seeking items or basket donations for the Silent Auction. Interested in helping? Find out more at fvlhs.org/fvl-musicfest or call Megan Beyer at 920-560-5122. Please bring donations to the FVL School Office by 1/7.

FVL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT TO THE FEDERATION

November 2018

SCHOOL NEWS

- Current enrollment stands at 651 students, as compared to 618 at this time last year.
- 8th Grade Welcome Night took place October 29 with nearly 400 students and parents attending.
- Thirty-eight students attended the Focus on Ministry trip to Martin Luther College.
- About 450 worshipers celebrated Dedication for the Let the Children Come building expansion effort on October 14. The special worship service was followed by self-guided tours.
- Student Council served breakfast to over 200 veterans and their families on Veterans Day. Our guest pastor was Rev. Leon Ehlert; our guest military speaker was retired Lt. Col. Keith Krueger.
- Nearly 100 students enjoyed tours and a chance to meet our school mascot at the Fox Fun 2nd Grade Tour.
- 8th Grade Scheduling Nights are set for November 14 & 19. Families who can't attend either night can contact FVL Guidance Department for an appointment.

STAFFING

- The Board of Regents is preparing to extend a science call as well as calls to fill the needs related to the retirement of FVL called workers: Mr. Dave Voss, Miss Jane Polley, and Mrs. Donna King. Mr. Robert Fischer is also retiring but his replacement Mr. Jeff Loberger is already in place.
- Mr. Ben Priebe, FVL's Enrollment Director, is deliberating a call to serve as an Admissions team member at Martin Luther College. Mr. Adam Frey has received a call to serve at St. Croix Lutheran H.S. Please remember these men in your prayers.
- Mr. Benjamin Rusch has joined our maintenance staff as a second shift custodian.

COCURRICULARS

- Over 700 elementary school children attended our fall play, The Election. Three public performances of this humorous satire were held.
- The FVL Choraliers participated in the WELS Choralfest at Minnesota Valley Lutheran HS.
- Over thirty athletes received all-conference honors this fall season. Special honors went to Liz Santos as Conference Golfer of the Year and Dylan Blum as Conference Offensive Player of the Year.
- The Fox Folk Marionettes will be sharing the story of Jesus' birth at the Apple Creek YMCA on Saturday, December 1 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. as well as at St. Paul-Green Bay on December 8 at 1 p.m. All are welcome to attend.
- The winter sports season is now underway. Check FVL's online calendar for dates & times.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Thanks to all who helped FVL reach the \$1M goal for financing the Let the Children Come building expansion earlier this fall. The remainder of the building debt is being financed through low-interest tax exempt bonds over the next twenty years. Work has already begun on meeting our first payment of \$475K by October 2019.
- Congregational support is 3.6% ahead of last year. Over \$260K of the Federation church commitment of \$983K has been given.
- SCRIP sales for September were \$139K. Total sales for the year equal \$657K.
- October's annual Friends Dinner featured the presentation of the Heart of the Servant Awards. The Leaders of the Past Award went to Dr. Kenneth Johnson; the Called Worker Award went to Mr. Jimmy Groth; and the Leaders of Today Award was presented to the Hon. Harold Froehlich.
- The 15th annual FoxFest Dinner Auction will be held this spring at Liberty Hall on April 5. All tickets will be sold in advance. The theme is "Kentucky Derby." Watch for more info to come.

With you, serving Jesus – Principal Steve Granberg

ILLUMINATING GIFTS - MISSIONARY TREE

“Chang haliluyah zammei zhu” (Sing Halleluiah to the Lord). A Chinese folk song resounded as 121 voices were raised in joyful praise to God and in celebration of all He has done. With instruments and songs from around the world, Alicia Michelle Mose and her family embraced a theme of jubilation at the LWMS rally on November 3. Alicia, a VCF ([Vulnerable Children’s Foundation](#)) mission worker, also provided an interlude with a more somber note to illustrate the needs of vulnerable children in Zambia, India and Haiti. Picture this:

- A school-girl laboring to construct a notebook with old magazine pages and sharpening a pencil with a razorblade.
- Children roaming streets alone, some 4- and 5-year-olds, with no place to call home and scouring seas of garbage in field after field for something useful.
- Eager-to-learn boys daily lying outside an impoverished school listening to the reverberation of lessons because there was “no room in the inn,” for them.
- Deadly cobras lying in wait to strike the innocent.
- Children enduring hunger or subjected to fly-covered seemingly inedible produce and fish from open markets or to gas fumes in fare from street peddlers defying deadly traffic.

These children aren’t expecting VTech® or Fisher-Price® toys, and they are joyful and friendly even in their humble state especially those who have come to know Christ. Imagine your Christmas tree lights representing thousands of needy children waiting to be illuminated with the light of God’s Word and how thrilled these children would be to receive just a hand-held pencil sharpener and a shiny new notebook in which to record school lessons.

Please resolve to make room in your heart in the New Year to support vulnerable children and the “wise” men and women missionaries leading them by the bright light of the Gospel. Please pray for them, take a name from the Christmas tree and send an encouraging greeting card (address as shown). Psalm 105:2 “Sing to Him, sing praise to Him; tell of all His wonderful acts.”

Kathleen Stern, Stewardship Committee

APPLE VALLEY FOOD PANTRY

Please consider helping a family in need by providing something from the list below. Monetary donations are also accepted. Checks should be made payable to Apple Valley Food Pantry.

Items Needed for the Month of December: Tomato and chunky soups, all canned meats such as chicken and tuna, boxed potatoes, canned pasta, cookies, all crackers, jams/jellies and shampoos and conditioners. We are always collecting baby items for the Hope Center.

Please keep the pantry in your prayers as they continue to minister to those in need. Thank you for your continued support of the pantry. Your help is greatly appreciated

USHERS FOR DECEMBER

- ◆ SUNDAY | Charles Boyle, Randy Sedo, David Zenker, Tom, Matthew & Stephen Baehman, Rob Pagel, Michael Pheifer, Clint Tesch, Ralph & Jordan Bauman
- ◆ SATURDAY | Verlyn Joch, Jon Joch, Marv Pues

GREETERS FOR DECEMBER

- ◆ December 2 | Jeff & Kim Zehren
- ◆ December 9 | Doug & Sharon Strand
- ◆ December 16 | Jason & Linda Hovarter
- ◆ December 23 | Dennis & Cynthia Beyersdorf
- ◆ December 30 | Molly Mahnke & Wally Thorson

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR DECEMBER

- ◆ December 2 | In Memory of *Eleanora & Arnold Breaker* by: Diane Breaker, Erich & Grace Schmall
- ◆ December 9 - 31 | Poinsettias by Ladies Aid and Christian Women's Circle
- ◆ December 25 | In Memory of *Floyd Mattek* by: Marcella Mattek & Family

ALTAR GUILD FOR DECEMBER

- ◆ Kim Alessandrini



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Our Mission

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
exists to:**

GIVE GLORY TO GOD BY REACHING OUT TO
OUR FAMILIES, OUR COMMUNITIES,
AND OUR WORLD
WITH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

**Sola scriptura ("by Scripture alone")
Sola fide ("by faith alone")
Sola gratia ("by grace alone")**