

**YES IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR!** We will be having the Pancake Breakfast and Nativity display on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Live Sacred & Secular Music will begin at 8:00 AM. The Displays will be opened to the public Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM and December 9<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 5:00 PM. For more information about the Nativities contact **HAZEL ENGLISH**.

**LUTHERAN WITNESS:** It's time to reorder the Lutheran Witness. If you would like to reorder or start a subscription, the cost is \$19.00. Please Trisha know by December 11<sup>th</sup>.

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** We thank all those who served this past month in collecting, packing, and loading Christmas boxes for impoverished children in the world. We especially thank **PASTOR & SARA KNEA** for organizing the effort.

**ADVENT MUSIC CONCERT AND DINNER:** Join us as we celebrate Advent with a music concert and dinner on Sunday, December 16, beginning at 4pm. Invite your friends and neighbors to hear and sing sacred music of the season with our choir, bells, and instrumentalists followed by a catered banquet. Pick up free tickets in the narthex for your family and friends who are coming or call the church office at 867-5279 to make reservations.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Join us for caroling to our shut-ins on Sunday, December 23, at 3:00 PM. Afterwards, we will enjoy a pizza supper and fellowship.

**INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS:** All church officers and board members will be installed for the coming year during the Sunday morning service on December 30.

**ALL BOARDS MEETING:** All officers and board members are asked to attend the annual All Boards Meeting on Saturday, January 12, beginning at 9:00 AM in the parish hall.

**YOUTH CONFERENCE:** Registration is open for the Higher Things youth conference next summer. The conference runs from July 16-19 at Concordia University Wisconsin in Mequon with the theme "Concordia." Cost per individual is \$375 for registration, room, and meals. Contact **LINDA TEMME** at 297-1231 to register before the conference fills up in January.

**SARAH BIBLE CLASS:** The Sarah Bible Class continues its study of the reign of King Solomon over Israel, as it is recorded in I Kings. Classes begin at 9:30 AM on Thursdays; coffee, treats and fellowship available in the CFR beginning at 9:00 AM. All ladies of the church are most cordially invited to bring their Bibles – and a friend – to join in this study.

During the month of November, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **LINDA ORR, LINDA SUE KORFF, LISA KECK, MICKIE ISAACS, DIANA DUNKELBARGER, KARON WATHEN, CHARLIE VANSTONE, GAYLE O'RISKY, DORIS TURPIN, WALT SOMERS, DONNA SENSMEIER, NEAL WATHEN, NINA THURMAN, GIL KAHRE, PAUL SCHNUTE, ALTON REININGA, MARGARET CHEANEY, LOIS KAHRE, KERRY KECK, ROBERT KRON, and WANDA MILLER.**

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE**

Saturday, November 3.....	5
Sunday, November 4.....	74
Saturday, November 10.....	5
Saturday, November 11.....	86
Saturday, November 17.....	11
Sunday, November 18.....	83
Thanksgiving.....	46
Saturday, November 24.....	8
Sunday, November 25.....	96

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

	<u>Nov 4</u>	<u>Nov 11</u>	<u>Nov 18</u>	<u>Nov 25</u>
Nursery – High School (plus teachers & parents)	0	7	7	7
Adult Bible Classes	24	27	26	28
Music & Office	2	0	1	3
<hr/> Total	<hr/> 26	<hr/> 34	<hr/> 34	<hr/> 38

# WHAT'S COMING UP

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** If you have an item for the monthly newsletter it must be in no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> of every month! Nothing will be accepted after business hours on the 20<sup>th</sup>. You can also submit items by emailing them to: [trisha@tldarm.org](mailto:trisha@tldarm.org)

**NEW WORSHIP TIME**

**9:30 AM Sunday Morning, beginning January 6, 2019**

**With the occupancy of our new parish hall, we will begin a new Sunday morning schedule to encourage fellowship and participation in our Sunday school and Bible classes. Beginning on Epiphany Sunday, January 6, Worship will begin at 9:30 AM followed by a time of fellowship in the parish hall and a group opening for all our Sunday school and Bible classes.**

## PRESCHOOL UPDATE

The preschool has a new Facebook page- Trinity Lutheran Preschool! Please like and share our page to help get the word out about us opening! This page will have all the new updates for what is happening around the school. You can find the page by searching tlpreschool.

We are hoping to launch a new promotion in January. We will be sending families that tour a children's book and a letter. We are looking for donations of new picture books. There are Scholastic book order forms in the office if you'd like to choose books to order or you can give your donation to the office and Breenna will choose the books. Imagine the excitement and surprise these children will feel receiving a book in the mail. As an extra bonus, buying a book from Scholastic will also help us buy new books for the preschool classrooms.

We have 2 work days scheduled in January to help get ready for our inspection. We will be working January 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 and January 12<sup>th</sup> at noon.

## THANK YOU

I want to thank my church family for all the phone calls, get well cards and my birthday cards. And to all that offered to help in any way they could, especially Pastor Temme for all his visits and transportation. Also, to Kathy Bumb for driving us around for my x-rays and to the license branch because I was unable to. Thank you to Barb Fendrich for all the delicious food that she made that lasted for a week.

There are just not enough ways to say Thank You for all of you who were willing to help.

God Bless you and Thanks to God for healing me and feeling better.

Karon Wathen



## “CHEERS & TEARS”

Cheers to **PASTOR TEMME** for making the arrangements for our speaker, the **REV. MR. SALEMINK** at the Loyalty Banquet.

Cheers to **BOB & VALERIE EBERHART** for arranging the FOOD at the Loyalty Banquet.

Cheers to several of the **LADIES IN THE SARAH BIBLE CLASS**, for providing desserts and constructing the table decorations at the Loyalty Banquet;

Cheers to **ALL** who brought items for the babies at the Christian Life Center.

Cheers to **VICKIE RALEIGH** for delivering the baby items to the Christian Life Center.

**ALERT:** Next October, it is not that we are going to the dogs, but that the doggies are coming to us. Stay Tuned!

Cheers to the **KNEA FAMILY** for giving Trinity the opportunity to serve the Lord and our neighbor through Operation Christmas Child.

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who donated non-perishable items and/or monetary donation for our needy families in the church.

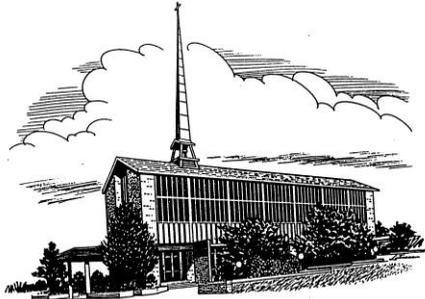
Cheers to **WILMA FEHD**, who celebrated her 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

If anyone has a thank you of appreciation, please let Trisha know and she will put them in the next newsletter.

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## DARMSTADT

### NEWSLETTER



Rev. Stan Temme  
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#### The First Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

From the Bible, I'm sure you recognize the First Commandment which God gave to Moses on Mt. Sinai as recorded in Exodus 20. From Martin Luther's Small Catechism you probably also remember his explanation of this commandment, the "what does this mean?" part. Many of us memorized the Commandments in our Lutheran school or during confirmation instruction as a youth. You might say that we accomplished the first step of education, the *grammar* school portion of learning, which is "to know the words." But after knowing the words, the second step of education is *logic*, "to understand the words." We see this step in the explanation of the commandments (*What does this mean?*) which gives us the understanding of the words. The third part of education is *rhetoric*, sometimes called wisdom, in which we learn "to apply the words." It might interest you to know that besides writing the Small Catechism for instruction in the home and parish, Luther also wrote the Large Catechism. The Large Catechism (LC) was actually a series of sermons which Luther preached in the parish. Through these sermons, Luther imparted the wisdom to apply the Ten Commandments and the other parts of the catechism to daily life.

In the Large Catechism, Luther answers the question, "What does it mean to have a god?" "A 'god' is that to which we look for all good and in which we find refuge in all need . . . Anything on which your heart relies and depends, I say, that is really your God." We often think of other gods as idols like the golden calf or little statues of Buddha. And this can be true. In the Ten Commandments God did say, "You shall not make for yourself an idol . . . You shall not bow down to them or worship them." Some Christians will say, therefore, that

we shouldn't have any "graven images," no artwork, paintings, stained glass, or statues in our churches for these constitute another god. But if we have pictures and artwork of Christ and his fellows that teach us the Gospel story, this is not idolatry. We do not pray to these things, look to them for all good, or find refuge in them. They are simply the visible Gospel and remind us of what God has done for us. "Idolatry does not consist merely of erecting an image . . . but it is primarily a matter of the heart." (LC)

From Luther's definition of what constitutes another god, we can see that our main problem today is not with idols and images but with the many other created and temporal things of this world upon which we set our heart. Money, wealth, investments, and pension plans can become another god if we trust them for security rather than God. Parents, spouses, employers, even pastors can become another god if we look to them to provide all our needs rather than God. Of course, the biggest god in which we often find refuge is ourselves. "My hard labors and my career path will provide all I need. My righteous life will get me to heaven. I will be my own Savior." While God gives us the good gifts of creation for our good, we sometimes confuse the created things with the creator. As the apostle Paul describes in Romans chapter one, "They worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator." We are like a toddler in a high chair who kicks and screams and lunges for the mashed peas, but we haven't yet learned to look to our parents and ask, "Please give me the peas." In the same way we need to learn that money, spouses, and talents are all created, good gifts of God, but instead of lunging for these things, we should turn to our God and ask for them. We need to discern the difference between the gift and the Giver.

The greatest gift God the Father has given us is his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. God the Holy Spirit also gives us faith in him for forgiveness, life, and salvation. It is this Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, to whom we look for all good, to whom we find refuge in all need, and on whom our hearts rely and depend.

Pastor Temme

**DRAMA CAMP 2019 & PERFORMANCES:** Trinity is hosting Academy of Arts Drama Camp week for homeschoolers March 4 – 9, culminating with performances Friday & Saturday. The musical "A Day in the Country" performed by grades K-5 is Friday, March 8, 7pm. "Joseph of Arimathea" performed by grades 7-12 is Saturday, March 9, at 2pm. Come out and be encouraged in the faith through these students and their Scripturally based messages.

**MOTHERS' MORNING OUT & MOPS FLYERS** are in the narthex. Please take and share them with family & friends who have preschool & younger children. A detailed babysitting sign-up list is in the narthex for December 14 and the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from January 22 till May 14. (Babysitting is not provided January 8 for the MOPS "kick-off," but you are encouraged to stop by and get acquainted with the mothers.) See Linda Temme to fill out a background check authorization form. Please take a look at your schedule and sign-up to spend a couple of hours on a regular basis to help Trinity reach out to families with young children in our community

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- |     |                                    |     |  |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----|--|
| 1-  | WILLIAM GANN                       | 13- | RONALD MILLER<br>DOROTHY TEMME                     |
| 2-  | EASTON KECK                        |     |  |
| 3-  | JASON CRADDOCK<br>MICHAEL SULAWSKE | 18- | JIM KAHRE<br>RONALD STEINKUHL                      |
| 4-  | CHARLES FELLWOCK                   | 21- | CHARLES ENGLISH, SR                                |
| 6-  | JARROD CRADDOCK<br>RUTH MANS       | 24- | SARA VANSTONE                                      |
| 7-  | JESSE RAMSEY                       | 27- | ROBERT KRON<br>WILMA JEAN MCCOY<br>LINDA SENSMEIER |
| 9-  | COURTNEY BROCK<br>RYAN SENSMEIER   | 28- | ANITRA GANN<br>ELIZABETH KNEA                      |
| 11- | LOIS TEMME                         | 29- | BOB EBERHART                                       |
| 12- | NINA THURMAN                       |     |  |