

**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.

**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.

**MOPS FLYERS** are in the narthex. Please take and share them with family & friends who have young children. This is one of many ways that Trinity is reaching out to the community. The kickoff (info meeting) is Jan. 8, and there are only 8 meetings after that this spring. Moms can get more info about MOPS at [www.mops.org](http://www.mops.org) and sign-up through our web-site at <https://trinitydarmstadt.org/mothers-of-preschoolers-mops/> or just show up Jan 8.

## **PRESCHOOL UPDATE**

We will be working January 5th at 12:30 and January 12th at 12:30. On these two days, we will be emptying classrooms so that they'll be ready for new flooring, changing the lights in the first two classrooms, and cleaning. Any help on these two days would be appreciated so that we can get the building ready for the opening of the preschool in August.

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.

Thank you to those that donated books for our tours! We are going to have excited children receiving a book after they tour the school.

During the month of December, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **RAY LAUGHBAUM, STEVE ENGLISH, CLYDE BRODERHAUSEN, SARA VANSTONE, MICKIE ISAACS, KARON WATHEN, CHARLIE VANSTONE, GAYLE O'RISKY, 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, December 1.....	11
Sunday, December 2.....	94
Saturday, December 8.....	12
Saturday, December 9.....	93
Saturday, December 15.....	11
Sunday December 16.....	95
Saturday, December 22.....	10
Sunday, December 23.....	85
Christmas Eve.....	86
Christmas Day.....	45

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

	<u>Dec 2</u>	<u>Dec 9</u>	<u>Dec 16</u>	<u>Dec 23</u>
Nursery – High School (plus teachers & parents)	17	11	9	6
Adult Bible Classes	20	20	24	22
Music & Office	3	1	1	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>

# **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.**

## THANK YOU

I want to thank Pastor Temme for his visits and prayers. To Kathy Bumb for her driving me to the hospital and taking me to doctor's appointments. To Barb Fendrich for her taking me to doctor's appointments and bringing us delicious food. Also thank you to the anonymous person for the food. The Trinity family is so helpful and caring. You don't know how much this meant to me. God bless you!

Karon Wathen

Thank you to the 27 families who brought their Nativity Scenes to be displayed. We had 339 nativity scenes and 65 ornaments on two trees.

Hazel English

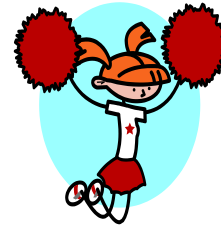
Dear Trinity Congregation,

Thank you for your generous donations of baby items to benefit families participating at Parenting Rewards. Small items add up to a generous amount – we've estimated a value of about \$150! Thank you so much!

Evansville Christian Life Center

Thank you to over 200 people were served at our Pancake Breakfast on December 8. We thank the Board of Parish Fellowship for the breakfast, Hazel English for displaying the nativity scenes, and all who served and provided special music. Our Advent music concert and dinner was attended by 120 people from our congregation and their guests. We thank the choir, hand bell players, and instrumentalists for the concert and the Boards of Outreach and Social Ministry for providing the banquet.

The Staff would like to thank the congregation for their generous donation this Christmas season! We are so blessed.



## “CHEERS & TEARS”

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who worked at the Pancake Breakfast.

Cheers to everyone who donated for the Cheer Buckets. And to **LINDA TEMME, LIZ KRIETEMEYER & TRISHA LETTERMAN** for putting them together.

Cheers to everyone who went caroling to the shut-ins. They greatly appreciated it.

Cheers to the **ALTAR CIRCLE LADIES** and everyone who helped decorate our Church for the Holiday season.

Cheers to the **SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN**, who participated in the service on December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Cheers to the **HANDBELLS, CHOIR & INSTRUMENTALISTS** for their beautiful music during this Advent/Christmas Season.

Cheers to **JARROD SIGHTS** for keeping in touch with our community, promoting Trinity on Facebook.

Cheers to the **SARAH BIBLE CLASS** for creating a MOPS scholarship fund.

Cheers to **JEFF SENSMEIER** for 2 fabulous music programs Dec. 8 & Dec. 16.

Cheers to **STEVE KAHRE & JEFF SENSMEIER** for countless hours of labor, preparing our new facility for use.

Cheers to **JIM & JANICE STONE**, who celebrated their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary December 9<sup>th</sup>

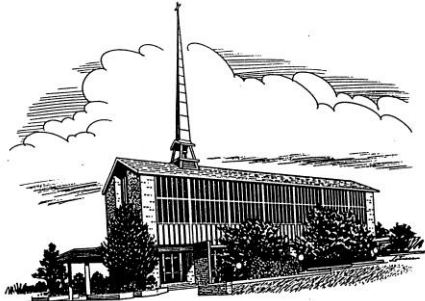
Cheers to **BILL GANN**, who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

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



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### The Second Commandment

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

*What does this mean?*

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.

You may remember the King James version of the second commandment as “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.” We certainly do not want to use God’s name carelessly or improperly. You would not want your name invoked in anger or mentioned in every idle conversation, and neither does God. I would be quite upset if my children used the name “Dad” as an expletive, and I would also become frustrated if they often cried out “Dad!” when they had no intention of talking to me. The Jews were so cautious about misusing God’s name that when they read the Scriptures and came to his personal name, Yahweh, they would substitute the name, LORD. (We do the same in our English translations.) They would avoid misuse of His name by never speaking it. But while there is a wrong way to use God’s name, there is also a right way which He wants us to use. When Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism, his explanation of the words of the text spoke not only the prohibition in each Commandment of what we *should not do* but also the exhortation as to what we *should do*.

First the prohibitions. How do we misuse God’s name? We misuse God’s name when we use it uselessly or carelessly. A man hits his finger with a hammer and yells, “Jesus Christ!” We hear disturbing news and say, “O my God!”

We misuse God’s name when we curse. Cursing is blaspheming God by speaking evil of Him or mocking Him. The Pharisees blasphemed Jesus when they said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.” The soldiers mocked Jesus by dressing Him up as a king, slapping

Him, and commanding Him to prophesy who hit Him. Today, Jesus is sometimes mocked by standup comedians or degrading artwork. Cursing is also calling down the anger and punishment of God upon another person or thing. “God damn” this or “God damn” that. James and John wanted to call down fire from heaven upon a Samaritan village which did not welcome Jesus, but Jesus rightly rebuked them.

We misuse God’s name when we swear improperly. Swearing by God’s name is taking an oath in which we call on God to witness the truth of what we say or promise and to punish us if we lie or break our promise. Swearing by God’s name is permitted and sometimes required for the welfare of our neighbor. A person may swear by God’s name to tell the truth in a court of law, or uphold the duties of his office, or to remain faithful in his marriage vow. Ruth even swore to remain with her widowed mother-in-law when she said, “May the LORD deal with me be it ever so severely if anything but death separates you and me.” But we swear improperly when we swear falsely, thoughtlessly, or in sinful, uncertain, and unimportant matters. Peter swore falsely in the courtyard when he said he did not know Jesus. Jephthah swore thoughtlessly when he swore to sacrifice the first thing that came out of his tent if he returned in victory. Unfortunately, it was his own daughter! We swear flippantly when we habitually say, “Swear to God and hope to die,” whenever our words are challenged. On those occasions we should simply let our “yes” be “yes” and our “no” be “no.”

We misuse God’s name when instead of calling upon His name we seek help through supernatural and satanic arts. These things include casting spells, calling up a spirit, fortune-telling and horoscopes, or consulting the dead through a séance. Worshipping or calling upon Satan for help instead of God is certainly a misuse of God’s name.

Finally, we misuse God’s name when we lie or deceive by it. This includes teaching false doctrine and saying it is the Word of God. The Mormon Church claims the false teaching of their prophet Joseph Smith is the Word of God. The Roman Catholic Pope claims his words are the infallible Word of God and yet defends calling upon saints and salvation by our works. We also lie and deceive by God’s name by covering up an unbelieving heart or a sinful life by pretending to be a Christian. The Pharisees claimed to be men of God and yet they did not believe in Jesus. Many times pious television evangelists or politicians have touted the Christian faith while all along they covered up a scandalous life. These are all ways in which we break the second commandment.

But how shall we use God’s name rightly? We use God’s name rightly when we call upon Him in time of need and praise Him for his deliverance. “Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.” We call upon God’s name to thank him at meal time, when we rise, and before we sleep. We call upon God’s name in worship to thank and praise Him for what He has done for us and to make our petitions. In the Lord’s Prayer, we pray, “Hallowed,” or “Holy,” be Thy name. We set apart God’s name for these right uses. Especially, we call upon God to forgive our trespasses when we do not keep the second or any of His commandments.

In our baptism God put His name upon us: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We invoke His name at the beginning of our worship service and at the end of our prayers. We live and move and have our being according to His name. We also remember the gifts that God gave us at our baptism: forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. The name of the LORD be praised.

Pastor Temme

**FLOWER CHART:** The Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex. This is where you may sign up to put flowers by the altar during certain times of the year. The first person signing up for a particular date, selects the color and type of flowers. The cost is \$30.00, and the Altar Circle will take care of the ordering of the flowers and announcement in the bulletin of the significance of the flowers. When your month approaches that you selected, the members of the Altar Circle for that month will contact you for your information. Questions??? See **LINDA RAE KORFF** or call at 812/477-4078.

### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

7- DON KECK	22- QUINTON HARTMAN ALAN REININGA
9- KATHY RAMSEY JOHN SENSMEIER	25- DEAN WATHEN
11- CONNIE SULAWSKE	26- KAREN KAHRE RAY STEINKUHL
12- KEITH MAASBERG	27- BRYAN MANS
19- ABIGAIL HARTMAN GARY IVY	29- REV. KEITH KNEA
20- WAYNE WATHEN	30- BRIAN DOWNES DAVID HOFFHERR
21- NATHAN KAHRE	31- JOHN TERRY