



Trinity Lutheran Church

January
2020

TRINITY CONNECTIONS

John 1:5 - The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

At this time of year, I can't help but overthink the light and darkness of our shorter days and longer nights. Daylight savings time always gives me the sinking feeling that I'm in for more darkness than I like, and though the Winter Solstice goes relatively unmarked by the church calendar, I always feel a relief when the shortest day of the year is behind us and each day promises to be brighter and sunnier than the last.

As one who organizes their life around the Church seasons, the big push towards Christmas gatherings and the end of the year always feels so all-consuming to me until suddenly, we've done it. The festivities and gatherings happen. The baby is in the manger and each Mary and Joseph have collapsed, exhausted in their own right.

This time of year, is full of endings and beginnings. As we move into the New Year, into 2020, we have the benefit of a new start. On Sundays, in church our readings will begin by leading us into God's presence with us as light and life, but just like that we'll be back into talking about the Call of the Disciples and the ministry we share with them.



I'm excited to be turning towards the New Testament with the Confirmation students when we return to Confirmation on the 8th of January. We'll be looking to schedule a New Member Sunday and at the moment it looks like the 19th might be the best Sunday for that. By the time we arrive at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, the 26th, we'll already be well into living into the new year.

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." It is a promise of God's presence and comfort with us, but it is also the image of a new creation. God's work creating and redeeming the world is just getting started and God is inviting us to come right alongside to do join in God's creative life and light.

Pastor Colin

President's Corner - Rose Kuebker

Season's Greetings,

The council has been busy preparing for the end of the year, in readiness for the January annual meeting. Items one and two below could use your help:

1. 2 new audit members are needed, to complete our three-member audit team. Please see Becky Fowler or Deb Henry if interested. This is a short-term commitment needed to review Trinity's accounting system.
2. The nominating team is looking for interested members for council positions in: Evangelism and Properties.
3. Ministry budgets have been compiled and the finance team is working on a 2020 budget.
4. A subcommittee of council members has met to review and renew the contract with St. Croix Central and the continued 4K program.
5. Reviewed amendments to the synod model constitution for congregations, as approved by the 2019 Churchwide assembly. Items will be included at the January annual meeting.
6. Working on reports for the January meeting.

This year members not able to attend the annual meeting will be able to receive items being voted on, and return their votes to the church office, no later than 7 business days before the annual meeting. Those that reside elsewhere for the Winter, please make sure the church office has our contact information (mailing or email address) to send annual information to you.

Time and talent opportunities are everywhere at Trinity. Consider being part of one of the many small groups. It is fun to join others and get to know each other, while engaging in the ministries of Trinity. Sunday, November 17th, was the best. Making Protestant Prayer beads, was an awesome way to remember what we pray for, why we pray, and the power of prayer.

We hope to get to know you better this Advent season! Rose



QUILTER'S CORNER

Thank you for the fabric and sheets that have been donated. Thank you to the people who purchased quilts this year, 11 were sold and the money went into the general fund. Knot tying in the quilt room at 9 am on January 9th and 23rd. Come tie knots on LWR quilts and stay for fellowship, treats and laughter.



Coffee Chat with the Treasurer

As November 30, 2019 Financial Overview Year-to-date:

Income Total	\$138,179
Expense Total	\$129,289
Total Income	\$8,890

Month of November Financial Overview

Income Total	\$11,246
Expense Total	\$10,832
Total Income	\$414

All bills were paid for the month of November.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

Next Food Shelf Sunday is: January 12

Thank you for helping others in need!



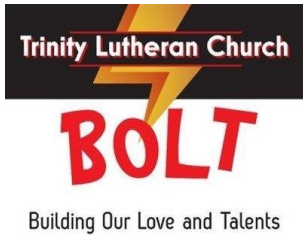
Feed My Starving Children

Watch the bulletin for the next date to volunteer at Feed My Starving Children! We are looking at some time in February!



Education - Kelly Browning, Chair

Greetings BOLT families-



We are continuing to have a great time in BOLT! We have 25 kids registered for BOLT and attendance has been great since we started in September. Thanks to the families for bringing their children to BOLT and share in God's love.

This past month we have been busy with our Christmas Program, learning about Advent and having our Annual hot cocoa and movie night at BOLT. We will be off for the next couple of weeks to celebrate Christmas with family and enjoy the season.



On Sunday, December 8, the BOLT kids shared the story of the birth of Jesus through songs and skits. They had a great time learning the story and telling it for all to hear. We hope everyone who attended worship enjoyed the BOLT Christmas program.



The BOLT guides continue to enjoy our education program and hopefully the kids are too. If you have any comments, question, or concerns, please let me know. We love sharing God's love with your children. We are doing great things and we all look forward to Wednesday nights.

Friendly reminder that we have a Closed Facebook group where I post what is happening with BOLT on a regular basis. You can request to join here: [Trinity Lutheran BOLT](#)

Your Co-worker in Christ,
Kelly, BOLT Team Leader

BOLT Schedule for January

1/1/2020	NO BOLT
1/8/2020	Praise (Psalm 100)
1/15/2020	God's Will (Jesus Seeks God's Will)
1/22/2020	Asking (Looking to God for Help)
1/29/2020	Forgiveness (David's Prayer)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things have passed away, behold, new things have come!"
~2 Corinthians 5:17

BOLT Christmas Program Pictures



Church Record

Baptisms

Eliana Arya Jordan
Elayna Zyna Jordan
Elisa Ave Jordan
Daughter of Kalli & Cadien
Jordan
Baptized: December 22, 2019



Trinity Office Hours
will be 9-11 am and
2:30-5 pm.



Youth - Christine Pommerening, Chair

WELCA – Kathy Jensen, Chair

Cookie baking happened December 5th-7th and the youth had an overnight Saturday night with 12 youth attending! They had a great time! We finished the cookie baking weekend with attending church and then selling the extra cookies we made!
Thanks for supporting Trinity's youth!
Excited to serve, Christine

The calendar has been set for 2020. Please mark these special dates:

- June 11th: Salad Bar Luncheon
- July 22nd: Ice Cream Social
- October 1st: Fall Bazaar
- November 22nd: Thank-offering Sunday

During December we read the book of Luke a chapter a day. We finished on Christmas Eve. I heard a lot of people say it was a blessed feeling to know others in Trinity were also reading the same chapter as I was that day, some said that time also allowed them time to pray for Trinity.

I would like to do a book of the Bible each month.
Any Suggestions?

Watch for the bulletin for the announcement of the book that we will be reading. Maybe even during the Fellowship on Sunday's we could discuss any concerns or thoughts about the week's reading.

One pair of Hands,
Kathy

Stewardship – Ron Pratt, Chair

Stewardship Team News

Happy New Year. Thank you for your generous response to the Fall Stewardship Campaign. If you have not responded yet, please do so as soon as you can. You should have received the 2020 Time/Talent mailing. If not, there are extra copies in the church office. Please select at least one but not more than two activities from Trinity's team activities and return to the church office by January 5. In that way we'll be able to support Trinity in 2020 and be a benefit to Hammond and beyond. Thanks again for all you do.

January Anniversaries

January 2: Tate & Lori Johnson

January Birthday's

- January 1:** Gretchen Iverson
- January 4:** Ryker Ferg
- January 8:** Micki Larson, Terry Thompson
- January 9:** Landon Owens
- January 10:** Parker Stensland, Rob Ward
- January 11:** Herman Heinbuch, Sarah Pommerening
- January 12:** Scott Rogan, Lisa VanSomeren, Claire Yurek
- January 13:** Jaimee Maxx
- January 14:** Sally Doornink
- January 16:** Betty Johnson
- January 17:** Amber McDonald

January 17: Stacey Phillips

January 20: Shane Ward, Hunter Doonan

January 21: Linda Thomley, Zach Davis, Tanner Davis

January 24: Uli Winzer

January 26: Dorothy Hage, Mike Larson, Glenda Pratt

January 27: Michael DeSmith

January 31: Betty Jacobson



Tuesday Community Supper

The Tuesday Community Supper is served the first Tuesday of every month at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 1350 Florence Street, Baldwin, Wisconsin. This is a free meal open to anyone in the community, served from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Area churches, businesses and organizations take turns preparing and serving good nutritious food every month.

St. Mary's Immaculate Conception Church will be preparing and serving the meal on Tuesday, January 7th, 2020.

The menu is Pork Loin, Potatoes, Beans, Vegetables, and assorted Dessert Bars.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



Thank you!

Thank you for spreading the Gospel with Operation Christmas Child.

Baldwin Collection Center ~Gerald

January Ministry Calendar

Please consider how you might do God's work with your hands. Sign up at the Communication Corner or call the church office. Instruction available for every role & a reminder call or email a few days before your commitment.

	JANUARY 5	JANUARY 12	JANUARY 19	JANUARY 26
GREETERS	Bruce & Jo Moll	Judy Newton	Troy & Amy Johnson	Lois Koosmann
Ushers (2) Youth and/or Adults	Rick & Rose Kuebker		Mike & Dar Sittlow	
Reader	Mike Sittlow		Mike Sittlow	
Acolyte	Taylor Browning	Charli Nusbaum		Taylor Browning
Power Point	Deb Henry		Deb Henry	
Sound Tech	Deb Henry		Deb Henry	
Communion Helpers		++		++
Communion Set Up	Worship Team	++	Worship Team	++
Bread Baker		++		++
Offering Counter (2)			Jill Lyksett	Jill Lyksett
Bulletin Sponsors	 To Sponsor a Bulletin, please see Lois Koosmann 			
BOLT Sponsors				
Fellowship Servers	Team G-Becky Fowler	Team H-Steve & Jean Peterson	Team I-Sue Bork	Team K-Bruce & Jo Moll
Exterior Property Team	Team #9- Bruce & Jo Moll	Team #9- Bruce & Jo Moll	Team #10-Daryl & Susan Frank	Team #10-Daryl & Susan Frank



January Bulletin Sponsors

See Lois Koosmann to sponsor a bulletin! Just \$8.00!

January 5th BULLETIN: WELCA

January 12th BULLETIN: No Sponsor

January 19th BULLETIN: No Sponsor

January 26th BULLETIN: Judy Newton in memory of John Newton's birthday.

Do you have a special day, memory or event coming up?

Sign up to be a bulletin sponsor in 2020! **Call** (715-796-5516), **email** (lois044@centurytel.net) or **talk** to Lois Koosmann at church! Only \$8.00!!



January Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Happy New Year! <i>(Church Office Closed)</i> NO BOLT or Confirmation	2	3	4
5 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion † 10:15am Coffee Fellowship	6	7 6:30-8pm Boy Scouts	8 9:00am Jumpstart! 6:30pm BOLT 6:30pm Confirmation	9 9:00am Quilting	10	11
12 9:00am Worship † Food Shelf Sunday 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 2:30pm Girl Scout Troop	13 6:30-8pm Cub Scouts	14 7:00pm Council Meeting	15 6:30pm BOLT 6:30pm Confirmation	16	17	18 <i>Newsletter items due!</i>
19 9:00am Worship w/Holy Communion † 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 3:00pm Girl Scout Troop	20	21 10:00am Heritage Worship	22 9:00am Jumpstart! 6:30pm BOLT 6:30pm Confirmation	23 9:00am Quilting	24	25
26 9:00am Worship † 10:15am Coffee Fellowship 10:15am Annual Meeting 11:30am Chili Cook-Off	27 10am Newsletter Folding 6:30pm Cub Scouts	28	29 6:30pm BOLT 6:30pm Confirmation	30	31	

"Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; his right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him." ~Psalm 98:1

Trinity Council Minutes – December 9th, 2019 (Unofficial)

Trinity Council Minutes
Monday, December 9th

Present: President Rose Kuebker, Laurie Posey, Deb Henry, Kelly Browning, Ron Pratt, Becky Fowler, Kathy Jensen, Betty Johnson, Marti Peterson and Pastor Colin Grangaard

Absent: Christine Pommerening, Susan Frank

Guests: None in attendance

President Rose Kuebker called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

Rose led Devotions.

1. November Minutes:

- Edit: in Stewardship update “Treasured” should be Treasure
- Moved by Marti, 2nd by Ron

2. Treasurer’s report

- seem to be missing rent honorarium check from schools for month. Deb will call them
- Fall offering is not covering expenses
- Becky pointed out that it would be helpful to get a better idea how many hours secretaries are putting in for better clarity on work done
- **Approval moved by Kelli and 2nd by Kathy**

3. Call Committee Update

- Becky shared that there hasn’t been movement, but the committee is ready to receive financial input from council.

4. Stewardship

- 17 pledges (\$41k pledged) in vs last year 37 (\$54k pledged)
- Please turn in pizzazz-y descriptions for Time and Talent survey

5. Nominating Committee

- Betty and Sue have found names to propose for all open council seat (provided property can be shared role)

6. Pastor’s Update - Lenten Services and upcoming baptism

7. Executive Committee - What would we be looking at if we were sharing resources with neighboring congregations? Invited Pastor Erin on Sunday to start conversations tonight

8. Finance Update - Several options for budget ranging from having a full-time pastor to sharing services.

- What would it look like to do a short-term budget to give time to explore options?
- Ron presented a proposed budget for 6 months that holds expenses constant as a continuing resolution, so that it can be reviewed as the situation changes in an additional congregational meeting
- Pastor Colin reiterated that this process is about giving time to gather information, unearth options, but not rush to solutions
- Laurie reflected that it has only come to light in the past couple weeks that Trinity can’t afford a pastor and it is surprising
- **Ron motioned and Becky seconded that the continuing resolution shared at council be presented to the congregation for approval at the Annual Meeting in January (passed unanimously)**
- Rose requested that historical income data be included for the Annual Meeting

9. Pastor Erin Nelson debrief

- Becky requested that this Sunday, Rose or other council member will announce the budget issue, some of the dynamics that have changed and that we’ll be beginning a congregational process
- Laurie expressed frustration that the meeting was not communicated more widely in the congregation
- Rose asked: How do we start a process to expose options?
- Becky raised Pastor Erin’s question: How will we share Christ in the community?
- Change will meet with resistance. Can we avoid focusing on the negative and speak to the positive opportunities?
- Can we meet in fellowship hall immediately after an announcement to discuss and process? Rose asks that each council member sit at a table to field questions.
 - Council Members would like talking points

>continued on next page

Trinity Council Minutes for December 11, 2018 (Unofficial)

- Why can't we get a pastor? What is happening with budget? What can we do? (first step is communication and transparency)
- What three questions: What did you hear? What caught your ear? How do you feel about it?
- How to communicate news: Weekly Bulletin, Newsletter, Email update, Website
- Pastor Colin would be happy to follow up with Synod to understand using CAT survey for congregational conversation
- Next step for January will be 2nd Sunday congregational conversation
- How to recap with the council about what was heard at tables (touchdown meeting after Advent Worship on Wed 18th)
- January Council meeting talk about possibility of reaching out to other congregations

10. Annual Meeting specifics

A. Ministry reports - try to do before Christmas

B. Marti suggested that the Annual Budget Agenda be emailed for council oversight before the Annual Meeting

11. Committee Updates

- WELCA set their 2020 Calendar and dispersed funds for end of year
- Marti shared that the Holiday Angels gifts are specific to children's needs and the tickets were all done in one day. Gift cards for additional community family from WELCA (\$200). Gift of Christmas tree by Iverson's to another family. Thanksgiving meal was organized, but didn't have attendance hoped for. Feed My Starving Children anticipated in January
- Property - Lights outside aren't getting power, might have happened when door repaired.
- Phones were explored and some problems were solved without replacement, but Deb and Sarah will replace 3 phones this month.
- Betty Johnson motioned and Ron Pratt Seconded to adjourn at 9:10. Motion Approved.

We closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Our Next Meeting is Tuesday, January 14, 2020 @ 7:00pm at Trinity

Respectfully submitted by,
Pastor Colin Grangaard

To be approved at the council meeting on January 14, 2020

Vibrant Faith at Home: Family, Faith...and Football? By Beth Gier

As your family watches the Super Bowl or a college football bowl game, take a moment to talk about links between living faithfully and sports competitions.

Activity Plan

1. Before the big game, gather the family and say this prayer to begin.
God of good health and good fun, be with all the players on these teams. Help them to do their very best and to treat their teammates and opponents with respect and kindness. Amen.
2. Talk about the game you are about to watch, using the following questions:
 - Who is playing?
 - Which team do you want to win?
 - Do you think God has a preference about which team wins this game? Why or why not?
 - What things in today's game might make God happy? (For example: people have worked hard to prepare; people have taken good care of their bodies; people are having fun; people are working together; people are treating one another with respect; people are trying to do their best.)
 - What things in today's game might make God sad? (For example: people trying to hurt one another; people treating each other rudely or disrespectfully; people not following the rules of the game.)
3. Give everyone a copy of the Faith and Football worksheet and a pencil or pen. Tell family members to be on the lookout for things that might make God happy as they watch the game and to write about or draw pictures of these things on their worksheets. Have fun!
4. After the game, compare responses. Talk about how the good things you noticed might be things that you can do when you play a game.

2019 Christmas Floral Donations

Thank you to the following people who have donated Christmas flowers for 2019, your generosity adds so much to enrich **The Main Event at Trinity!!**

Jim and Karen Riley - In honor of Our Trinity Family

Dan and Sally Doornink - In honor of family

Brian and Joan Ramberg - In memory of family and friends

Mike and Dar Sittlow - In honor of family

Steve and Suzanne Brathol - In memory of all our loved ones who are no longer with us

John and Darcy Christensen - In memory of Crystal and Jeff

Sue Bork - In memory of parents Robert and Antoinette Bork

In honor of children Mitchell & Carissa Ditlefsen

Kerry and Marti Peterson - In memory of Violet Christensen, Jack and Mary Lou Peterson

Peter and Kathy Nusbaum - In memory of Donald Johnson, and John and Shirley Nusbaum

Mike and Micki Larson and Boys - In memory of Phil Larson and Vicki Cole

Ron and Glenda Pratt - In honor of family

Rick and Rose Kuebker - In honor of children: Rene', Ryan, Resa and Rana

Grandchildren: Aiden, Mason and our new Granddaughter, Hazel Marie

In memory of our parents

Heath, Kelly and Taylor Browning - In memory of Annette Sexe and Marilyn Koepsell

In honor of all of the BOLT kids

Harold and Lenore Moll - In honor of our family and church family

Lee and Betty Jacobson - In memory of parents, Clyde and JoAnne, and Norbert and Louise

In honor of loving family and friends

Barb Schrank - In memory of Annabelle and Clyde Hanson, Joel Hanson, and Amy Dwyer

In honor of children and grandchildren

Steve and Jean Peterson - In memory of family and friends

Judy Newton - In memory of John Newton

Kathy Jensen - In memory of Lillian Jorgenson

Daryl and Susan Frank - In honor and celebration of our children and grandchildren; Nick, Kari, Olivia, Owen; Amanda, Cory, Haylee, Lydia; DJ, Rachel, Lyric, Mia, Cruz; Liz, Chris and Kaydence

Special thanks to the decorating elves Jim and Karen Riley, Daryl Frank and Lois Koosmann. Lois purchased and set up the décor in the vestibule. Without elves, it is harder to get the work done.

Thank you also to Mark and Gretchen Iverson and family for donating our beautiful Christmas tree!!

Trinity Secret Santa 2019 Thank you



Thank you again this year to all those at Trinity that supported the Secret Santa Program.

~We filled 19 gifts tags for the SCC Elementary Holiday Angels Program.

~Someone in our congregation donated 4 large laundry soaps.

~Two beautiful Christmas quilts were given by the Trinity ladies.

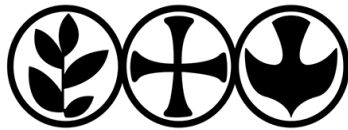
~And, our Trinity WELCA gave \$200 toward a single-family unit.

We are blessed to be a blessing! Happy New Year!

Dar Sittlow

January 2019

TRINITY CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER



Trinity Lutheran Church



www.facebook.com/trinityhammondWI

JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR WORSHIP AT 9:00 AM
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING WORSHIP

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1250 BROADWAY STREET
PO BOX 68
HAMMOND WI 54015
TRINITYHAMMOND@CENTURYTEL.NET
WWW.TRINITYHAMMOND.ORG



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