

# Trinity Times

## Altar Guild Meeting

Interested in serving on Altar Guild? Or learning more about this important ministry? Come to the meeting on Sat., Dec., 7, 2019 at 9 a.m.



### Christmas Card Blitz!

Come and help write Christmas Cards to our fellow congregants. 10:00 a.m., Saturday, November 23 at Church. Bring a little something to share.....if you wish!



### Donations are needed and much appreciated!

33 gallon trash bags, paper towels, dish soap, hand soap, and toilet paper can be brought to church anytime and placed in church office!

**Thank you!**

A publication of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – Elgin, IL

## ROCKY BOY INDIAN RESERVATION

Mission Trip 2020

In the summer of 2020, several of our high school and college age youth will be traveling to the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation in Montana on a mission trip.

The Rocky Boy Reservation is located in north-central Montana, approximately 30 miles from the Canadian border. It holds the distinction of being the only reservation in the United States in

which the residents were allowed to select their own land. Rocky Boy is home to two tribes which have blended throughout the years. The Chippewa residents originate from Wisconsin while the Cree residents originated from parts of Canada.

Most residents on Reservations today are under-employed

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## From the Pastor

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church received its charter in 1903. At that time, neither the television nor the radio existed, less than 4,500 cars were manufactured worldwide, and the average cost of a house was around \$5,000. The

church sanctuary that we know and love would be built and dedicated in 1906, with other additions coming in the following decades. It was a leap of faith by the early members to build a ministry here,

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*Sunday, December 8, 2019  
3:00 p.m.  
Refreshments afterward  
Come join us as we celebrate  
the season!*



Worship with us this Christmas Eve!

2:00 p.m. – Candlelight Worship with communion

5:00 p.m. – Multi-generational celebration based on the *Messiah*

11:00 p.m. – Candlelight Worship with communion



Wednesday, November 27, 2019

Worship with communion

7:00 p.m.

Pie Social afterward!

Everyone is invited to bring a pie to share (can be handmade or store bought)!

Offering: Please bring new socks, especially men's sizes, as an offering that evening! Socks will be distributed all winter at our Soup Kettles.

## Youth & Children Ministries

**Youth Group Meeting** - Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> after worship in youth room

**Youth Group Service Project** - Saturday, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> 10:00 – 1:00 pm  
Pizza lunch included!

At Holy Trinity

**Confirmation** – Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm  
at Holy Trinity

Wednesday, November, 27<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Worship Service

**Sunday School after worship** – November 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

**Save the Date...**

**Grades 3-5 Mini Mission Trip** June 16 & June 17, 2020. We will be serving around Elgin! Watch for more info coming soon!

**First Communion Instruction** – Contact Deaconess Andrea or Pastor Jeff if you would like your child to receive communion instruction.

## Project PJS

We are collecting PJS for the Holiday Season! PJS will be distributed to families in need around the area!

Needed PJS in newborn through adult XXL.

Bring your donation to church by December 14<sup>th</sup> and place in box in community center! **Our Goal is 50 pairs!**

On Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> there is a concert at Evangelical Covenant Church in Elgin to celebrate the ingathering of the many PJS collected in Elgin and surrounding communities!

## Thankful Tree...

In the community center there are now leaves on the tree! Please write what you are thankful for this month!

*Example:*

*I am thankful for the many volunteers who serve in worship & help in the office!*

**Kindness Apples...**

Some of the kids wrote acts of kindness in October on the apples! Some of the are...help people, smile at others, say hello, say kind words to others, hold the door for someone, send a card to a friend!

## Faith Jars

Feel free to pick up a Faith Jar in the narthex. Each jar contains questions about God, the Bible and your faith. Take a strip of paper every few days and talk about it with your family, neighbors, etc.



## Thank you...

What a delightful coffee hour we experienced Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> with the Elgin Police Chef Ana Lalley and the other officers! The officers moved around the tables visiting & answering questions, no subject denied.

It was a great event for all. Thank you to all who hosted!

*Thank you to all the generous people who donated Halloween Candy!!*

## Shop and Share

Thank you to all those who support Shop & Share, our donation & consignment shop in downtown Elgin. Staffed by volunteers, several from Holy Trinity, all proceeds go to the Ecker Center for Mental Health. Consignees receive 40% and thus far Holy Trinity has received \$638.30 for our odds & ends this year going directly to our budget! We accept clothing for all (winter only now), shoes, purses, linens, housewares, and

jewelry, etc. We do not accept books, TV's and other large electronics or furniture. You can donate to Holy Trinity by bringing items to church (CLEARLY marked Shop & Share); giving to Connie Friedrich or taking directly to the shop in the walkway at 76 S. Grove. Please mark for Holy Trinity. **Come visit the shop Tues, Wed, Thurs from 10:00 – 3:00 or Fri. & Sat. from 11:00 – 3:00.**

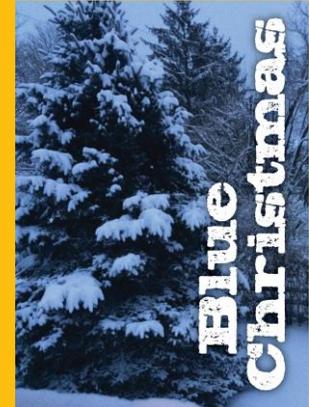
## From the finance desk...

End of September 2019...

YTD income \$184,113.19  
YTD expenses \$202,985.53  
LOC balance \$120,814.04  
Imagine Fund \$12,765.14

**Giving Statements:** beginning in 2020 the giving statements will be printed & distributed at the end of June & December. If you would like a quarterly statement, please contact the office.

## Blue Christmas Worship Service



**Date:**

**Saturday, December 21, 2019  
5:00 P.M.**

**What it is:** A Blue Christmas service recognizes the winter solstice as the longest night, & addresses the darkness that many people go through in life's passages: death, divorce, loss of job, home, and other deprivations. Such losses make the usual festive celebrations difficult for many of us. At this service on we can experience true comfort in the midst of pain & longing together as a church community. Whether this is a light or dark time in your life, or a mix of both, you are welcome to service of prayer, reflection & communion .



## St. Nick is coming soon!

**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
After worship in Lind Hall!**

**All children are invited to meet St. Nick, hear a story, and receive a treat!  
Bring your neighbors, friends, & grandchildren!**

## Communion Cups

We are using a new type of communion cups! They are made in the USA of PLA (Polylactide) biopolymer derived from corn. They are 100% renewable, 100% compostable and 100% bio-degradable!



Cont'd from page 1 *Rocky Boy*

working part time in the nearest towns as not many jobs are generated on Reservations. This is true of Rocky Boy as well, where a majority of the residents work part time in Havre, about 30 miles away. Many residents also serve as fire fighters for the Forestry Department, working three weeks at a time with no insurance. As for health care, Rocky Boy has one medical center for all of its residents, but it is funded on a strict budget from the federal government, and often runs out of funds to operate by November. It should also be noted that residents are not allowed to own property, so that they never have any equity toward moving or retirement. Thus, poverty is a major issue on the Reservation.

Our youth will spend their days assisting the elderly of the tribe to care for property, as they can be evicted if their property is not kept up to federal government standards. At night, our youth will spend time with elders of the tribe learning the Chippewa-Cree culture and even attending a Pow-Wow. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our youth to serve those in need, while also experiencing a cultural exchange. We look forward to our journey into Montana next summer!

Cont'd from page 1 *From the Pastor...*

but they were also excited at the opportunity to answer God's call for their community. Many would walk to church, or ride in their horse and carriage. The winters were often brutal, and at times in the early years worship might be cancelled due to influenza outbreaks or extreme cold spells. Life was very different, and at times, treacherous.

Today, our building is about three times the size of the original construction. The roads out front are paved, with almost everyone arriving via car. Our facility is cooled in the summer and heated in the winter, providing comfort during worship services. And, if one cannot join us in person, they can always listen in the comforts of their home on radio or watch us live on the internet. So much has changed in a little over a century. I sometimes wonder if our spiritual ancestors at Holy Trinity would believe what we, and the city of Elgin, have become.

I also wonder what we will look like in another 100 years. The truth is, we literally cannot imagine what the world, or church, will look like 3-4 generations from now. The one thing we do know is that God continues to gift each new generation with talents, and call upon them to use those gifts for the good of this world. Thus, the church is connected through time as One Body of Christ. Those who founded this ministry in 1906, we who are here today, and those who will carry the torch of this ministry into the 22<sup>nd</sup> century someday are all connected through the sacraments. We owe it to those who came before us, and those who will someday follow in our footsteps, to be good stewards here today. That which we give today expands upon the legacy of the founding members of this congregation. That which we do today paves the way for those whom we cannot yet even imagine in this world. Just as we received the torch from previous generations, we will also pass the torch of God's light forward.

It is the mysterious way of God that we are the legacy of those we never had the chance to meet from the past, and that we are the ones who will bless those we will never see in the future. This is life in the mystical Body of Christ. And so, we celebrate those who have gone before us, and those who are yet to come, as we stand in memorial (All Saints Day) and give thanks (Thanksgiving) during this month of November. May the Lord, who is faithful to all generations, bless you and keep you! Amen.

*-Pastor Jeff Mikyska*

**Special Offerings** – How we sign up for special offerings is changing!

There is a 3-ring binder on glass table by the front door. Sign up to honor or remember your family or friends! There are envelopes next to it to indicate what you would like to sponsor and to place your donation in.

Thank you!