

December 2019

TRINITY TIMES

What's INSIDE

A publication of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – Elgin, IL

St. Nick is coming! Sunday, December 8th

After worship in Lind Hall. Breakfast of French Toast, cereal, & fruit will be served.

All are welcome!



Hymn Sing

Sunday, December 8th
3:00 p.m.

Music of Bach, Leavitt,
Ferguson & more!
Matt Wahl, organist

Christmas cookie reception
follows.



ADVENT

The church is expecting a child and it is time for us to prepare. Once this child arrives, everything will change. This child will be demanding of our time and attention. This child will often cry out to us in need. This child will seek to hold our hand and love us unconditionally. We will be responsible for following this child, sharing in meals together, and even listening to his stories regardless of how busy we may be. There is no doubt that life will change.

Even as we speak, the emperor has called a census which has led many to begin plans of travel to their family's hometowns. Our child's parents will need to travel now, as so many of the rest of us will in the weeks ahead as well.

There is some excitement, as people from around the world will check in with one another and have a chance to be reunited with family in joyous celebrations. Housing arrangements are in progress and large meals are being talked through. That being said, some others will be forced to travel away from the familiar who wish they never needed to. There is such a contrast between those who hope and those who fear during this time. Somehow, it would appear that the hopes and fears of all are destined to meet, perhaps in a little town on a holy night.

Meanwhile, somewhere close to us, a young couple is packing for their particular advent journey.

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Caring Team

The Caring Team is sending greetings from our house of worship to each home of our congregation.

Carol S., Heather F., Jackie K, LaVonne W., Anne B., Deaconess Andrea, Jan P., Mary C., and Sharon K. got together Saturday Nov. 23 and addressed, sealed & stamped Christmas cards. The caring team provided the stamps to mail these cards, as well.

Oh, it wasn't all work. We had food aplenty to share! We wish everyone the Season's Blessings!

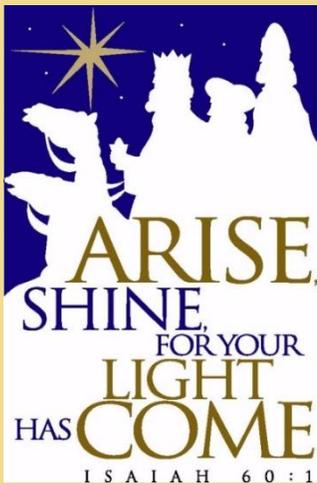
A big thank you to the Caring Team!

Christmas Eve Worship

2:00 & 11:00 p.m. –

Worship with communion, candlelight, and LOTS of Christmas hymns!

5:00 p.m. – Multi-generational service based on Handel's Messiah! Communion also.



Ways to serve this month...

Saturday, Dec 7th, 10:00 -1:00 p.m. Youth Group will serve at Holy Trinity. Pizza included!

Sundays, Dec. 1 & 15th – Community Pancake Breakfast

Project PJ's – Bring a pair or 2 of new PJ's to be given to local families in need. Place in boxes in community center or narthex by Dec. 15th! Thrivent Action Team Project.

Thank you for donating over 300 socks for our community in need during the month of November!

Financial Snapshot

As of October 31

Total income YTD \$202, 020.89

Total Expenses YTD \$ 221, 661.14

LOC Principal \$120, 814.04

Imagine Balance \$13, 460.14

Property Team

A big thank you to the property team! During the last few months they tested our drinking water (we passed), cleaned up the yard for year, put in the storm windows, and so many more unseen things! So thankful for their dedication!

Nothing But Treble

Saturday, December 14, 2019

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Come enjoy Christmas music from around the globe and throughout the ages...but expect to enjoy traditional fare as well! It goes without saying that no NBT Holiday Concert should be without a Finnish Reindeer Call and a Pentatonic arrangement as well! Michael Fetzer accompanies.



ADVENT continued

a young couple is packing for their particular advent journey. The wife is pregnant and very nervous about this endeavor. Still, she has faith that all will be well. Her husband is equally worried and wants nothing other than the very best for his expecting wife. They are making their way to Bethlehem, for this is the land of his ancestors. But they are poor and struggling in this world. They are unlikely to find a warm home and a nice meal to share this December. Perhaps she will not go into labor while on this trip. Maybe someone will generously take them in and give them a place to stay. Hopefully they will

be welcomed, and even celebrated, by some of the locals. So many thoughts swirl as their hearts are mixed with worry and anticipation.

Indeed, the church is expecting a child and it is time to prepare. We await eagerly, with our own dreams of what is to come dancing in our heads. All the while, an expecting mother from a world so far removed, and yet so close to our hearts, dreams just the same. May this Advent season, and the journeys we embark upon, be a blessing to all...

Peace,

Pastor Jeff