

Trinity Weekly Tidings For December 11, 2022

"God's Love - Our Hearts - God's Work - Our Hands"

Trinity Lutheran Church - 612 N. Water Street - Sparta, WI 54656

Church Website: tlcsparta.org Phone: 608-269-5081 Office Email: office@tlcsparta.org

Interim Pastor—Jim Scaife/Email: interimpastorjs@gmail.com/Tel. 608-269-5081

Youth and Family—Michelle Hyatt / Cell & Text 608-343-0324 / Email: thehyattfive@gmail.com

Christin Gasner—Ministry Coordinator / Email: ministry@tlcsparta.org

Contact Information for Stephen Leaders

Jan Jenkins / Cell 608-633-0512 / Email: jenkinsjan52@gmail.com

***Welcome Guests!** We are so happy to see you today! If you are traveling through the area, we wish you Godspeed on your journey. If you live nearby, we hope you will return and worship with us again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to make Trinity Lutheran that home. Please sign the guest register located at the entrance into the Sanctuary so that we can know who you are. Although you have come as a visitor, we hope that we leave worship as friends!*

A BIG THANK YOU to all who helped lead worship today!



This Week at Trinity...

12/11	8:15 & 10:30 am	Worship
12/18	8:15 am 10:30	Worship (loose change offering) Sunday School Christmas Program
12/24	3:00 & 5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Worship with communion
12/25	9:00 am	Christmas Day worship with communion



END OF YEAR TRINITY DONATIONS

Please have all donations that you wish to have counted towards your 2022 giving to Trinity to the church office no later than **Thursday, December 29th**. This deadline will allow the office to make a timely deposit in the bank.

Please note: Most people will be able to deduct charitable giving on their tax return even if they do not itemize. Please see your tax advisor for further details.

Thank you!

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

St. Olaf College, one of the ELCA Lutheran Colleges is being featured on Wisconsin Public Television with two of its previous hour long Christmas Concerts—The first concert is Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00 p.m. The Title of that concert program is "A New Song of Grace and Truth." The second concert will be on Friday, December 23rd at 9:00 p.m. The title of that concert will be "Love Divine."

12/12	5:30 pm	Education Ministry Meeting—SR
12/13	5-6 pm	NA Meeting—HR
	6-7 pm	Pack 67 Den—EW
	6:30 pm	Council Meeting—SR
	6:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 67—FH
12/14	10:00 am	Food Pantry Volunteers
	2:00 pm	Morrow Home Worship/ communion
	6:00 pm	Bell Choir—SR
	7:00 pm	Alleluia Choir—Sanctuary
	7:00 pm	Faith Formation—FH
12/15	8:30 am	Quilters—FH
	5-6 pm	NA Meeting—HR
12/16	7-7:30 am	FCA @ SHS
	11:30 am	FCA @ Cashton
12/16		Giving Tree gifts due date
12/17	8:30 –10:00 am	Sunday School practice for Christmas Program
	5-6 pm	NA Meeting—HR
12/18	8:15 am	Worship
	9:15 am	4G-YR
	9:20 am	Sunday School—Practice for Christmas Program
	10:30 am	Sunday School Christmas Program



Help make Trinity “A Place to Gather and Grow in Christ”.

The 2023 Trinity Appeal is in full swing. In plain language the goal is: “**Come back to Trinity and experience God’s Love.**” Your Time, Talents and Treasures are vital to fulfil our mission of **God’s Love, Our Hearts. God’s Work, Our Hands.**

Please return your **Time & Talent brochure** and **Intent Card** in one of the following ways: 1) Mail them to the church office at 612 N. Water St. Sparta, WI 54656, 2) Drop them in the secure drop box near the front door, or 3) Take a picture of them and email to office@TLCSParta.org. Extra forms are available at church and on Trinity’s website – www.tlcsparta.org. Thank you for sharing God’s Love.

Trinity Stewardship Committee: Michael Bonello, Karen Edwards, Kelly Funk, Christin Gasner, Vanessa Gavilan, Bill Herrman, Kira Markuson, Les Stanley and Pastor Scaife.

An Old-Fashioned Christmas Candlelight Service

The Monroe County Historical Society invites you to come to the Former Big Creek United Methodist Church on Sunday evening, December 11th, at 6:00 pm

Come and enjoy an Old-Fashioned Country Christmas Celebration in our historic church.

The Sparta Festival Choir will lead us in song.
Worship led by: Pastor Randy Larson and
Cindy Weiss—Organist

Coffee and cookies following the service.
All donations given will go toward preservation
of the church and the grounds.

The Big Creek United Methodist Church is located west of Sparta at the junction of Hwy BC and Garden Avenue at 5188 Garden Avenue



Keith Davison was recently hospitalized. He is, however, back at Good Samaritan Society in Lodi. Keith would love to hear from you. If you would be so kind as to drop Keith a card or letter, he would be more than appreciative. Keith’s address is:



Keith Davison
Good Samaritan Society—Lodi
700 Clark Street
Lodi, WI 53555



Update from the Worship Scheduling Team

Our recent survey about changing to one church service or continuing with two services resulted in 97 total household responses. 85.6% (83) preferred having one service at 9:00 followed by 10:00 Sunday school and 14.4 % (14) preferred to keep two services with Sunday school starting at 9:15. Comments were received on the impact to Sunday School if we went to one service. The Team addressed this concern with the teachers and they support a change to one 9:00-10:00 service with a 9:45 Sunday School start. The team will be discussing the results with the Church Council. The Council will need to approve any changes and when to implement them. We wish to thank you for your very valuable input.

INTRO TO THE BIBLE

We are trying something different with our School of Theology Introduction to the Bible Class. Normally this is a one-time, in person class, but this January, we are encouraging folks to watch the recorded version found on our synod website at their leisure and tune in to an evening of questions and conversation led by Pastor Len and two members of the school of theology board. I encourage you to join and invite members to ZOOM on as well.

Here is the link to view the "Intro to the bible": <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKQMFNcxzy8nhGqkCB50oejHvy9CmAoo2>

You can also get there by going to our synod website under School of Theology and scroll down where there is a button to click toward the bottom to watch the "Intro to the Bible."

Here is the ZOOM link for the discussion:

La Crosse Area Synod is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Intro to Bible Conversation

Time: Jan 5, 2023 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83488375465?pwd=ekNmZ205cE04dWxPN1NLVj9PdGh2UT09>

Meeting ID: 834 8837 5465

Passcode: 944985

Here is what we have been using to advertise in our synod update:

Intro to the Bible - watch a pre-recorded session w/ Pr. Len Liptack at your leisure, then on Thu., **January 5**, 7 pm join a 1-½ hour conversation w/ Pr. Len Liptack, Pr. Mark Bartusch and Dr. Jake Sorenson, members of the School of Theology Board. No charge or obligation for these opportunities.

Sparta Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Dave Kuderer is the Sparta coordinator for the Sparta Salvation Army Bell Ringing. There are 4 sites for bell ringing in Sparta. Hansen's, Theisen's, Walmart and KrisKindlemart-Mueller Square. The buckets and bell are at the service desk at the 3 locations and at Kriskindlemart Dave indicated that he would come to Mueller square with the bucket and bell and drop it off when somebody wanted to ring the bell for a shift. Dave indicated that he would also pick up the bucket and bell at the end of the shift for those ringing at Kris Kindlemart-Mueller Square.

Last year Trinity members helped at the Kriskindlemart site which was Friday 4-8 pm and Saturday 9-8 pm. Tom Schauer indicated that it was a very successful campaign at that site as far as collecting money for Salvation Army

If you would want to sign up for an hour or 2 of bell ringing, go to registertoring.com or call or text Dave Kuderer @ 608-487-3496 to sign yourself up for a time that you would like to ring the bells and help out Salvation Army.

People will give a financial donation if they have the opportunity to give and that is having that Red Bucket in front of them this Christmas season.

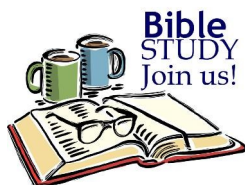


Please take some time to pray to God over these concerns expressed by your sisters and brothers of Trinity Lutheran:

Dear Prayer Partners,

Please pray for Travis Swartz. Travis was recently diagnosed with leukemia. Lord, wrap your arms around Travis, his care providers during this uncertain and difficult time.

If you have any prayer concerns, please contact Jonelle Intihar, our prayer group coordinator, Jonelle@theintihars.com. Thank you!



Adult Bible Study

Please join us TODAY for Bible study.

We will meet in the Heritage Room during the Education Hour

Co-leaders: Bob Emery & Pastor Jim

(If you cannot attend all classes, no problem.
Each class will be an independent lesson.)

ANNUAL REPORT TIME

It's that time again...our Annual Meeting is fast approaching and is set for **January 29, 2023**. The office is going to need your information for the Annual Report by **no later than December 30, 2022**. If you have questions, please feel free to call the church office. Thank you!



If you would like to serve and haven't signed up yet, the sign-up sheet is located in the hallway of the Fellowship Hall.
Sign up to serve as you are able.
We are looking for servers for the month of December.



Please mark your calendars and join us for the Sunday School Christmas Program on Sunday, December 18th, at the 10:30 worship service.

Sparta Community Christmas Dinner

Sponsored by:

Sparta American Legion Post #100
Hwy 21/1116 Angelo Road
(608) 269-4411

11:00 am—2:00 pm
December 25, 2022

Meal is FREE, donations accepted and appreciated

(Proceeds from the event will be returned back to the community through local charities)

Reservations for five or more people requested

Home deliveries available to homebound individuals. Call The Sparta American Legion 269-4411. Delivered approximately 10:45 am—12:00 noon. Carry outs also available at the Legion.

Menu:

Turkey, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Yams, Dressing, Vegetables, Cranberries, Dinner Roll, Pumpkin Pie, and Other Assorted Dessert

For More information, call American Legion at (608) 269-4411



Altar Flowers today are given by Al & Jan Jenkins in honor of Matt Jenkins. Thank you!

Youth & Family Announcements for the week of December 11, 2022

God is good all the time!

All the time God is good!

You are “fearfully and wonderfully made.” You are a beloved & precious child of God.

You matter! You belong! You are loved!

God created you on purpose for a purpose!

Please talk to Michelle face-to-face; by phone at 269-5081; call/text at 343-0324; email at:

thehyattfive@gmail.com for additional information

COME SUPPORT OUR BAKE SALE

Our Christmas Bake Sale Fundraiser kicks off TODAY between services. Come & check out the variety of delicious, homemade goodies! There is sure to be something that will bring a smile to your face! Thanks for stopping to show your support to continue more faith growing opportunities for our young people. The Bake Sale will continue next Sunday, 12/18, & donations are always welcomed & appreciated. Any questions can be directed to Michelle. We are grateful for you & your kindness!



Trinity Cares Christmas Giving Tree
God's Love—Our Hearts. God's Work—Our Hands.

Our “Trinity Cares” Giving tree is ready to go, & we need your help! This special tree is full of nativity scene tags representing families in our community that could use a “hand up” this Christmas season. They are also symbolic as a reminder of the true meaning of the beautiful miracle of Jesus' birth! How can we all become more like Jesus? How can we keep our light shining for Him? Please be kind, take one or more tags if you are able, & enjoy the feeling of being a blessing to shop for the item(s) requested. Return it—UNWRAPPED—to the tree area. Not a shopper? Feel free to drop off a monetary donation, & let our Trinity Youth do the shopping for you. There are tags that request gifts cards, & those should be returned to the main office. Please be sure to attach the original tag with your gift for easier sorting. In order to give our youth time for wrapping presents to get them out for delivery before Christmas, we would appreciate ALL gifts to be returned by Friday, December 16th. Thank you for reaching out with loving hearts & helping hands to model Jesus & His love for all of us!



Fellowship Meal

GOD'S GOODNESS IS FOR ALL! ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join us for our next meals together this coming Wednesday, 12/14, as well as Wednesday, 12/21, from 5:30 -6:30 p.m. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of them these past few weeks - from setting up, to serving, to cleaning up. We have had 50 - 70 gathered around the table, where Jesus invites all of us, & there is always room for more! The Fellowship Hall has been a great place to be - to be fed, engaged in conversation, and relax in God's presence. If you are able to help with either of the above meals, please reach out to Michelle. We are blessed by you!

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thehyattfive@gmail.com for additional information



4G (God, Girls, & Guys R GR8T)

ALL students in grades 7 – 12 are invited to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Room. We'll enjoy breakfast pizza, dig into God's Word, & enjoy conversation together! We'll also break into small groups to talk about what faith opportunities you would like specifically for MS & HS programming. Please bring any ideas you may have to continue to build & strengthen our YOUTH Ministry!! We hope to see you there!



All high school students grades 9 - 12 are invited to come be a part of FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) on Friday mornings before school at 7:00 a.m. If you are looking for a way to connect, meet new friends, serve others, & enjoy breakfast together (food is provided), THIS is the place for you! Come, check out FCA to see what it is all about! We meet in Mr. Buck Engel's room at 7:00 a.m. ALL ARE WELCOME! Please reach out to Thomas Laufenberg (608) 377-1264 to let him know if you can make it (for food planning) or if you have any questions.