

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

46448 263RD ST. HARTFORD, SD 57033

www.trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

PASTOR ROBERT E. MOELLER, JR.

HOME 526-3572 OFFICE 526-3571

pastor@trinitylutheran-hartfordsd.org

3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2005

WELCOME

A special welcome to our guests worshiping with us this morning. We are glad you are here; we thank God for you! We pray that Jesus will touch your heart in some special way for being here. Please sign the guest book and fill out a visitor's card that you will find on the pad in your pew and place it in the offering plate during the service or hand it to one of the ushers, so we can thank you for joining us this week. If we can be of service to you, please let us know.

OFFERINGS AND TITHES

Offerings are our special gifts given to the Lord on special days or occasions or whenever we are moved to do so, for any reason.

Tithes are those monetary gifts we return to the Lord on a regular basis as first fruits because He asks us to do so, and to meet our spiritual need to give back to the One who has first given to us.

If you are a visitor today, feel free to give an offering to the Lord, but do not feel you need to do so. The members of Trinity support the work of the Lord here by giving back to the Lord a portion of what He gives us. We pray that the Lord will continue to lead you to give your offerings and tithes to your home congregation.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Everyone who has a special prayer request is invited to give those requests to Pastor Moeller. If you don't have a chance to do so before the service, write it down on one of the pads from the front of your pew and hand it to one of the ushers with the offering. Pastor will include those requests in our prayers for the day and/or the prayer chain.

PRAYER UPON ENTERING

Heavenly Father, we thank You for coming to us in the person of Your Son Jesus Christ, to save us from our sins. Enable us gracious Father, by the indwelling power of Your Holy Spirit, to keep our focus firmly on Jesus so that He will be the center of our lives and faith always—even unto everlasting life. In the name of Jesus. Amen!

THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

SUNDAY ~ Worship service w/communion ~ 9:30 am
Sunday School and Bible study ~ 10:30 am
LWML Nativity Festival ~ 3:00 pm

MONDAY ~ Men's Bible Study ~ 6:00 am

TUESDAY ~ Chapel at Tieszen Home ~ 9:00 am
Bible study ~ 7:00 pm
Evangelism Committee meeting ~ 8:00 pm

WEDNESDAY ~ Lifelight Bible study ~ 9:30 am
Confirmation class ~ 5:30 pm
Advent supper ~ 6:00 pm
Choir practice ~ 6:30 pm
Midweek Advent worship service ~ 7:30 pm

THURSDAY ~ Circuit pastors meeting ~ 9:30 am

SATURDAY ~ Practice for SS Christmas program ~ 9:30-11:00 am

COMING EVENTS

Sun., Dec. 18th ~ Worship service ~ 9:30 am
Sunday School and Bible study ~ 10:30 am
Sunday School Christmas program ~ 6:30 pm

Sat., Dec. 24th ~ Christmas Eve worship service ~ 7:30 pm

Sun., Jan. 22nd ~ Annual Voters meeting ~ 1:00 pm
SESD Lutherans For Life Soup Supper at Trinity-Hartford ~ 6:00 pm

SERVING THIS WEEK: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2005

Cleaners: Bob & Ruth Moore, Louis & Michelle Thompson
Greeters: Louis & Michelle Thompson
Head Usher: Orrin Geide **Acolyte:** Kylee Thompson

MIDWEEK ADVENT: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2005

Greeters: George & Donna Vogt
Head Usher: Daniel Erickson **Acolyte:** Dimitry Hernandez

NEXT WEEK: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2005

Cleaners: DeWane & Joyce Carls, Ben & Michelle Matthies
Greeters: Ben & Michelle Matthies
Head Usher: Orrin Geide **Acolyte:** Austin Eggebraaten

MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2005

Worship Attendance: 20 **Current offering:** \$ 55.00
Loose offering: \$ 1.00

WORSHIP SERVICE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2005

Worship Attendance:	82	Adult Bible study:	12
Current offering:	\$1,855.00	Loose offering:	\$ 8.50
Mission offering:	226.00	Building fund:	590.00
Future Church Worker:	10.00	Tuckpointing:	195.00
Landscaping	882.00	Campus Ministry	6.00

First Sunday Special Offerings go to Campus Ministry

Third Sunday Special Offerings go to Amy Kashenov

Third Sunday In Advent – December 11, 2005 A.D.

P: Sovereign Lord, God of Peace, light of the world, Spirit of fire, come down to this troubled world and hear our prayer. The poor, the brokenhearted,

C: the captive, the prisoner,

P: the mourner, the despairing, these all need Your aid. In Your mercy, Lord, bring good news, freedom, rejoicing,

C: comfort, release,

P: healing, favor,

C: gladness, praise.

P: Especially grant joyful hearts to our congregation and its friends who are in the midst of life's joys and struggles Help us to be joyful always, thankful in all circumstances, holding on to what is good, avoiding every kind of evil, that we may be kept blameless at Your coming. Sovereign Lord, God of Peace, Light of the World, may your hand of blessing be upon the congregations of St. Paul's Lutheran in Seneca and Risen Savior Lutheran in Tea as they proclaim our Advent Lord in their community. In the name of Jesus we pray.

C: Amen.

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ACTIVITY BAGS

Activity bags provided by the LWML are available for all the young children who join in our worship services at Trinity. You can pick up a bag from those that are hanging in the coatroom. The children are welcome to keep their artwork by please return the bag and its other contents to the hooks where you find them.

THE CONFESSION DECLARED AT COMMUNION

The New Testament Church *continued steadfastly in the Apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread (Communion) and in the prayers (Acts 2:42)*. The Sacrament of the Altar is a confession of oneness in doctrine – that those attending believe, teach and confess what Trinity Lutheran Church believes, teaches and confesses. Those attending the Lord's Supper are baptized Christians who have been instructed in the Chief Parts of Christian Doctrine: The Ten Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, The Office of the Keys and Confession, and The Sacrament of the Altar.

Those attending the Lord's Supper have been formally admitted to the fellowship of the Altar and continue in that fellowship as a member of Trinity Lutheran Church or sister congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod committed to rightly teaching the Word of God and administering the Sacraments according to Christ's institution. (Even children of Trinity congregation only come to the Sacrament after they have confirmed the confession of faith.)

While we acknowledge and appreciate the oneness of the Church which crosses denominational lines, we practice a confessional communion because attendance at the Altar is a declaration of oneness in doctrine. We would not want you to make that declaration without an opportunity of explaining what we believe, teach and confess. Therefore we ask that if you are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation that you would refrain from receiving the Sacrament before first speaking with Pastor.

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR COMMUNION PREPARATION

Q: Do you believe you are a sinner?

A: Yes, I believe it; I have failed God and others in my life. I am a sinner.

Q: Are you sorry for your sins?

A: Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

Q: Do you need God's forgiveness?

A: Yes, I need the gift of life He gives through Jesus Christ.

Q: What has Christ done for you?

A: He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of my sins.

Q: How do you know this?

A: From the holy Gospel and the words of the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

Q: Do you believe that in communion you receive the true body and blood of Christ with the bread and the wine?

A: Yes, I believe it because of His Word and promises.

Approach the altar with joy and thanksgiving as you receive Christ for your forgiveness and strength.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN

We extend the Sacrament of Baptism to all who have not been baptized—infants, children, youth, and adults. We invite those adults who are looking for a church home to come to one of our New Member Orientation classes. A new class will begin soon. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Pastor Moeller as soon as possible.

Upon completion of this class you may join Trinity Lutheran Church in one of the following ways:

- The Rite of Confirmation for those who have never been confirmed in the Lutheran Church.
- A Letter of Transfer is gladly accepted if you wish to transfer your membership from another Lutheran congregation.
- Reaffirmation of faith is for those who have been confirmed in a Lutheran church but have not been active in their former church.

MAIN STREET LIVING

Main Street Living is facing a major barrier. The FCC will require closed captioning on all network programs beginning January 1, 2006, which will mean a 40% in production costs. The good news is that Thrivent has granted Main Street a Giving Plus account. This means that when a Thrivent member contributes money to Main Street Living, Thrivent will match \$1 for every \$2 donation. Main Street's ID number is 514006670. The program continues to be available on KDLT-NBC at 10:00 a.m. and on PAX at 11:00 a.m.

December 11, 2005. "The Stableboy's Christmas." A young daughter's disappointment over a gift she did not receive melts into a fantasy of the first Christmas in the stable. The featured speaker is Rev. Nabil Nour of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Armour, SD. The sermon theme is "God Makes the Impossible Possible."

OUTREACH THEMES FROM OUR READINGS

Third Sunday in Advent ~ John 1:6-8; 19-28: Some people mistakenly thought that John the Baptist was the promised Savior of the world. He was quick to confess that he was only a forgiven sinner who was chosen by God to prepare people for the coming of the Savior. Like John, we are also forgiven sinners who have many opportunities to share the good news of forgiveness in Christ with all who will listen.

LWML NATIVITY FESTIVAL

The ladies of the Trinity LWML invite all women of Trinity to their Nativity Festival on Sunday, December 11th in the Trinity fellowship hall at 3:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy or many nativity scenes on display and a dessert luncheon

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

2nd Sunday in Advent ~ 2 Peter 3:8-14: People who look forward to moving into their dream home work hard to gather and spend the resources necessary to make their dream a reality. We Christian stewards look forward to a heavenly home beyond our wildest imagination; what an incentive to gather and spend the resources necessary to invite others to join us on the highway to heaven. imagination; what an incentive to gather and spend the resources necessary to invite others to join us on the highway to heaven.

TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

On Tuesday evenings, from 7:00-8:00 p.m., we will meet to study various Bible lessons based upon the "Our Life in Christ" series. Those teaching Sunday School will find this study helpful in their preparation for teaching, as we carefully examine the coming week's lesson. But everyone else is invited to attend as well. Please consider joining this opportunity to grow in your Christian faith.

LIFELIGHT STUDY OF JOB

Here is a puzzle: How can a kind and loving God allow terrible things to happen to a good and faithful person? That was Job's problem. He couldn't figure out God. But that is not just Job's problem. It is a problem whenever suffering strikes any of God's faithful people. For many of us Job's story will hit very close to home.

To help answer these questions, our Lifelight Bible study group will study the Old Testament book of Job each Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending, please speak to Pastor Moeller.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Louis Thompson for helping with the sermon two weeks ago.

Thank you to Melvin Matthies and Louis Thompson for finishing the walls in the storage room and classroom so they could be carpeted. .

Thank you to everyone who purchased a poinsettia from the High School Youth Group. They still have two of them for sale if you would like to purchase one.

Thank you to Ruth Moore for sharing her talents each week as she leads the worship music as our organist.

Thank you to everyone who organized the pastor's appreciation last Sunday.

Thank you to DeWane and Joyce Carls; Bob and Ruth Moore; Earle and Connie Geide; and Aimee Moeller for representing Trinity at Pastor Boehnke's installation last week. The members of Risen Savior really appreciated your support.

Divine Service

Hymn of Invocation.....#66
"Hark the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes"
The Order of Holy Communion.....p. 15-16
The Introit.....

P: Show us your unfailing love, O Lord,
C: and grant us your salvation.
P: I will listen to what God the Lord will say,
C: he promises peace to his people, his saints - but let them not return to folly.
P: Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
C: that his glory may dwell in our land.
P: The Lord will indeed give what is good,
C: and our land will yield its harvest.
P: Righteousness goes before him
C: and prepares the way for his steps.
P: Show us your unfailing love, O Lord,
C: and grant us your salvation.

The Gloria Patri, Kyrie.....
The Readings Back of bulletin
The Sermon Hymn#60
"Hark, A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"
Sermon..... "What's So Special?"
The Offering.....
Litany Prayers (insert)
The Service of Communionp. 24-30
The Distribution Hymns
#388 "Just As I Am"
#371 "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"
The Collect, Benediction..... p. 31
The Closing Hymn #75
"Ye Sons of Men, Oh, Harken"

BIBLE STUDY OF THE PSALMS

From the worship of the ancient children of Israel to the house gatherings of the early church, from the writings of Martin Luther to the newly published hymns and praise songs of today, the psalms have played a central role in the worship life of God's people. Yet to many people, the psalms seem inaccessible and foreign. The language is at times so far removed from our everyday speech that we are left wondering exactly what the writer is trying to say. Many passages inspire comfort, but others seem so harsh that one wonders why they are in the Bible at all.

Over the next couple of months we will study a sample of the Psalms in our Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) adult Bible study. This Bible study will introduce you to the language, teachings, and history of the psalms so that this treasure chest of God's riches will not remain inaccessible, but will be opened to you and enrich your worship, personal devotions, and life. All adults are invited to join us each week!

"LIFE QUOTES" FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

"The meeting of Mary and Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-45) must have occurred within just a few days of the Annunciation, when Mary conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. Yet this microscopically tiny embryo, this 'undifferentiated blob of protoplasm' about the same age as the embryos who are destroyed in stem-cell experiments, was the Incarnate God, the eternal Son, of one essence with the Father." *Michael Schwartz, Vice President for Government Relations for Concerned Women of America* **A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life / www.lutheransforlife.org / 888-364-LIFE**

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY – EVOLUTION

The High School Bible study class is examining "Evolution: God's Amazing Creation" and video series "Journeys to the Edge of Creation" to better understand how the remarkable universe and the creatures all around us are proof of intelligent, divine design. All High School aged students are invited to join teachers Joe Krizan and Archie Wolfe in exploring this fascinating topic each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Invite your friends!

HISTORICAL FACTS OF SD DISTRICT

In 1954 Trinity Lutheran Church of Yale started a new mission in Iroquois. It's interesting how congregations once started congregations, not the District.

SHUT-INS

Please remember in your daily prayers the following shut-in members: Bud Plagman, Vivian Dansman, Bonnie Edgecomb, and Martha Westphal.

GOD AND OUR FAMILY IN ADVENT

It has often been said that the family is the basic building block of society. Families provide the setting for learning essential values and skills. In families we learn how to love, share, forgive and care for others. No matter, what the status of your own family, I'm sure you would agree that families are very important.

But as important as families are to you and me, there is someone to whom families are even more important. God cares so much for our human families that He entered into one Himself—as a little baby born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph. We celebrate that Incarnation each Advent and Christmas. But God didn't stop there. The Father gave up His own Son on the cross that we might have forgiveness of our sins and that our family might become part of His family forever.

Please join us as we celebrate "God and Our Family"!

Midweek Advent Services ~ Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

For your convenience the 125th Anniversary Committee will be serving supper from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

TODAY IN OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

Today our Sunday School students explore Luke 1:26-56, where they learn how God's angel announced to Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus our Savior. Parents might talk about the importance of making and keeping promises. In review of the lesson, parents might ask: What might Mary and others have learned while they waited for the Savior? How does Jesus' coming bring us comfort? How is the wait for Jesus fulfilled in the promises of eternal life?



MEN'S MONDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Each Monday morning at 6:00 a.m. a group of men from Trinity gather at Sunshine Foods in Hartford for Bible study. We are beginning a study of Leviticus, perhaps one of the least understood and appreciated books of the Bible. During the coming weeks, we will examine how Leviticus points to the efforts of the thrice-holy God in dealing with human sin through offerings and feasts, priesthood and blood atonement. Truly what one reads in Leviticus is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Yet the richness of His person and work can be more fully appreciated through the study of the types, symbols, and shadows found in Moses' third book. All men of the congregation are invited to join us!

LUTHERAN MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

A gift that will bless you year after year! What better gift to give your spouse, or to give each other, than the experience of a Marriage Encounter Weekend?



What is Marriage Encounter? In a nutshell, it is a weekend away from the daily pressures of life and responsibilities. It is an opportunity to focus on each other. It is an opportunity to improve our communication in a relaxed and private setting. It is for couples with "good" marriages who want to enrich what they already have. There are NO "group discussions." The weekend is a series of presentations that touch on many aspects of marriage. The talks are given by three lay couples and a clergy couple. After each presentation, each couple has time, in the privacy of their own room for personal sharing, using the communication techniques learned on the weekend.

The next opportunity for a Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend is **March 3-5, 2006 in Sioux Falls, SD** at the Country Inn and Suites. The cost is \$45 to register. This reserves your room and meals at the motel. A freewill donation is taken at the end of the weekend. Questions? Register? Contact one of these:

Vernon and Karen Harrington 712-533-6221 giblem@frontier.net

Milton and Donna Kaufman 605-651-3231 miltkauf@tnics.com

Pastor Bob and Aimee Moeller 605-526-3572 seelsorge8@aol.com

Pastor Jim and Rita Wiese 605-432-9555 elcpastor@tnics.com

Have you already attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend years ago? Many couples appreciate another weekend as much or more than the first one. We invite you to return for an updated version of the weekend that still concentrates on communication. To learn more about Lutheran Marriage Encounter you can call 1-800-235-1010 or visit the web site at <http://www.ilme.org>.