

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## CHRISTMAS DAY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 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!

### 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.

### THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

SUNDAY ~ **Worship service w/communion** ~ 9:30 am

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

TUESDAY ~ **Bible study** ~ 7:00 pm

SATURDAY ~ **New Year's Eve worship** ~ 7:30 pm

### COMING EVENTS

Sun., Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> ~ **Worship service** ~ 9:30 am

Fri., Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> ~ **Church Council meeting** ~ 7:30 pm

Sun., Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> ~ **SD District Theological Conference at Sioux Falls Lutheran School** ~ 3:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Sun., Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ **Shared meal** ~ 12:00 noon

**Annual Voters meeting** ~ 1:00 pm

**SESD Lutherans For Life Soup Supper at Trinity-Hartford** ~ 6:00 pm

### SERVING THIS WEEK: CHRISTMAS DAY: DECEMBER 25, 2005

**Cleaners:** Richard & Donna Bowden, Loren & Marsha Letsche

**Greeters:** Loren & Marsha Letsche

**Head Usher:** Orrin Geide **Acolyte:** Jenny Eggebraaten

### NEW YEAR'S EVE: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2005

**Greeters:** Roger & Bert Carls

**Head Usher:** Melvin Matthies **Acolyte:** Holly Kelley

### NEXT WEEK: NEW YEAR'S DAY: SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2005

**Cleaners:** John & Carlene Barber, Carmen Barber, Casey Barber

**Greeters:** Clarice Wixon, Stacy VanWesten

**Head Usher:** Harvey Rehfeldt **Acolyte:** Thad Johnson

### MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2005

**Worship Attendance:** 46

**Current offering:** \$ 112.00

**Loose offering:** \$ 1.00

### WORSHIP SERVICE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2005

**Worship Attendance:** 111

**Adult Bible study:** 11

**Current offering:** \$1,399.00

**Loose offering:** \$ 54.00

**Mission offering:** 75.00

**Building fund:** 435.00

**Future Church Worker:** 10.00

**Tuckpointing:** 50.00

**Amy Kashenov** 13.30

First Sunday Special Offerings go to Campus Ministry

Third Sunday Special Offerings go to Amy Kashenov

## Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.

### *Refrain*

Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?

### *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.

### *Refrain*

*Text: UNKNOWN, AUTHOR  
Tune:*

## The Nativity Of Our Lord – December 25, 2005 A.D.

- P: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of Him who bears glad tidings,  
**C: Announcing peace, bringing good news, announcing salvation, and saying to Zion, "Your God is King!"**
- P: That the watchmen may raise the cry of hope and salvation and call the world to the joy of Jesus Christ.  
**C: In mercy hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P: That we may see the work of the Lord, building His kingdom through Word and Sacrament, and calling forth a people to be His new and eternal Zion.  
**C: In mercy hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P: That the people of God may join in the new song of forgiveness and life in the Christ who became incarnate for us and our redemption.  
**C: In mercy hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P: That He who redeems His people may manifest His healing grace upon those who are sick or who suffer, especially those whom we name before the Lord now. . . Lord, in Your grace and mercy,  
**C: In mercy hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P: That the Lord who has bared His holy arm may touch our world with peace and call the nations to work toward justice and freedom for all people.  
**C: In mercy hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P: That all the ends of the earth may behold the salvation of our God, let us offer our thanks and praise.  
**C: In mercy hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**
- P: For congregations that continue to worship You this Christmas Day across our South Dakota District as we celebrate the Good News of Jesus Christ for 100 years in this District. Especially Father do we ask you this day to bless the congregations of Zion Lutheran in Andover and Zion Lutheran in Chamberlain.  
**C: Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth. We give You thanks for the love You have made known to us through Your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

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## 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. 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. January 1, 2006.

The featured speaker is Rev. Robert E. Moeller, Jr., of Trinity Lutheran, Hartford, SD. The sermon theme is "The High Priest Prepares."

## OUTREACH THEMES FROM OUR READINGS

Christmas Day ~ Luke 2:1-20: The Shepherds were the first humans to hear about the good news of the birth of Jesus. They came and saw the newborn Savior and then went out and told everyone they met about what they had seen and heard. We, who once again celebrate the real meaning of Christmas, are privileged to tell everyone we meet about the joy and hope we have because of Jesus.

## 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!

## SHUT-INS

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

## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Christmas Day ~ Titus 3:4-7: At Christmas God said "I love you" in a very real and personal way as He sent His only-begotten Son into our world to save us from our sin and make us heirs of everlasting life. God's love compels us to use our gifts and resources to share His love for all sinners.

## 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.

## 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 Lutheran 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!

## GOING AWAY PARTY FOR THE CLARK'S

There will be a going-away party for Steve and Gretchen Clark and their sons beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> at the Trinity fellowship hall. Meat, coffee, and juice will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass. Everyone in the congregation is invited!

## HISTORICAL FACTS OF SD DISTRICT

St. Peter's Lutheran Church of Clayton in order to provide a Christian Education for the growing congregation decided to build a Lutheran School in 1902.

## Divine Service

Hymn of Invocation.....#94  
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"  
The Order of Holy Communion.....p. 15-16  
The Introit.....

P: The Lord has made his salvation known  
**C: and revealed his righteousness to the nations.**  
P: Sing to the Lord a new song,  
**C: for he has done marvelous things.**  
P: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel;  
**C: all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**  
P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth,  
**C: burst into jubilant song with music;**  
P: with trumpets and the blast of the ram's horn-  
**C: shout for joy before the Lord, the King.**  
P: The Lord has made his salvation known  
**C: and revealed his righteousness to the nations.**

The Gloria Patri, Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis.....  
The Readings ..... Back of bulletin  
The Sermon Hymn .....(printed insert)  
"Angels, We Have Heard on High"  
Sermon ..... "Three Glorias"  
The Offering.....  
Litany Prayers ..... (insert)  
The Service of Communion ..... p. 24-30  
The Distribution Hymn .....  
#76 "A Great and Mighty Wonder"  
The Collect, Benediction..... p. 31  
The Closing Hymn ..... #87  
"Joy to the World, the Lord Is Come"

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

## BAPTISM OF JACK BAUER O'NEILL III

Baptized into the family of God in our worship service last Sunday was Jack Bauer O'Neill III, the infant son of Jack and Lisa (nee Carls) O'Neill, and brother of Taylor. Local grandparents are DeWane and Joyce Carls. Witnesses were George and Nicole Johnson, Travis and Mary Jo Graves.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to Lisa Wolfe, Susan Kelley, and all of the Sunday School teachers who helped direct and organize the children's Christmas program last Sunday evening. Your hard work showed throughout the program as the children told the story of our Savior's birth.

## LIFE QUOTES" FROM LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

“A Gospel (Luke 1:39-45) that introduces us to Jesus as an embryo-God and that depicts John the fetus as rejoicing in the presence of his Lord leaves no room to doubt the humanity and the personhood of the unborn child. There are some Christians, it is true, who are confused about whether the unborn are as completely human as the rest of us. If an embryo just a few days after conception can be God, and a fetus prior to viability can rejoice in the presence of that God, then it is impossible to pretend that the Bible is in the slightest degree unclear about the matter.” *Michael Schwartz, Vice President for Government Relations for Concerned Women of America*

## HEAVEN AND HELL

Some people ask quite glibly, “How can a loving God send good people to hell?” as if the reality of evil logically justified the denial of God's existence. Perhaps those asking such questions err not by going too far, but by not going far enough. We must also ponder: “How can a just God allow sinners into heaven?”

Beginning January 4<sup>th</sup>, our Lifelight Bible study will meet at 9:30 a.m. each Wednesday to study these questions. *Heaven and Hell* uncovers common misunderstandings people have about biblical teaching on life after death. It tells the awful truth about hell and describes the everlasting joy that awaits all who trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior. We invite everyone to join us. If you have any questions or to make sure we have materials for you, please speak to Pastor Moeller as soon as possible.

## 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!

## 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.