

## Christmas Presence

Amid the secular trappings of the holidays, we can lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas, until we lament with Charlie Brown, "Isn't there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about?"



These reminders call us back to where it all began — in the heart of God.

"The giving of gifts is not something [people] invented. God started the giving spree when he gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of his Son."

—Robert Flatt

"Who can add to Christmas? The perfect motive is that God so loved the world. The perfect gift is that he gave his only Son. The only requirement is to believe in him. The reward of faith is that you shall have everlasting life." —Corrie ten Boom

"The great challenge left to us is to cut through all the glitz and glam of the season that has grown increasingly secular and commercial, and be reminded of the beauty of the One who is Christmas."

—Bill Crowder

"If we do not set aside time to focus together on what God's word tells us about the promise of Christ, on Christmas morning we can find ourselves surrounded by mounds of torn gift wrap, our laps full of presents, but with hearts that are empty and unprepared." —Nancy Guthrie

*The NEWSLETTER Newsletter*

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

<b>Sat. (5<sup>th</sup>)</b>	8:00	Hanging of the Greens
	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
<b>Sun. (6<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>
	9:15	Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School
	<b>10:30</b>	<b>Connection Service (C)</b>
<b>Mon. (7<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>No Events on Church Calendar</b>	
<b>Tue. (8<sup>th</sup>)</b>	8:30	FLS Staff Mtg.
	4:15	Community Cathedral Café
	6:30	LLB Mtg.
	6:30	American Heritage Girls Board Mtg.
	7:00	Property Brd.
<b>Wed. (9<sup>th</sup>)</b>	8:30	FLS Chapel
	9:00	Quilting
	2:30-4:40	FLS Staff Mtg. (Fellowship Hall)
	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Advent Service</b>
	6:30	Confirmation Class
	6:30	Connection Practice
	6:30	Handbells
<b>Thu. (10<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>WINKEL (St. John's, Webster)</b>	
	6-8:00	American Heritage Girls
<b>Fri. (11<sup>th</sup>)</b>	1:40-2:15	FLS Mentoring (Fellowship Hall)
	6-9:00	AHG Girl Leadership Team (Gym)
<b>Sat. (12<sup>th</sup>)</b>	10:00	Private Baptism
	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Sunday School Christmas Service</b>
<b>Sun. (13<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>8:00</b>	<b>Worship Service (C)</b>
	9:15	Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School
	<b>10:30</b>	<b>Worship Service</b>

## Trinity News of the Week

December 5 & 6, 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church  
Faribault, MN 55021

### Thoughts on Our Memory Verse

- by Kristin Sellentine

Genesis 1:27-28 –

*So God created man in his own image,  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.*

*And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

It has been said that "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth" may be the only commandment man has ever kept. 😊

How have we done on subduing the earth and having dominion over living things? Not so good, if you consider that, having been made "in the image of God," we should exercise our authority over the earth and living things in the same way that God rules over us.

Nature is here for our use, not our abuse. Polluting the environment, depleting the rainforests, and mistreating animals or hunting them to extinction are just a few ways we've failed in our superior position over God's other creations.

God sustains us, even though we are subject to Him. We need to be stewards of our world, responsible for its ongoing well-being.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

#### WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL READINGS

Mon. 12/7: Heb. 1:1-4	Thu. 12/10: Ps. 96:1-13
Tue. 12/8: Acts 2:14-36	Fri. 12/11: Micah 5:2-5a
Wed. 12/9: Luke 2:8-20	Sat. 12/12: Luke 1:46-56



The 2021 Bible Bowl competition covers the New Testament books of Romans and James from the ESV translation. The competition date is set for April 17, 2021.

Everyone in grades 7 - 12 is invited to start studying as they prepare to join the team in January. Contact Philip Simonson at 507-213-8121 or at [philipsimonson1@gmail.com](mailto:philipsimonson1@gmail.com)

### EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

**In Our Prayers for Strength, Comfort, and Healing...** Brenda; Steve; Sue Anderson; Verna Bahl; DeeAnn Bartkey; Dean Berghoff; Mandy Blume; Don Dugan; Judy Fairclough; Alice Gudknecht; Gary Kittleson; Edward Morison; Denise O'Rourke; Mason Prebble; Bob Reineke; Barb Roach; Shirley Rockman; Lou Rolf; Scott Rost; Ray Sanders; Jim Schmidtke; Nancy Schultz; Esther Sipult; Kay Smith; Patty Stonehouse; Gene Trench; Kristine Uter; Jim Velzke  
**Prayers for those whose names we carry in our hearts.**

**For emergencies and after-hour prayer requests, please call one of our pastors:**

✚ Rev. Paul Rieger, 636-751-4784  
✚ Rev. Tyler Werner, 715-203-2904

**The Radio Broadcast** this Sunday is sponsored in memory of David Boldt, longtime member of the Trinity Radio Club, who passed away on October 23.

- Serving Trinity Lutheran Church and Faribault Lutheran School -

Rev. Paul Rieger, Senior Pastor      Rev. Tyler Werner, Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Snyder, Pastor Emeritus      Rev. Gatluk Reat, Sudanese Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church  
Bill Kirkpatrick, Finance/Property Manager      Nancy Simonson, Family Ministry      Jennifer Kingland, Office Manager  
Chrysteena Saehler, FLS Interim Principal      Jessica Lewis, FLS Administrative Secretary

Worship Broadcasts: Radio (KDHL 920 AM) Sunday at 8:00am      Livestream: [www.trinityradioandvideo.org](http://www.trinityradioandvideo.org) 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Address: 530 4th St. NW      Phone: (507) 331-6579      Trinity website: [www.trinityfaribault.org](http://www.trinityfaribault.org)      Facebook.com/Trinityfaribault

Trinity Radio Website: [www.trinityradioandvideo.org](http://www.trinityradioandvideo.org)      Consolidated Communications TV channel 10 & Charter channel 181, Mon. &/or Tues., 3:30pm



Direct your  
**Thrivent Choice Dollars**  
 Today!



**Final Reminder  
 About 2020 Thrivent Choice Dollars**

This is a reminder that you can still have your **2020** Thrivent Choice Dollars donated to Trinity or your other favorite non-profit organization before the end of the year if you do it in the next couple of weeks.

Last year in 2019, our Thrivent Choice Dollars were way up from previous years and that helped a lot at the end of the year; the boost we got from Thrivent was significant. So far this year, we have only received about half of what we received last year. Please help us by having your Thrivent Choice Dollars sent to Trinity before the end of the year.

The way you do this is easy. It can be done through the Thrivent web page at [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com), but there is another way to do it:

- 1.) Just call Thrivent Financial at 1-800-THRIVEN (1-800-847-4836) and when the automated voice comes on, just say the words "Choice Dollars." This will send you to an actual live person who can help you.
- 2.) That person will look up your account (if you don't have your account number handy, just use your social security number) and will tell you the total number of Choice Dollars you can distribute.
- 3.) You can then just specify that your Choice Dollars should go to Trinity Lutheran Church of Faribault and/or any other qualified organizations you may want to support.

Call your Thrivent representative or Bill Kirkpatrick if you need any help.

**IT'S ALL ABOUT GRACE  
 New Office Addition**



<b>Actual cost of the New Offices:</b>	\$428,000
<b>Pledges and Cash:</b>	\$415,330
<b>Cash Received:</b>	\$413,350

Dear LAMP friends,

I had sent 58 stocking hats with *Do You Know Jesus* books in each hat for their sliding party. With Roger and my travels, we had not gotten word if they had arrived or not. Well, they had arrived, but the party had to be canceled because of Covid-19. So my dear friend Suzanne took them to the school to distribute, with the *Do You Know Jesus* book in each hat. The school allowed her to share the hats with books inside each. In the past the school would not allow any religious material from us. So God is sharing the glorious news of Christ with who knows who at these difficult times. Was such a day brightener that I needed to share. God is awesome.

Love to all,  
 Pam

**HUMAN CARE**

Please look for the quilters' table in the Narthex. A variety of gift items and quilts will be offered for sale. Items may be purchased and the money placed in the can that is on the table. All proceeds will go towards purchasing quilt batting.



We appreciate your help and generous support as we work to provide warm quilts to give away to people who need them.

**STEWARDSHIP**

Special thanks to everyone who helped decorate the church for the Christmas season!



**WORSHIP**



*Special December Worship Services*

Wednesday, December 9  
 5:30 PM - Advent Service

Saturday, December 12  
 5:30 PM - Sunday School Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 16  
 5:30 PM - Advent Service

Thursday, Christmas Eve,  
 December 24  
 4:30 PM - Christmas Eve Family Service  
 9:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
 (note changed time!)

Friday, Christmas Day,  
 December 25  
 9:00 AM - Christmas Day Service  
 [with Holy Communion]

No Services on New Year's Eve or  
 New Year's Day

**Note:** There will be NO Sunday School or Adult Bible Study on December 27.

Regular Services will take place on Saturdays (5:30PM) & Sundays (8:00 & 10:30AM).

*Midweek Advent, Christmas Eve Family & Christmas Day services will be broadcast on KDHL (920 AM) and live streamed. Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be live streamed.*

**Due to COVID concerns, we are not planning to serve Advent Soup Suppers.**

A **CHRISMON** is a Christian symbol representing Jesus Christ or some part of Christ's ministry. Those being used in church this year have been hand-made by a number of Trinity members over past years, and draw our attention to Christ and His work.

For a complete list of the chrismons enhancing our worship this December, pick up a sheet at the Information Center.

**Drive-thru Communion** will be taking place this coming Thursday again (December 10, 3:30-6 p.m.), pending bad weather. If you are not comfortable with coming to in-person worship just yet, come and park in the west-side parking lot of the church and Pastor Rieger or Pastor Tyler will celebrate with you a shortened Communion service. Contact the church office with any questions.



**COMMUNITY NEWS**



**MISSIONS**

**Do you have any old, used (but still working!)** Sewing Machines or DVD Players? Thy Holy Word Ministries collects and distributes sewing machines, DVD players and other resources

to the East African immigrants in the Faribault area. To donate, call Bro. Tender "Mercy" Dunfee at [tendermercydunfee@gmail.com](mailto:tendermercydunfee@gmail.com) or 763-310-6545.