



NEWSLETTER



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Contact

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prdomc5897@yahoo.com

* OFFICE HOURS *

St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.
 Trinity, Wednesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
 109 W State St., Plankinton SD 57368
www.stpaulplankinton.com
 605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
 Curt Guindon
 Mike Tuschen

President Rodney Weber
LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 304 S Johnston St., White Lake SD 57383
www.trinitywhitelake.com
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
 605-249-2333

Elders David Bogenhagen
 Dan Guericke
 Scott Meier

President Dean Suelflow
LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
 Hope Circle
 Brianna Bogenhagen
 Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

January 2025

NOTE TIME CHANGE: Divine Worship Service Schedule 2025

Divine Services at St. Paul's 8:30 a.m.
 Divine Services at Trinity 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education

Bible Study – Trinity, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.
 St. Paul's, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Confirmation Classes — St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

St. Paul's Sunday School — Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Trinity Release-Time — Wednesdays, 2:15 p.m.

Trinity Wednesday School — Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – Tuesday, January 7, 2025, 2 p.m.

Trinity Ruth Circle – Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 2 p.m.

Annual Meetings

Trinity Voters – Date to be determined.

St. Paul's Voters – Date to be determined.

Trinity Lutherans for Life – January 19, 2025, 11:30 a.m.

Serving the Lord's Church in JANUARY

TRINITY

Elder Dan Guericke

Ushers Dan Meier
 Dean Suelflow

Acolyte Blake Bogenhagen

Altar Jane Guericke

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Justin Everson

Ushers Kieth Albrecht
 Josh Kemp

Acolyte Jett Kemp

Altar Sandy Tuschen

Scripture Readings for Sundays in January

Jan. 5 1 Kings 3:4–15; Ephesians 1:3–14; Luke 2:40–52

Jan. 12 Isaiah 43:1–7; Romans 6:1–11; Luke 3:15–22

Jan. 19 Isaiah 62:1–5; 1 Corinthians 12:1–11; John 2:1–11

Jan. 26 Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Cor. 12:12-31a; Luke 4:16-30

The **February 2025 newsletter** will be available on or after January 26, 2025. Articles are due Friday, January 24, 2025.

Please send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at trinityw/sd@gmail.com. **Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thank you!

GOD'S WORD IS TRUE

Christmas sure came and went fast again! But we can take time to think of the past year and of God's great blessings to us once again.

God supplied us with all that we needed for our life. Every good thing we have in this life comes from God for which we should be thanking Him every day. Even more importantly, He kept us in the faith which leads to eternal life with God in Heaven.

God has given us a church where we can hear God's Word and receive the Lord's Supper which strengthens our faith. He forgave us all of our sins for the sake of Jesus who gave up His life that we might have life. In God's Word we have many promises that God will supply all of our needs according to His riches in mercy. He promises to answer our prayers according to His own good and perfect will. He assures us of His protection. Psalm 91:9-12 says, *Because you have made the Lord, who is my refuge, Even the Most High, your dwelling place, No evil shall befall you, Nor shall any plague come near your dwelling; For He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.* Through God's Word He reminds us that He is preparing a place in Heaven for all believers. God's blessings to us are endless as we experienced once again in the past year. And all of His blessings are completely undeserved and unearned. But we thank and praise Him for all of His blessings to us.

We look forward to the new year and pray that God would be with us again. All we receive is by God's grace in Jesus. We pray that God will provide for us all things needed for this life and for eternal life in Heaven. We pray that God would keep us in His Word and that we do the work that He has called us to do and all for His glory. We pray that we be satisfied with the blessings that God gives us every day.

On Epiphany Sunday we remember the example of the Wise Men. They believed God's Word, traveled several 100s of miles to find Him, knew how wonderful He was, humbled themselves to worship Him, and obeyed God rather than man, as instead of returning to Herod went home in the way that God told them to go.

Just as the Wise men, we know that God's Word is true, we seek to know Him better through hearing and reading God's Word, we worship Him, and live for Him in this sinful world. II Corinthians 9:15 says, *Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.*

Pastor McKillop



*Thanks be unto God
for his unspeakable gift.*

2 Corinthians 9:15, KJV



MAIN STREET LIVING JANUARY 2025

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:

www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

January 5, 2025

10 a.m. "The Other Wiseman" Another Magi, making his journey to the Christ child, encounters others and shows kindness along the way.

10:30 a.m. Reverend David Otten, pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Gettysburg, South Dakota, presents a message titled "Lost Child." This sermon is based on Luke 2:49.

January 12, 2025

10 a.m. "Homecoming" A man struggles to reconnect with his family after a car accident.

10:30 a.m. Reverend Sam Handschke, pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre, South Dakota, presents a message titled "God's Beloved." This sermon is based on Isaiah 43:4.

January 19, 2025 (Sanctity of Life Sunday)

10 a.m. "Live Option" A 15-year-old pregnant daughter and her mother disagree on the future of her child.

10:30 a.m. Reverend James Lamb from Lutheran Family Service in Fort Dodge, Iowa and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, presents a message titled "The Trinitarian Value of Human Life." This sermon is based on Isaiah 43:1.

January 26, 2025

10 a.m. "If God Be For Us" A couple struggles with life after the death of their son.

10:30 a.m. Reverend Gary Schulte, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Rapid City, South Dakota, presents a message titled "Life for a Pooped Party."



JANUARY 2025

Merlyn Haak, SP	Jan. 5
<i>Eric & Jessica Olson, TR</i>	<i>Jan. 8</i>
Sandy Titze, SP	Jan. 10
Link Will, SP	Jan. 10
Tracie Anthony, SP	Jan. 14
Mike Tuschen, SP	Jan. 14
<i>John & Kris Kieffer, TR</i>	<i>Jan. 15</i>
Linda Smith (88), TR	Jan. 16
Jerry Boyd, SP	Jan. 17
Charlie Everson, SP	Jan. 18
Blaire Bogenhagen, TR	Jan. 18
Alexis Hauge, TR	Jan. 18
Dona Steffen, TR	Jan. 20
Corey Baumiller, SP	Jan. 23
Brian Ruden, TR	Jan. 24
Thomas Geyer, TR	Jan. 24
Jeff Johnson, TR	Jan. 24
Ron Steffen, TR	Jan. 28
Diana Kieffer, TR	Jan. 29
Orion Steichen, TR	Jan. 29
Elizabeth Will Thomas, SP	Jan. 30
Tucker Greene, SP	Jan. 30

TRINITY LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

The Annual Meeting of Trinity's LFL group will be held following the Divine Service January 18, 2025 (approx. 11:45 a.m.)

Please join us as we make plans to encourage everyone in our community with the news of God's precious gift of life!



WORD FROM THE CENTER

*She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins ... they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).
Matthew 1:21, 23b*

“GOD WITH US” — DON’T SETTLE FOR ANYTHING LESS!

Who could refuse a peace that lasts because God Himself is with us? Well, many do. Why? Because as sinful, rebellious people by nature, we tend to settle for counterfeits, instead of the real thing. When offered an eternal peace that comes from sins forgiven, we would rather settle for peaceful circumstances, or just our temporal “peace of mind,” right? We want the peace that comes with bills paid, relationships intact, body/health doing fine, and purposeful work to do for as long as we’d like to do it. Instead of “God with us” no matter the circumstances, we would rather just have circumstances to our own liking.

Christmas should be a time of reflection when you think about what it means to have faith in the Savior who is “God with us” no matter the circumstances of the moment. That’s the offer that faced Joseph that first Christmastide. He had so much on his mind. Mary was pregnant, but the child wasn’t his. What would he do? How would he face the sneers of the people of his community? He had a bit of courage; he reasoned that he would try to protect Mary amidst his disappointment, “divorcing her quietly” (Matthew 1:19). But then things changed dramatically. Suddenly, an angel appears saying, “Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife” (Matthew 1:20). Why? Because God is at work in ways that you can’t totally understand. Joseph could have run for the hills. But, thankfully, Joseph put His faith in God’s Word and wouldn’t settle for anything less than Mary as his wife, and Jesus as His Savior, no matter the personal cost of the moment.

Christmas and Easter are vital to us because they deliver what we really need. It’s the reality of sins forgiven and eternal life secured. It’s the promise of a peace that lasts, peace that endures no matter the present trouble. And that’s what our Bible verses tell us today. They tell us about the peace that God brings when He comes into our world, when He promises to be with us in all circumstances in this world, and that in Him we will live forever in heaven. It’s the peace that comes when you know that there is one who is able, one who is capable, and one who is with you in all things to bring you blessing. Faith in Him says, “Nothing else, and surely nothing less.” “O come, O come Emmanuel,” come mightily into our daily lives. For when “God with us” is also God “for us,” we can face whatever comes because our lives are secure in His hands. When we realize that IN CHRIST we have more than ENOUGH, then life becomes a journey of “God with us” that experiences His abundant joy, eternal life, and a peace that lasts amidst whatever circumstances come our way. A blessed Christmas to you all!!

PRAYER: Dear Jesus, give us the wisdom and the faith of Joseph to take You at Your word, even when circumstances seem to the contrary. And give us a sense of what it means to live life with faith in the God who came into our lives to save us, “God with us” even now. AMEN

Rev. Gregory Seltz

EPIPHANY DEVOTION

And going into the house they saw the child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh (Matthew 2: 11).

For most people, Christmas is long ago and far away. Nevertheless, I would be remiss in my duty if I didn't offer to remind you that January 6 is *Epiphany*, the day the Christian church remembers the coming of the Magi, or Wisemen, to worship Jesus.

Years ago, a teacher I know was reading the story of *Epiphany*, the non-Jewish Christmas, to her kindergartners. As was her custom, she stopped to see if they understood what she had been saying.

"What do we call the three wise men?" she asked. "The three maggots," replied a bright 5-year-old. Once she managed to help them see the difference between Magi and maggots, the teacher asked another question.

"What gifts did the Magi bring to baby Jesus?" The answer of "Gold, Frankenstein, and Smurfs!" was not quite right, either. Another explanation was in order.

Truly, it's really not all that important if you know the gifts that these wanderers brought to Jesus almost 2,000 years ago. On the other hand, **it is important that you know the great Gift of grace, which God has given to you.**

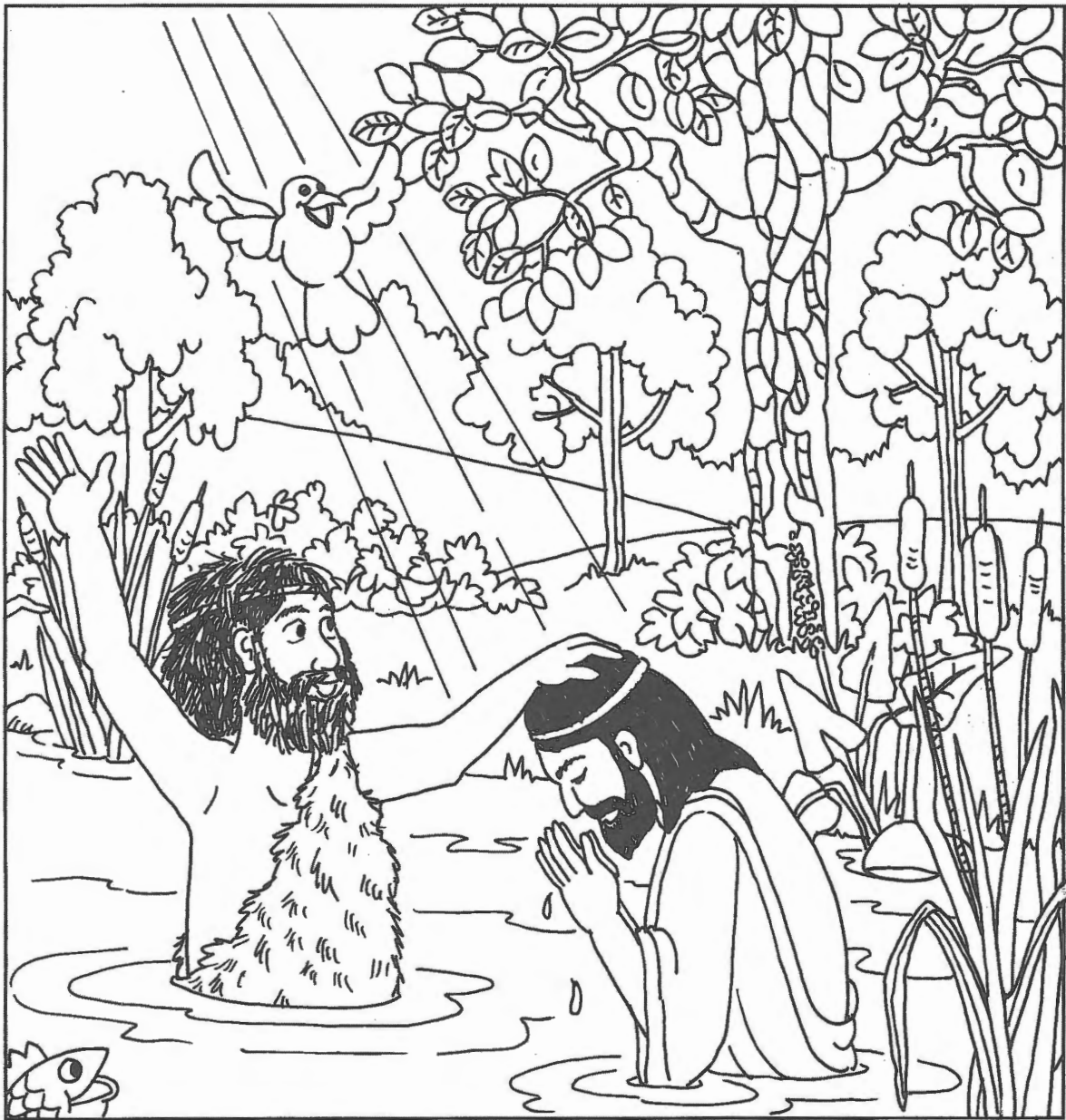
Yes, I know you weren't born back then. I also know that you have received some very nice and probably very expensive gifts over the years. Still, nothing you have ever been given has as much value, or is more important, or to be more cherished than is the Gift of the Savior.

Even if you don't know about gold, Frankenstein and Smurfs, please remember God's Son Who was born to seek and save the lost; and, Who, with His life, death, and resurrection, gives salvation to all who believe, no matter from where they come.

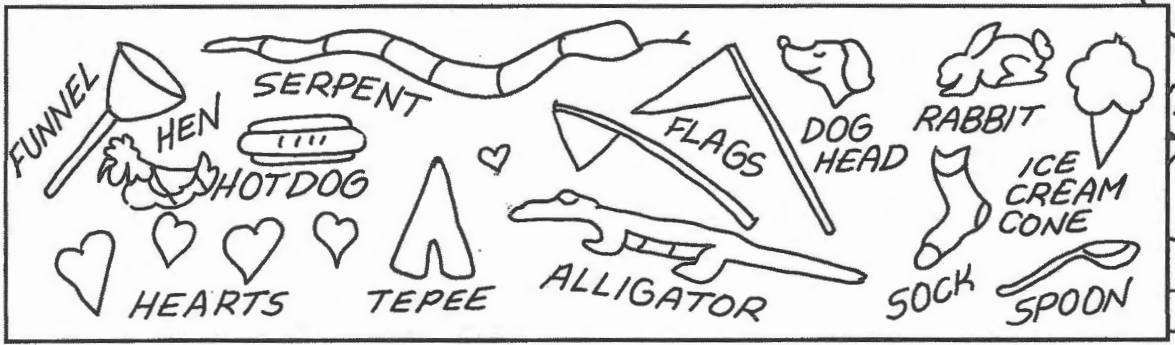
PRAYER: Dear God, thank You for the free gift of eternal life in Christ Jesus. Help me to share the news of this important and valuable Gift. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

In Christ I remain His servant and yours,
Pastor Ken Klaus
Speaker emeritus of The Lutheran Hour®
Lutheran Hour Ministries





Jesus was baptized in my river!



Find the hidden pictures above in the puzzle.

Jesus was baptized by John. (Read the story in Luke 3)



JANUARY 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>Jesus Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light (2 Timothy 1:10).</i>			1	2	3	4
5 2nd Sunday after Christmas Divine Services 8:30 a.m. St. Paul's 10:30 a.m. Trinity Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's	6	7 TR Hope Circle 2 p.m. SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	8 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. TR Bible Class/ Wed. School 5:30 p.m. TR Ruth Circle 6:30 p.m.	9 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	10	11
12 The Baptism of Our Lord Divine Services 8:30 a.m. St. Paul's 10:30 a.m. Trinity Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's	13	14 SP Dorcas Circle 2 p.m. SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	15 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. TR Bible Class Wed. School 5:30 p.m.	16 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	17	18
19 Sanctity of Life Sunday Divine Services 8:30 a.m. St. Paul's 10:30 a.m. Trinity Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's	20 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 10px auto;"> Jan. 19 cont. TR Lutherans For Life 11:45 a.m. Annual Meeting </div>	21 SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	22 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. TR Bible Class Wed. School 5:30 p.m.	23 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	24	25
26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany Divine Services 8:30 a.m. St. Paul's 10:30 a.m. Trinity Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's	27	28 SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	29 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. TR Bible Class Wed. School 5:30 p.m.	30 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	31	