

The Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

~Welcome to Trinity Lutheran...Warm Hearts and Willing Hands~



MEET PASTOR PENNY RITTER

Greetings to the Trinity Church Family!

By now you have probably heard my name being bantered about or have been totally surprised to see me smiling at you on the Sunday morning worship services on Facebook, and if so, your first reactions might have been:

1). Who is she or if you already know me 2). What is she doing there!? Let me try to answer both.

My name is Penny (well actually it is Penelope, but you would be surprised how many people can't say that!) Jane Ritter. I grew up on a dairy farm east of Truman, attended District #24 county school, and graduated in 1965 from THS. When I went off to college, I made a vow that I was never coming back to Truman. First life lesson learned-never say never to God. God loves a challenge. After graduating from college, I worked as a social worker in Martin County before going on to seminary. I am an ordained American Baptist pastor and an ordained United Methodist pastor, and have served in many different denominational settings not only as a regular pastor, but in interim and pulpit supply situations, and have worked as well as a college, HOSPICE, hospital and addiction rehabilitation center chaplain, I have done short term mission work in Alaska and New Mexico, and have taken youth group mission trips to Russia, Jamaica, and the SD Indian reservations. For several years I have taught a non-denominational women's Bible study here in town. I am supposed to be retired. Which brings me to the second question.

2). I am currently serving you as a pulpit supply pastor because:

- a). There are currently several ELCA churches in our immediate area without pastors.*
- b). Unfortunately, there are not a lot of ELCA pastors lined up, banging on church doors for immediate interim positions.*
- c). I was twiddling my thumbs in my pink house, and because of my varied denominational background, it sounded like a possibility that I would be able to help you out for a while. AND*
- d). Because I only live 5 blocks from the church, on the main thoroughfare in town, it appeared winter driving conditions would not be a factor!*

I am not an interim pastor; I am doing pulpit supply (Leading worship) and will be on emergency call, but all such requests must be made through the church office. I have a strong sense of respectful worship that honors a holy God, a commitment to mission, and an unrelenting call to share the gospel-the good news of Jesus Christ. I look forward to being with you, and at the same time pray mightily that your search committee will soon find the perfect pastor for you!

In Christ's Service.

COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Heather Tonkin
Vice President: Yvonne Noorlun
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening
Treasurer: Clayton Duncanson
Christian Ed: Nikki Smith
Ch Properties: Dallas Wegner
Stewardship: Rhonda Bonk
Lay Ministry: Laurie Wille
Worship: Jan Ringeisen
Youth: Teresa Zaharia



Trinity Lutheran
 Wed. November 11, 2020
 Council Meeting -7:30 pm

Members present: Kathy Wilkening, Heather Tonkin, Clayton Duncanson, Dallas Wegner, Jan Ringeisen, Teresa Zaharia, Laurie Wille, Nikki Smith, Dave Sorenson, (Yvonne Noorlun by speaker phone)

Secretary Report: the report was accepted as read.

Treasure: Checking account has \$1,907 and savings \$24,080. Received \$891 for Building Fund.

Stewardship: The Pony Express has been mailed with November 13th dead line for return mailing.

Lay Ministry: Will have to

update a few parishioners mailing addresses.

Properties: None

Education: Pastor Krista left instructions for the 2 confirmants. No other instruction at this time.

Youth: None

Worship: Fall Banners are up. Tanner will play organ for virtual services.

Old Business: Nikki motioned that Brenda call BevCom to see if they could hook up the church to fiber optic service as soon as possible. Teresa second.

Penny Ritter will be providing services in our church with the help of Tanner on the organ. Services will be held virtually on Facebook and other media. Pastor Ritter will have a children's service as well. Pastor Ritter has possible ideas to take Communion. Pastor will bless the bread and wine and then at later date it could be delivered to the homes who request Communion.

The Call Committee had a meeting with Circle of Faith but was canceled due to the weather. Rescheduled for next week. Also had a Zoom meeting with other churches.

New Business: Pastor Rebecca said she would look in on

parishioners who are in the hospital in Mankato if so needed.

Yvonne will draw up a letter for the newsletter for how members will be able to see Trinity church service virtually. (see page 7).

Adjournment: at 8:18 pm.

Submitted by Secretary

Kathy Wilkening



Trinity Lutheran Church
 Treasurer's Summary
 Report
 October 31, 2020

Checking Account	\$1,907
Savings Account	\$24,080
Payroll Taxes Payable	\$66
Profinium Loan	\$16,000
October: Income	\$4,532
Expenses	<u>\$11,292</u>
Money short	(\$6,780)
November: Cash available	\$1,907
Bills to pay	<u>\$2,788</u>
Cash carry over	(\$881)
Savings Account:	
Building Funds	\$8,308
Building Funds Interest	\$69
Roof Fund	(\$5,262)
Lent	1,472
Christmas	1,463
Sunday School	484
Camp Scholarships	1,133
Missions/Ministry	1,975
General Fund	<u>\$14,438</u>
Total	\$24,080

Pastor Krista's last payment was not included in this before printing

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	FIRST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
December 6-2nd Advent	Isaiah 40:1-11	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 13:24-37
December 13-3rd Advent	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11	1 Thess 5:16-24	John 1:6-8, 19-28
December 20-4th Advent	2 Sam 7:1-11,16	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
December 24-Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]
December 27-1st Christmas	Isaiah 61:10—62:3	Gal 4:4-7	Luke 2:22-40

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Advent is upon us. I am sure you have heard this before, but at the risk of boring you, let me repeat it again. Advent is not Christmas. Advent is not even only about getting ready for Christmas. Advent is a time of waiting, of waiting for God to speak through His Word, of waiting for God to act in new and refreshing ways as He once did by sending His Christ, and of waiting for God to bring about the completion of His plan through the glorious coming of His Son in final victory.

We are not good at waiting. Most of us want what we want, and we want it NOW! Yesterday would even have been better. God does not work like that. God works in God's time, in God's way. Our responsibility is to trust God to be God, and to allow God to work in and through us so that we become more like the people God wants us to be.

Remember when you were a child and wanted a cookie—preferably chocolate chip!--and your mom would say, "Wait until you have eaten your supper"? And remember the anticipation for that cookie, and how wonderful it tasted when you were finally able to eat it? Advent is something like that. It gives us time to prepare our hearts for the outpouring of God's love and grace. It gives us time to remember what God has done, and to eagerly anticipate what God is going to do.

The Scripture advises us to "Be still, and know that I am God". Advent is a time for doing that. The Scriptures also promise that "Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength". Advent is a time for allowing that to happen as well, and who among us could not use a refreshing dose of strength in these challenging times.

It is Advent. Wait!





WELCA News

COOKIE WALK

Since we had to cancel the cookie walk because of COVID-19, I hope all of you remembered to make a monetary contribution instead of doing any baking. If you have forgotten it is not too late to still send money to Marlene Breitbarth or mail it to the church.

THANKOFFERING SUNDAY

was not our traditional service because of no service in the building. The thankoffering was smaller than normal probably because of no envelopes in your mailboxes, but I am happy to say that the contributions for the food shelf were good. Those donations went to Heaven's Table. We had 155 pounds which is about normal for us. Thank you all for your contributions.

WELCA HANDBOOKS

We have decided not to make new handbooks, so just keep your bright pink ones and write 2021 on the cover. Our activities came to a halt in the middle of March and we do not know when we will be able to start in 2021. the work divisions will stay the same because there were no activities for them to take care of during the year. I will let you now what is going on or if there are any changes in the monthly messenger.



QUILT AUCTION

The 36th annual quilt auction for Green Lake Bible Camp was all done online. The total money received was \$63,709.73, the third highest ever. It is interesting that they made \$1,009 on doughnuts that were sold on-line or by phone for curbside pickup!



BAKELESS SALE

Because of COVID WELCA will not be hosting our annual Cookie Walk.

So we decided to try a **BAKELESS BAKE SALE** to RAISE some BREAD. The "SALE" is on now and the deadline for receiving

DOUGH-nations will be **December 5th**.

WELCA takes pride in its benevolence budget. Last year we contributed \$1450 to 14 worthy organizations. Some of them are: Heaven's Table, Kids Against Hunger, Hospice, CREST, Caring Bridge, Options Pregnancy Center and Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. We have always used the Cookie Walk profits to make these contributions

To make your DOUGH-nation either cash or check made out to Trinity WELCA, put into an envelope and mark it BAKELESS SALE. Put the envelope in Marlene Breitbarth's mailbox at the church or mail it to her at 201 N. 7th Ave E. Truman, MN.

Thank you so much for your support and let's hope the DOUGH ROLLS in!

UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



Fareway-\$42,364.44

Hy-Vee-\$21,912.51

Keep those receipts coming!!

***Make sure the receipts are not getting cut off -- this makes them useless.*

Remember to...

**Give
Online**



January 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</p> <p>FB On-line streaming at 10:30 AM</p>	<p>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</p> <p>Mon-8:00-11:00 Wed-8-11 & 1-4 Fri-8:00-11:00</p>	1 	2 	3 <p>NO OPEN BIBLE STUDY</p>	4 	5 <p>Cookie Walk CANCELLED</p> <p>Bakeless Bakesale Ends</p>
6 <p>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p>	7 <p>MARTHA Circle is CANCELLED</p>	8 	9 <p>7:30 Church Council mtg.</p>	10 	11 	12
13 <p>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p>	14 	15 	16 	17 	18 	19
20 <p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p>	21 <p>First Day of Winter</p>	22 	23 	24 <p>WE WILL BE STREAMING WORSHIP AT 5:00 PM THIS CHRISTMAS EVE</p>	25 	26
27 <p>Lessons & Carols</p>	28 	29 	30 	31 	<p>Welcome 2021!</p>	

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH



Trinity member, Dan Klassen has a Caring Bridge site.

Go to:

[www.caringbridge.org/
visit/danklassen](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/danklassen)

On October 4th Dan was diagnosed with Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma. It is a rare type of cancer that only 1,200 in 500,000 cancer patients get in a year in the US. This non-typical type of cancer travels along the nerves in the body.



Please pray for Dan and his family.

If you would like to help, donations can be done through Profinium Bank in Truman-call 507-776-2311 and request to donate to Dan Klassen benefit account. Also a Go Fund me site has been started at:

WE PRAY FOR OUR KIDS

Please keep praying and sending cards to the same child you had last year unless either Cathy Sorenson or Barb Shoen have talked to you and made a change. If you have any questions or concerns please call Cathy or Barb. Thank you for your willingness to take part in this project.



YOUR HELP IS NEEDED...

As you may know, one of our Trinity's members, Dan Klassen has Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma a rare form of nerve cancer and since November 16th, their family has been to Rochester to stay during the week while Dan receives radiation treatments for 6 weeks/5 days a week. Requests are needed for Hy-Vee or food take out cards and gas cards to help out the family while they stay in Rochester for the treatments. They also still have the Dan Klassen account to donate to at the Profinium Bank. Please help Dan, Allison and their children as they go through this life event. Our prayers our with them!



Congratulations to
Caitlyn Carlson for passing
her RN boards.
We are proud of you, Caitlyn!



We remember in our prayers...all who face catastrophic illness, surgery, and bindings of all kinds as well as the Prayers homebound:

Ardene Miller, Dan Klassen, Lowell Noorlun and Logan Anderson *Be present with your Spirit, Lord, and lead us to be your presence to all. Amen.*

UPDATE FROM THE CHURCH ADVISORY BOARD

CHANGE IS DIFFICULT, BUT GOD HAS OPPORTUNITIES AND A PLAN FOR US

**** Update from the Advisory Board and Council,**

We want to thank all of you for your patience regarding church services. Several members have questioned the reason for not having services in the sanctuary since other churches in the area are currently holding services.

It was a heart-wrenching decision to make. Because of the increase in the COVID-19 spread, and the restrictions the CDC and Synod have indicated, we made the difficult decision to continue with on-line services only, for the near future. The safety and welfare of all our members is of utmost importance and concern. We understand it is not the same as meeting in person, but we are trying hard to meet the spiritual and health needs of all.

If you do not have access to on-line service, or need help finding the services, please call and we will help you out.

Pastor Rebecca Sullivan did the first two Sundays in November and Pastor Penny Ritter is currently recording services. All services can be seen anytime on our web-site. Pastor Penny is preaching, Tanner is playing, Josh is singing (special occasions), and Brenda is recording. Thank you to them for all the extra effort. The services are very meaningful.

Some of the things we are currently working on:

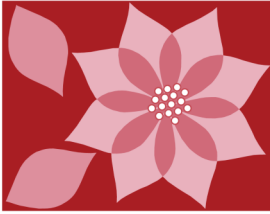
1. Communion
2. Confirmation
3. Trying to make the Holidays special
4. Pastor Penny does children's sermons, tune in
5. Calling Tree
6. Interviewed two interim Pastors
7. Had discussions with Circle of Faith
8. Had discussions with Trinity & Faith Madelia, and Lake Hanska
9. Discussions on how to handle our annual meeting
Following up on Stewardship envelopes still out

Please watch for updates with details.

If anyone has a need or knows of someone in need of Pastoral care, please let us know. In addition, if anyone has any concerns or suggestions, we welcome your input.

God's Blessings to you all,

Heather Tonkin 507-473-3461
Yvonne Noorlun 507-776-8555
Dave Sorenson 507-776-3901
Sandy Meyer 507-776-4426
Nikki Smith 507-230-3703
Brenda Hansen 507-776-4781



DECEMBER

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES</p> <p>12/1-Kent & Chris Hyndman (47) 12/1-Ryan & Julie Brudelic (19) 12/2-Wayne & Becky Maloney (48) 12/2-Larry & Amy Mohwinkel (31)</p>		<p>1</p> <p>Jonah Carlson</p> <p>Jordan Carlson</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Keegan Hastad</p> <p>John Zaharia</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Arlene Wegner</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Oakley Selnes</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Marilyn Anderson</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Geri Peterson (85)</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Cheryl Culbertson</p> <p>Kaela Kelley</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12</p> <div data-bbox="1166 877 1539 1327" data-label="Complex-Block"> <p>They Are No Longer TWO But ONE MARK 10:8</p> <p>Congratulations to Hanna Hartman & her groom, John Jenkins who were married on November 21, 2020 in Charles City, IA at the Bridge Church.</p> </div>	
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Doris Fedder (83)</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Lori Anderson</p> <p>Rosalie Heckman (81)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Ella Fadness</p>	<p>25</p> <p>26</p> <div data-bbox="1166 1402 1334 1625" data-label="Image"> </div>	
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Becky Maloney</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Not Just Another Story</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>Norman Anderson (81)</p> <p>Bev Gulbranson (88)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Heidi Selnes</p> <p>Laurie Wille</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Mike Wiederhoeft</p>	<p>Happy New Year!</p>	

BITS AND PIECES

How to Use GivePlus Online

Easy online giving for members and guests right from the church website.

www.trinity-truman.org

1. Select fund(s) and amount

The screenshot shows the 'Give Now' form. On the left, there are dropdown menus for 'Winter Retreat Payment' and 'One Time'. Below them is a 'Search for...' field and an 'Add Donation' button. On the right, a table lists funds: 'General Offering' with an amount of '\$100.00' and 'WINTER RETREAT PAYMENT' with an amount of '\$200.00'. The total amount is '\$300.00'. A 'Next' button is at the bottom.

Select a fund and enter your donation amount. You can choose a donation frequency if you create a GivePlus account.

2. Enter payment method

The screenshot shows the payment method selection screen. It has two main sections: 'Pay by Credit/Debit Card' and 'Pay by Checking/Savings Account'. The 'Credit/Debit Card' section includes fields for Name, Card Number, Expiry, and CVV. The 'Checking/Savings Account' section includes fields for Account Number and Routing Number. A 'Next' button is at the bottom right.

Enter your debit/credit card or checking/savings account information.

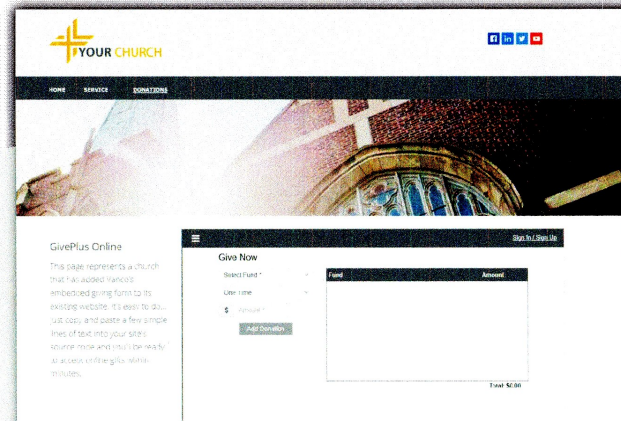
3. Complete donation

The screenshot shows the 'Donation Summary' screen. It displays the donor's name, the date, and the card number. It also shows a table of funds: 'General Offering' for '\$100.00' and 'Winter Retreat Payment' for '\$200.00', with a total of '\$300.00'. There is a checkbox for 'Would you like to add 2% to help offset processing fees?'. 'Back' and 'Donate Now' buttons are at the bottom.

Review and submit your gift by clicking **Donate Now**.

GivePlus account features

From your GivePlus account, you can review giving history, manage recurring donations or update payment information.



VANCO



RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

STEP inc. of Fairmont is still collecting your Christmas lights. Just drop off your items in the green receptacle bin at the entrance of the church.

They do not accept cord adaptors, battery packs, plastic rope lights or CFS lights

Thrivent + Trinity Lutheran Church = A perfect partnership



Congratulations! In 2019 you received \$1,772 Thrivent Choice Dollars® grants. Additionally, you may have benefited from personal donations through Thrivent's online giving platform or through Thrivent Action Teams. With over 40,000 organizations enrolled in Thrivent Choice®, we're excited to see the impact made across the country.

TRINITY LUTHERAN PARISH (ELCA)
102 NORTH 7TH AVENUE EAST
PO BOX 38
TRUMAN MN 56088
www.trinity-truman.org



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WHAT'S INSIDE

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The MESSENGER

December 2020


Merry
CHRISTMAS!



Trinity Lutheran Church CONTACT

 507-776-4781

 trinitytruman@frontier.com


 www.trinity-truman.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
MON 8-11, WED 8-11, 1-4 &
FRI 7-11


Office Administrator: Brenda Hansen


Council Pres.: Heather Tonkin

 heather.malakowsky@gmail.com

 Pastoral Care Team: Yvonne Noorlun

SOCIAL

 Facebook.com
/trinitylutherantruman

 Instagram.com/trinitytrumanmn