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December 2021 Monthly Newsletter Worship Service: 9:00 AM Youth Group/Sunday School: 10:00 AM Connections: 10:00 AM



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12-05 ~ Worship Services 9:00 a.m. 12-12~ Worship Services 9:00 a.m. 12-19 ~ Worship Services 9:00 a.m. (9 a.m. Children's Program) 12-24 Candlelight Services 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. 12-26 ~ Worship Service Worship through Music 9:00 a.m.





Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This time of the year often feels a little slower, if only because the weather changes and darkness comes earlier in the day signaling that it's a time to head inside to fireplaces, books, family, and food. For many of us, the season of advent also brings the spiritual practice of preparation. Let us celebrate the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and brand-new Christian year with thanksgiving and praise.

Throughout the Sundays of this season, starting on November 28, 2021, we will celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and praise the God whom we have come to know through the Advent story, the Children Sunday on December 19, 2021, and three Candlelight Services for Christmas Eve, with Carols, and Holy Communion will close the season on December 24, 2021, at 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

Here are the messages you can expect in December:

- December 05: "A Voice Calling: Prepare the Way for the Lord": Luke 3:1-6
- December 12: "What Then Should We Do?": Luke 3:7-18
- December 19: "A Blessed Visitation": Luke 1:39-45
- December 24: "He Will Be Called the Prince of Peace": Isaiah 9:6
- And we will close the month and the year with the hymn sing on December 26th.

Please take time to join us at each stage of our Advent journey, bringing your friends, neighbors, family, and people from where you work, play and shop. Advent is the ideal time of the year to invite our community to church. As you do so, share with them how God has been gracious in your life and tell them how God could and would be gracious in a new way in their lives through Christ. Do not miss this opportunity. Pray and ask God to give you the chance to share your faith this Advent season.

May this be a season of extraordinary grace in our lives, as we enter the story of God's coming to our world in a new way in Jesus Christ. Let God's coming to us be met with open hearts and in our homes and lives.

Peace and love in Christ, Reverend Mulongo Mpoyo Not everyone is able to make it to church. Please remember these Trinity friends this Christmas with cards and Christmas cheer.

NURSING HOMES:

Faith Beck Adelaide Place 478 W. Arndt Street Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Dick Haefs The Courtyard at Oshkosh 3851 Jackson St. Apt. 52 Oshkosh WI 54901

Evelyn Krug, Apt. # 308 HOPE Senior Living 475 Grove Street Lomira, WI 53048

Barbara York Apt. #103 HOPE Senior Living 475 Grove Street Lomira, WI 53048

Laverne Senn Hope Senior Living Room 126 475 Grove Street Lomira WI 53048

Cal Voight Edenbrook 265 S. National Ave. Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Kaye Voight Edenbrook 265 S. National Ave. Fond du Lac, WI 54935

AT HOME:

Gwen Hinz 11 S. Adams Street Apt. 203 Denver, CO 80209 Telephone (920) 269-4399

Henry Guell N2771 CR K Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Roy Meyer 410 Grove Street Lomira, WI 53048

Judy Renderman PO Box 334 926 Kings Dr. Brownsville, WI 53006

Judith Stucke 375 Main Street, Apt. 4 Lomira WI 53048



"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."

~Matthew 7:7

Pastor John Pavlovitz tells a story about a time when he was a young youth leader and he found himself overly worried about the future. He was sharing his concerns with his pastor, who replied, "John, do you know why a bluebird finds worms? Because that's what it looks for."

Recently some of the SF Committee members and myself have had discussions with church members on why the SF team is doing some of these things that we are. I thought that maybe others of you may be asking those same questions. I'd like to shed some light on this if I could.

First, keep in mind that our main goal as a SF Committee is to grow the giving of each family in the church. Currently we only have 30 families giving on a regular basis of the 200 some families we have in our church. In order to grow giving, sometimes we need to find new ways and do things that will encourage people to consider to start giving or increase their giving. Some of the ideas from the committee or Pastor, may not be to everyone's liking but we are not all the same person and though you may be against it, it might just be what someone else needs at the time to nudge them in their giving.

Second, we want to make Trinity a generous and thankful church, so we are going to be doing things that give back and show that generosity as Jesus did.

Third, we are making sure that we are not frivolously spending money but that we are spending it wisely. If spending extra money will encourage a member or a family to start to give or increase their giving or to make their Worship time more enjoyable, than I ask...is that extra money not worth it, bringing them closer to God? That is why we are a Church, is it not?

Lastly, I ask that you continue to pray for your SF Committee that we do God's will at Trinity and that he continues to help us grow as a whole congregation in our giving and our generosity and our mission work. We always appreciate feedback, that is how we get better. Do not stress over what is being done but pray on it and let God take care of us.

If we stay focusing on the blessings we have and how we can help others in our lives, and our churches, and our communities, then we are more likely to find peace and joy all year long. I'd like to leave you with the below quote as we enter the Christmas season and to think about it the whole year.

"No person was ever honored for what he received. He was honored for what he gave." ~Calvin Coolidge

SF Committee Chair Josh Marschie





STRIKE UP THE BAND AT TRINITY!

All band musicians– youth and adult, are welcome.

Please come to praise God with your talents!

We will be playing for the 9:00 am worship on Sunday December 5th. Gather to practice at 8:00 am. Playing on Christmas Eve, time to be announced.

Looking Forward to playing together again! Jason Band Director

ATTENTION ALL MUSICIANS:

God loves for us to give of our time and talents and tithes to his church!

Please share your musical talents, instrumental or vocal. I will be happy to schedule places for all to share over the next weeks of Christmas. Talk to me or call 920-539-6929/920-922-0361 Jason Worship Music Coordinator





Larry and Judy Schraufnagel - Servant Spotlight

If you drove past Trinity UMC on a summer day you may have spotted Larry and Judy Schraufnagel each riding a lawn mower and cutting the church and parsonage grass. For 20 years they diligently mowed our church grounds never charging the church a single penny for labor, gasoline or lawn mower maintenance. Our church budget estimates that Trinity will spend \$3,500.00 to hire a lawn mowing service in 2022. Multiply that



number by 20 and you realize how much money Trinity saved because of the generous service of Larry and Judy Schraufnagel.

Judy Luedtke and her family were members of Salem Church. In 1955 Salem joined Ebenezer and Emanuel churches to form Trinity Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1968 Trinity EUB joined the Methodist denomination and became Trinity United Methodist Church. Larry grew up in the catholic faith. In 1984 Larry married Judy and became the stepfather to Judy's two children, Tab and Tami. After their son, Tony, was born Larry decided to join Trinity UMC so that the entire family could worship together. Larry became a member of Trinity in 1997.

Larry Schraufnagel worked at his family owned business, Schraufnagel Implement, for 55 years. He ran the business for the last 30 years of his work career. Larry sold the business to his son, Tony, who runs the Lomira business to this day. Schraufnagel Implement has a stellar reputation of serving Lomira and the surrounding community for the last 70 years.

Judy's work career began at Midwest Livestock. Then she worked at Brownsville State Bank which later became Valley Bank. For 22 years Judy ran the senior citizen meal site in Lomira. Judy spends as much time as possible with her seven grandchildren. Larry tells me that Judy is a wonderful cook. Lucky man!

At Trinity, Larry served as chairperson of the Finance Committee for 15-20 years. Judy was the recording financial secretary for 15 of those years. Anyone in church leadership knows that those two positions, chair of finance and recording financial secretary, require a great deal of time and energy from the person who has volunteered to serve in those capacities. Larry and Judy served faithfully and willingly in labor intense positions for a very long time.

The Schraufnagel's son, Tony, built a new home recently. During the 5-6 months that it took to build the house Tony and his family moved into Larry and Judy's home. One may think that having three grand daughters, your son, and his wife move in for half a year may be somewhat stressful. Not true, says Larry, "We had a great time!"

Trinity UMC has been blessed to have Larry and Judy Schraufnagel faithfully serve our congregation in numerous ways. Please join me in thanking them for their service.





Trinity Shoebox Project

1 Thessalonians 1:3 NIV: "We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."

These words are our thoughts for each of you that gave so faithfully during this last year. Your Faith, Love, and Hope were seen in all you did.

Your willingness to pray, give, create, make, build, buy, sort, haul, pack and help fill shoeboxes for boys and girls around the world is Amazing. You are a beautiful example of the Body of Christ working together. Thank YOU!!!

At the end of October, several from the Trinity Shoebox Project Team spent two nights packing shoeboxes from our accumulated inventory. On these nights, 498 shoeboxes loaded with wonderful gifts were assembled. Another 2 shoeboxes were packed the next day to reach 500. This means, that many children will hear of the love of Jesus and approximately 10 times that will be reached through one shoebox. The impact is Great!!!!

Pray for these shoeboxes and the journey ahead of them; semi-trucks, planes, boats, camels, donkeys, elephants, etc. traveling hundreds of miles to one child. Pray for that child, their village, town, city, etc. that they will be changed by the love of Christ.









Last year, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, some 7.8 million gifts were brought to drop-off locations nationwide for the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2020, the ministry is now sending more than 9.1 million shoebox gifts to children around the world.



The Trinity Shoebox Team surpassed their goal, packing 500 shoeboxes this year! In the stats above you will note we packed for only the 2-4 and 10-14 year old age groups. We chose to focus on these age groups as globally they receive the least number of shoeboxes. In an effort to work smarter not harder, packing for only two age groups allowed us to target our shopping and crafting efforts.



With JOY we announce our financial goal was also met! Through the generosity of those who support our shoebox ministry, we were able to cover gift contents and the requested \$9 donation for all 500 of the shoeboxes we collectively packed! We started the year with the church's gift of \$1000 (10% of the Christmas offering). Through the spring bulb sale, quarter campaigns, Mother's Day flower sale, corporate philanthropy programs, a generous donor who challenged us to match a large contribution, and numerous other financial donations, we were able to raise another \$5600. This allowed us to make the full donation to Samaritan's Purse this year for the shoeboxes we packed.

A special THANK YOU to our Trinity Shoebox Team who have dedicated their time and talents to prepare cards, sew dresses, pencil cases, blankets, sewing kits, tote bags, fleece hats and mittens, loom knitted hats, crocheted purses and soap-sacks, cut t-shirts and braided jump ropes, assembled fishing, sewing and bead kits, crafted girls head bands, tic-tactoe bags, washer necklaces, hand-held fishing "poles", wooden cars, peg-jump games... and SO much more!!



Our appreciation also goes out to those who contributed money, bargain shopped, made bulk purchases, and kept this project in mind when purging overstock at work and at home. We simply could NOT do this without you. What an amazing group of volunteers we have!! We are truly blessed.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Janie Hodny
 Libby Dahlinger
- Mara Feucht 5 Amber Brown Adalyse Graf
- Chuck Rhein 7 Kelly Feucht Emmitt Todl
- 8 Jimmy Jewson Fred Menzer Prentice Reitz
- 10 Marissa Schultz Aiden Stoffel
- 11 Jackie Collier Robert Gudex Kathy Walker
- 13 Shirley Klein Katelynn Kretschmer
- **15 Tyler Michels**
- 16 Pam Hilker Chuck Westphal
- 18 Pam Dewhurst Jared Neill
- 19 Molly Michels 21 Luke Reitz
- Zi Luke Keuz Katie Schwanke
- 23 Rich Cardenas
- 26 Diana Jewson
- 30 Bob Hesprich Logan Menzer

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Gerry &
- Cheryl Meyer 6 Kevin &
- Amanda Baker 27 Scott &
- Karlene Krueger
- 29 Dennis & Karyn Michels Larry & Judy Schraufnagel 30 Richard & Sandy Zitlow



Shirley Klein turns 87 on December 13th! N11284 Butternut Rd Lomira, WI 53048

Lets send her lots of Happy Birthday wishes!





TUMC Prayer Concerns

- The Family of Jerry Cote 11/28
- Sarah Kretschmer knee surgery 11/23
- Don Plzak home, doing better 11/23
- David Kretschmer home recovering from kidney complications 11/7
- Bob Geiger brain cancer, had surgery to remove tumor 10/9
- Dick Haefs on hospice 10/5
- Deb Skilling hip replacement surgery soon 10/10
- Loni Wetzel diagnosed with congestive heart failure 9/26
- Gloria Faber car accident, several broken bones, home recovering 9/23
- Michelle Kuehl surgery for diverticulitis, home recovering 9/23
- Laurie (Carol Dillings Niece) recurrence of cancer 6/1
- Karlene Krueger cancer 4/23
- Kimberly Heine (Karlene Kruegers sister) suffered a stroke 3/23
- **Pastor Rom** pancreatic cancer 2/4

Our Prayer list covers for 6-8 months. If you feel someone needs to continue or be placed back on the list, please let the office know.

For Prayer Requests please contact Jessica in the church office by email, our website (www.trinitylomira.org) or by phone.

Thank You.

The January Newsletter Deadline is December 21st. Please have all of your articles into the church office by noon that day. Thank you! TUMC Budget Totals Year to date needed to meet budget: \$211,296.00 Received through 11-28-2021: \$181,247.00 Budget Shortfall: \$30,049.00

December 2021 TUMC-Lomira

Worship Services 9:00 AM Connections/Sunday School/Youth Group 10:00 AM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm AA & Al- Anon	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm AA & Al- Anon	9	10	11 10-11:00 am Food Pantry
12	13	14	15 6:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm AA & Al- Anon	16	17	18 10-11:00 am Food Pantry
19	20	21	22 7:00 pm Choir 6:30 pm AA & Al- Anon	23	24 Christmas Eve 3:00 pm Worship Service 5:00 pm Worship Service 7:00 pm Worship service	25 Christmas
26	27	28 Office Closed	29 Office Closed 6:30 pm AA & Al- Anon	30 Office Closed	31 WE WIS ME IS CHRIS	H YOU A RRY TMAS EW YEAR

Return Service Requested Lomira, WI 53048 300 Church Street Trinity United Methodist Church

Rev. Mulongo Mpoyo Cell 414-690-5796 Church Office: (920) 269-4411 Office Hours Tues.-Thurs. 9AM-1PM Or by Appointment

Email: revmpoyomm@yahoo.fr churchofficetumc@gmail.com

WORSHIP SERVICES First Service – 9:00 A.M. Sunday School/Youth Group 10:00 AM Coffee Connection 10:00 AM

> Church Office Hours: Tues-Thur 9AM-1PM