



# THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

DECEMBER 2021

*The Holy Trinity Herald is the official monthly publication  
of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*

## HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## PASTOR'S PAGE

I like Christmas season as much as the next person, which is quite a lot. At the same time, I really enjoy the season of Advent. Advent spans the four weeks leading up to December 25. In other words, it's not Christmas yet; it's Advent. In the Christian Church, Christmas begins on December 25<sup>th</sup> and doesn't end until January 6<sup>th</sup>. This is where the notion of 12 days of Christmas comes from. So, when the rest of the world has stopped playing Christmas music on December 26<sup>th</sup>, the party has just gotten rolling in the Church.

Advent is about taking the time to be deliberate about preparing for the celebration of Christ's birth, as well as the promise that Christ will come again. Here, at the darkest time of the year, Advent also points to the light of Christ which shines in our world. It all leads up to the celebration of Jesus' birth. That will be the focus of Holy Trinity's worship during Advent. Holy Trinity worships on Wednesday evenings throughout the year, using "last Sunday's" bulletin. We'll do it differently during Advent. Each Wednesday worship during Advent will be a different liturgy than Sunday's. These services will focus specifically on the theme of Christ's light in our darkness and are for the entire congregation. "But Pastor, this is such a busy time!" you may say. Indeed, we're busier than usual at this time of year. I invite you to view Wednesday Advent worship as a time to stop all the busy-ness and rest in the light and the promise of Christ. You will be equipped to face the rest of your week!

We're pleased to say that we will be worshipping inside this Christmas Eve! We will have two worship services on December 24- at 5:30 and 7:30 PM. Join us as we celebrate Christ's entrance into our world!

Happy Advent!

*Rev. Darin Wiebe, Interim Pastor*

**FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Holy Trinity Members,

The holiday season is coming upon us. We give thanks to our Lord for all our blessings which he has bestowed on us. Even in these hard times there is always something we can be thankful for. Our family, our health, and our faith to name a few.

The Advent season is upon us with the events leading up to the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Christmas brings the birth of the Christ Child and the good news his birth brings. As we gather with our families this season let us remember the love of Jesus and the sacrifice he made for all of us. Let's strive to live the way God wants us to live. Where there is so much hatred in the world let us spread God's love.

So from Judy and me, we wish you a merry Christmas filled with the warmth of God's love and a prosperous and loving New Year. God Bless you all.

*Gary Waalkens Council President*



**FINANCIALS**

Mortgage balance as of 10/31/21	\$24,320.61
October monies received	8,629.38
Including WE Energies & spaghetti dinner	
October obligations	11,139.57
<b>DEFICIT for OCTOBER</b>	<b>(\$ 2,510.19)</b>



**CONFIRMATION WORSHIP ON 10/31/21**

The following Holy Trinity youth were confirmed on Sunday – October 31, 2021

Lyliane Kaye Browne	Makayla Grace Nemec	Ian Matthew Slager
Brady Robert Stensven	Maxwell Kenneth Timpel	

We welcome them as voting members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and wish them well on their spiritual journey.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Confirmation classes continue on Wednesday December 1, 8, and 15. There will be no confirmation classes on December 22 and 29 due to the holidays. Classes will resume on Wednesday January 5.

**The Drive-Thru Spaghetti Dinner on October 28, 2021 was a huge success.** Over 220 meals were sold, raising \$2,000. Part of the funding for the expenses surrounding this event came from a Thrivent Grant for \$250. Thrivent Insurance provides grants to fund the needs and events of churches and community organizations.

Once again, a huge shout-out to everyone who participated in any way. It was your hard work and dedication that made this a successful fundraiser. Many compliments were heard on the food, the price, and the organization. If you have any suggestions going forward, feel free to contact Carol Woldt, Linda Baldrige, or Dan Timpel. Way to go!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE** by Susy Pawl, Superintendent

It's almost time! The Sunday School pageant is Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> during the 10:00 service as it has been in previous years. We will be practicing and having some special fun activities as we get ready. The pageant is a great chance for the kids to not only get more familiar with the Christmas story, but also to work as a team in a new way and have fun exploring costumes & props. Many thanks to Cheri Harwood & Stephanie Woodley for their help making costumes.

Remember that Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> is tree decorating day! After worship/Sunday school, families are invited to help decorate the trees.

There will be no Sunday School on December 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> to allow children and teachers extra time with family.

### **PLANNED GIVING TO HOLY TRINITY**

*One way to ensure a bright future for our church is to make a planned gift that names HOLY TRINITY in your will. A bequest is a meaningful way to support the church's ministry without affecting your cash flow during your lifetime. Your attorney can include it when you prepare or revise your will, or you can add a codicil at any time.*

*Gifts that do not restrict their use, or **unrestricted gifts**, allow Holy Trinity to use these resources where they are most needed. Of course we are also grateful for gifts that are designated for a specific purpose that advances our mission, **restricted gifts**, such as support to a specific initiative or program. Or you could make a gift to the church's Endowment Fund. At a time when secular non-profits are realizing the need to build their endowments, churches are still asking for operating support only. An **endowment gift** helps move us into a more sustainable position.*

*You could also choose to designate a portion of the proceeds of your IRA to Holy Trinity each year. We have been very grateful to members who have chosen this option as a way to make a sizeable annual gift. You may now use our online giving, through [holytrinitymarshall.com](http://holytrinitymarshall.com) to make a gift directly to our Endowment Fund.*

*Another way to help Holy Trinity is to name the church as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy. This could convey assets in larger amounts without disrupting your current cash flow.*

*Please contact Endowment Investment Committee Chair Jack Erb with any questions at [jackaerb@gmail.com](mailto:jackaerb@gmail.com) or 608-215-5098. Thank you for your consideration.*

**SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY** Second Harvest Food Bank has taken over operation of the Marshall mobile food bank. They have decided to change the food bank dates to the **SECOND MONDAY** of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the high school parking lot. Therefore the next few distribution dates are:

Monday - December 13	3:30 pm	high school parking lot
Monday – January 10	3:30 pm	high school parking lot
Monday – February 14	3:30 pm	high school parking lot

Holy Trinity members still wishing to volunteer should report to the high school parking lot at 2:30 to bag individual items before distribution.

**JOB OPENINGS AT HOLY TRINITY** (\*\*all volunteer positions, but you get the fancy-sounding title!)  
*Please contact a Council member or the church office if you are interested.*

**Tech Director** This position may include making videos of worship services and posting them to our YouTube channel; creating PowerPoint slides and running the projector during worship; or other innovations that would put technology to work for the benefit of the Holy Trinity community.

**Volunteer Coordinator** Work with our Council and leadership teams to help recruit ushers, readers, communion servers, and other volunteers as needed. A great way to get to know people better!



### **COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS** *Submitted by Carol Woldt*

Meeting was held Tuesday - November 9, 2021. Minutes from October 12 , 2021 were read and approved.

There was much discussion on the finances of the church. There is now a new online giving app for those who choose this way to support the church.

Pastor reported that he will be sending out letters to all members concerning the Call Committee and financial matters.

We will be putting a Budget Committee together soon.

The Boy Scouts asked permission to make a compost container behind the garage. They will do all the maintenance and upkeep.

## YOUR 2021-2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

Gary Waalkens, President	608-655-4989	<a href="mailto:gwaalkens1952@yahoo.com">gwaalkens1952@yahoo.com</a>
Dan Timpel, Vice President	608-575-2211	<a href="mailto:dktempel@gmail.com">dktempel@gmail.com</a>
Carol Woldt, Secretary	608-712-8947	<a href="mailto:bearcollector20@yahoo.com">bearcollector20@yahoo.com</a>
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Pastor Darin Wiebe	920-740-9907	<a href="mailto:drnwiebe@gmail.com">drnwiebe@gmail.com</a>

*We are still in need of a Council youth representative. All confirmed members up to age 30 are eligible. Please contact Gary Waalkens if you would like to be the voice for youth in our church.*



**DEADLINES!!!!** If you wish to submit an announcement for a bulletin, you must submit it to the office ([htcstaff@holyltrinity-marshall.com](mailto:htcstaff@holyltrinity-marshall.com)) by the Wednesday prior, as the bulletins are printed on Thursdays.

For articles to be included in the newsletter for the following month, **they must be received in the office by the 22<sup>nd</sup>, no exceptions!** Our “goal” is to have the newsletter in your hands by the first of the month if at all possible. We know that doesn’t always happen, but we try. Thank you for your cooperation.

**TREATS TO GO** As of this printing, treats to go are still suspended following Sunday worship. Hopefully coffee and treats will resume within the next few weeks. Fingers crossed!

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### CHURCH NEWS

**Confirmation classes will be held Wednesday December 1, 8 and 15 at the church observing any COVID protocols.** Following a 2-week break, confirmation class will then resume on Wednesday January 5, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

**Families are invited to help decorate the church Christmas trees following worship on Sunday – December 5.**

The **Sunday School** will be holding their Christmas Program during the 10:00 worship on Sunday December 12.

The **Women of the ELCA (WELCA)** will meet on **Tuesday December 14 at 12:30 pm** at the church for a Bible lesson and Christmas potluck by all.

**The Council's next scheduled meeting is Tuesday December 14 at 6:00 pm at the church.**

**Quilts for LWR** Please continue to provide new fabric that can be cut into squares for making quilts. It's possible, also, for someone to take the next step and cut 11-inch squares of fabric and donate them.

**There will be no Quilting Day in December due to the holidays but will resume in January.** Quilting Day is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from 9 am.-3 pm. Come and join in; all skill levels are welcome. You can stay all day or for part, as your schedule allows. A great time for fun and fellowship.

**Quilt Tying will not be held in December due to the holidays but also resumes in January.** Quilt tying is normally the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Our quilters are thankful for all who support Holy Trinity's mission to make quilts that are sent around the world by Lutheran World Relief.

**Worship during the Christmas holidays is scheduled as follows:**

<b>Christmas Eve-December 24</b>	<b>5:30 pm and 7:30 pm</b>
<b>Christmas Day – December 25</b>	<b>No worship service</b>
<b>Sunday December 26</b>	<b>Worship at 10:00 am</b>
<b>Wednesday December 29</b>	<b>Worship at 6:30 pm</b>



**Offering Envelopes** If you are giving electronically we will no longer be sending you weekly offering envelopes as well. However, if you DO wish to receive weekly offering envelopes, please e-mail [htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com](mailto:htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com) and let us know that. Thank you.

**Electronic newsletter** To save paper, you may prefer to receive this newsletter electronically if you do not already. Just e-mail [htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com](mailto:htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com) and let us know that.

**Our website, [holytrinitymarshall.com](http://holytrinitymarshall.com),** is regularly updated with all the latest news and information that you might need. And share the link to our online services with family and friends!

Our thanks and gratitude to those who continue to give so much for the sake of this body of Christ such as our organists and secretary and custodian, Sunday and Wednesday ushers and worship leaders. Thank you to all involved with Sunday School classes. Thanks to those who participated in the Fall clean-up of the church. Again, a special 'Shout Out' to everyone involved with the drive-thru spaghetti dinner. Thanks to the handlers of our Facebook and website. Thank you to volunteers who continue to work the Second Harvest mobile food bank, our quilters, our dedicated Council members, those who have agreed to serve on the Call Committee, those who assemble the newsletter for mailing, everyone so willingly donating time and materials to maintain the church, and those who keep our grounds looking so well-manicured. Apologies if anyone was missed. Everyone's contribution is greatly appreciated.

*thank you*



### COMMUNITY NEWS

**The Brownie/Girl Scout troop affiliated with Holy Trinity is conducting a toy drive through December 12.** If you would like to take part, just bring an unwrapped toy/game to the church and deposit it in the box immediately inside the church doors. If you know of any children in the Marshall community who may need help, please contact the office with that information.

**Marshall-Waterloo Food Pantry** The Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry is in the lower level at 117 E. Madison Street (Hwy. 19) in Waterloo. (Please use the door in the alley.) People may visit the food pantry once each month.

Hours are Wednesdays from noon-1:00 p.m. and again Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Saturday hours are from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

If you or someone you know needs help, please make use of this community ministry.

**Another Red Cross Blood Drive** is planned at the church on Thursday – December 16 from 12:00 to 6:00 pm. To donate call the Red Cross or you may register online.

**FoodShare Helpline 877-366-3635** If you are in need or know of someone who is, contact this agency to see if they can help.

**Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Program at 1-866-432-8947 or 608-267-8601** Cold temperatures are here. If you need help with your heating bills, give them a call to find out if you qualify.



O holy  
night!  
the stars  
are brightly  
shining. it  
is the night  
of our dear  
savior's birth

*Warm wishes for a Blessed Christmas and  
a Healthy & Happy New Year*

*From Pastor Darin and your Holy Trinity Church Council*