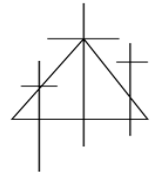
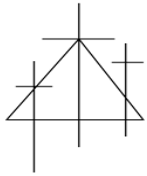


Trinity Lutheran Church

Congregation School Childcare

Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Making Known the Love of Christ



Volume 16, Issue 1

“Running the Race, Enduring through Faith” Hebrews 12:1-3

January 2025

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From our Pastors

Will the Real Church Please Stand Up?

No one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done (1 Corinthians 3:11-13).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,

On Sunday, January 5th, at 9:30am in the Gym we will begin a new Bible study based on the book, *Will the Real Church Please Stand Up?* written by Rev. Matthew Richard. In his first book, Pastor Richard took us through the Scriptures to identify the twelve false Christs in today's churches. In this sequel he will lead us through the Scriptures to identify seven false churches that, like Babel, will crumble and fall. By the end of the book, we will see which church is left standing. Pastor Richards writes,

The tower of Babel never reached its pinnacle. Yet the fervor to work toward heaven remains, as mankind continues to gather around self-erected towers in an attempt to get closer to heaven and experience unity. As we scan the horizon of Christendom, we can see present-day towers of Babel. Objects and ideas are lifted to heights of glory where people gather in today's churches and worship. Tragically, even though many churches bear the name of Christ, they unite around lofty Christless towers, striving for what they deem is the church's end goal. In the end, these towers draw them up and away from the name of Christ, making them false churches.

The church left standing, as the apostle Paul reminds us, is not built on wood, hay, or straw, rather it is "built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord" (Ephesians 2:20-21). The true church is the one in which Jesus does the work of building a new race, a new humanity known as the Church. As Rev. Dr. Kenneth Korby writes,

Mortified with Him in His cross, vivified with Him in His resurrection, this new people is a living, growing organism. Created by the Holy Spirit, she is the carrier and agent of that life-giving spirited word. Even while she lives in the wilderness, pursued by death, she is nurtured and built on the foundation. Living in the midst of cultures and civilizations that are built on the deceit of evading death, she is built in truth with wisdom.

The Apostle warns against building with wood, hay, and stubble, noting that these materials are flammable. They are fuel in the fire of judgment and the day of the Lord. The true church is built with the gold, silver, and precious stones of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the confession that Jesus is Lord. For Jesus Himself says, "On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it" (Matthew 16:18b). Join us as we unpack what all this means starting Sunday, January 5th.

In Christ,

Timothy J. Mech
Senior Pastor

John M. Berg
Associate Pastor



Trinity Ev. Lutheran
Church and School
824 Wisconsin Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Church Phone:
920-458-8246

School Phone:
920-458-8248

Web site:
trinitysheboygan.org

Divine Services:
Sunday at 8:00 & 10:45 am
Monday at 6:30 pm
Family Education Hour
9:30 am

Bible Classes
(throughout the week)

Trinity Lutheran School
3-K thru 8th grade
2 Year Old Childcare



January Calendar

Sundays: Weekly

- * Divine Services 8: & 10:45 am

Mondays: Weekly

- * Divine Service 6:30 pm
- * Handbells 7:35 pm (MR)

Tuesdays: 1st & 3rd

- * Mom's Bible Study 8:45 am

Wednesdays: Weekly

- * Trinity Chapel 8:30 am
- * Adult Bible Study 9:30 am (FH)
- * Midweek Confirmation 3:30 pm
- * Men's Choir 5:45 pm (MR)
- * Mixed Choir 7:00 pm (MR)

Thursday: Weekly

- * Women's Bible Study 9:00 am (FH)

Fridays: Weekly

- * Men's Bible Study 7 am (FH)

January 2025



Thursday, January 2

- * School resumes

Monday, January 6

- * Board of Christian Day School Meeting 7:30 pm

Wednesday, January 8

- * Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm (FH)

Wednesday, January 15

- * Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm (FH)

Monday, January 20

- * No School, Teacher work day

Wednesday, January 22

- * Voters' Assembly Meeting 6:30 pm (church)

January 26 - February 1

- * National Lutheran School's Week



Voters Meeting

Voters' Assembly Meeting

Wednesday, January 22, 2025
6:30 pm

Trinity Church Sanctuary

This is a regularly scheduled meeting of Trinity's Voters' Assembly. New voting members will be received. Any Trinity member 18 years or older may become a voting member. Current voting members, if you are not able to attend, please remember to contact the church office to be excused. You may call 920-458-8246 or email melcher@trinitysheboygan.org.

News & Notes



HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH AND MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ~You're invited to Trinity's **17th annual** Higher Things youth retreat, **ONE LOAF: How Christ Keeps Us Together When Everything is Falling Apart**

The weekend includes great teaching, fun activities including private use of the YMCA, a brat fry and fellowship with over 100 youth from across the midwest. Our featured speaker, Rev Todd Peperkorn will share how although the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature all work to separate us from God and from each other, Christ draws us back together. The retreat begins Friday, February 14th at 6 pm and concludes Sunday, February 16th at 10:30 am. The \$50 fee includes the program, food, and entertainment. *Youth who register by Jan 31st will be guaranteed a retreat T-shirt.* Questions can be directed to Pastor Berg. or Heide Otten (920.254.8857/heideotten@sbcglobalnet). See Leda Carlson to register!



Trinity LWML will meet on Monday, January 13, 2025 at 1:00 pm, in Trinity's Lounge. A bible study will be led by Alice Buck.

Our January Servant Project is making quilts for the Orphan Grain Train.



Mites will be collected towards Grant #3, (South WI District Church Worker Students, \$30,000).

Please come and ask a friend. For more information, contact Karen Fischer 284-408-8714 or Diane Meyer 920-912-3957.

TRINITY TRIVIA NIGHT

THROUGH THE DECADES PART 2

Saturday February 1

DOORS OPEN AT 4:30

DINNER AT 6:00

TRIVIA TO FOLLOW

HOSTED BY TRINITY PTL
THE BULL

1 LONG DR SHEBOYGAN FALLS

\$30 PER PERSON INCLUDES
DINNER AND DESSERT

CASH FOR OPPORTUNITY BASKETS

CASH BAR AND SPECIALITY DRINKS
TO SUPPORT TRINITY

Call your friend

From our School

“Running the Race, Enduring through Faith” Hebrews 12:1-3

Reflection and Anticipation



As we finish December, we reflect both on how God continues to bless us here at Trinity and how we can bless our community through Him. This month has been a time of great celebration and preparation as we turned our focus toward the coming of our Savior.

One of the highlights of the month was the annual Choral Candlelight Service. With the glow of the candles and beautiful singing, we were reminded of Jesus’ words in John 8:12, *“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”* The service captured the hope and light of Christ as we joined together in worship. Another memorable event was the Children’s Christmas Service. Our students captured the birth of Christ with scripture readings, songs, and a heartfelt performance. Their efforts showed the kind of faith Jesus calls us to have—joy-filled and servant-hearted.

We thank Renata Peperkorn and Liz Ekblad for their great work in preparing both the Choral Candlelight and Children’s Christmas services, the faculty and staff for giving their time and talents, the children for sharing their gifts in action and voice, and parents and congregation for all the support over the last few weeks.

As the events of Christmas come to a close, we look ahead to the new year, trusting in God’s promises for the future. May 2025 bring us new opportunities to grow, serve, and share His grace. Thank you for being part of our school community and walking with us as we seek to honor God in everything we do. We wish you a blessed and Christ-centered New Year!


Mr. Tim Eigenfeld,
Assistant Principal



Trinity Lutheran Church
824 Wisconsin Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
January 2025

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**CONNECTED
TO CHRIST**
JOHN 15:5

**“Running the Race
Enduring through Faith”**

**National Lutheran School’s Week
January 26 - February 1, 2025**

**17th Annual
Higher Things Retreat**



February 14-16, 2025

Trinity Sheboygan

One Loaf

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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Senkbeil
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Thank you for your support!

If you would like to become a *Messenger* sponsor you are invited to join at the following annual levels:

Patron (\$500)
Sponsor (\$300)
Sustaining Sponsor (\$100)
Contributing Sponsor (\$50)

Other donations of any amounts always welcome. Please call the church office at 458-8246 for details.

For more happenings at Trinity and updated calendar information, go to www.trinitysheboygan.org