

THE PARISH MESSENGER

December 2018

Georgetown Worship: 9:00 a.m. Sunday school 10:30 a.m. Service

Trinity Worship: 9:00 a.m. Service 10:15 am Sunday school

Mission Statement

We are a Christian community rooted in God's love growing in Christ through reaching out and serving.

Trinity Phone: 715-822-3001

Pastor's Phone: 715-822-3553

Pastor's Cell: 715-702-1240

Georgetown Office 715-857-5580

Georgetown Office Email george86@lakeland.ws

Websites:

Georgetown: georgetownlutheran.net

Trinity: trinitylutheranchurchmckinley.com

December Schedule

Council Meetings: **GLC:** Thursday, Dec. 13th at 6 p.m.

TLC: Tuesday, Dec. 18th at 6 p.m.

WELCA: **GLC:** Mon. Dec. 3rd at the
Village Pizzeria in Amery at 5:30 p.m.

TLC: Will meet again in April 2019

Georgetown Community Meal: Dec. 20th at noon.

Pastor's Ponderings

"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.'" Luke 1: 26-28

How exciting, the beginning of the story of Jesus according to Luke! We are now in the season of Advent preparing ourselves for the birth of Jesus, much as Mary would prepare for his birth in the following chapters of Luke's story. There are so many things to prepare for before Christmas: presents, feasts, programs, time with friends and family. In the midst of all of this hustle and bustle the news of the coming of the Savior sometimes competes with all the other messages and tidings at this time of year.

I hope that as a community of faith, we can attune our ears to the main message of the season: that for the salvation of our world, God was willing to enter human time and space as a human infant.

We will be wondering about the miracle of the incarnation, God coming in human flesh, together each WOW Wednesday in Advent. We are preparing special inter-generational worship experiences to help us worship and wonder together. You can read all about what is planned later on in this newsletter. Invite friends and family to join us!

I hope many of you will join us for this special time in addition to our worship and wondering together on Sunday mornings in Advent. I hope that in our worship and wondering we can come to hear, prepare, and then proclaim the most important message of the holiday season:

Unto us a Savior is born, Christ the Lord!

Our Sunday School Christmas programs on Sunday, Dec. 16th at Trinity and Sunday, Dec. 23rd at Georgetown are good opportunities for everyone to hear this important message. Also our Christmas Eve worship services on Dec. 23rd at 6:30 p.m., at Trinity and Monday, Dec. 24th at 4:00 p.m. at Georgetown will be festive times of worship, too. Invite friends and family to join us during Advent and Christmas to hear about how much God loves us that he comes into the world as Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Pastor Diane

When entering the hospital, please tell the admitting personnel that you are a member of our church. Have a family member contact the church office or pastor's office so you can receive pastoral care during your hospital stay. Like a visit from pastor? Call the church or pastor's office and request a visit or let her know on a Sunday morning. Remember to update the church office with changes of address, phone numbers, or e-mail. Both churches are on Facebook. Friend us on Facebook! Contact Kathy Greener at Trinity and Jody Binfet at Georgetown to have us post an event, announce in church or share a picture.

**Blood Drive
Balsam Lake Community
Located at Georgetown
Lutheran Church
January 2019
12:30-6:30 pm**

**Information for the upcoming newsletter is
due the 25th of the month by noon!**

Georgetown Council meeting

November 8, 2018 at 6:00pm

Present: Steve Hansen, Teresa Vollrath, Jeanne Johnson, Charlotte Peper, Tom Levi, Kirsten Klugow Tim Frendt and Pastor Diane House.

Steve called meeting to order, Pastor read from Genesis about Noah and about God's grace & mercy.

Secretary read minutes from last meeting, mmp to accept.

Treasurer's report read. We were told that the money from Fall Dinner was given to the blacktop fund.

Discussion on why it wouldn't go to general fund. It was decided that we really need to be filling out a project sheet and approved by council, so we all understand where the money goes. Missing from our expense report was money owed to Trinity for our share of certain bills. It was suggested we need to spend time on our budget at our December meeting. Mmp to accept treasurer's report.

Pastor shared about her Apple River Synod meeting-brought us up to date on things that are happening in the synod. Pastor shared her mileage report.

November 21-6:00pm WOW service in lieu of Thanksgiving Service at Trinity. Bring food for food shelf and donations of animal food.

Old Business:

Trustee's report- fix up work is done.

Update on hiring new secretary, suggested we advertise at the Community Meal.

Church Logo- Jeanne Johnson will talk to Bob Anthony about getting a picture of the church and enlarging for logo.

Website – up and running we need to work on website and update it. Pastor will work on it, anything we want to update we just need to contact Gilhoi. It was decided to ask Ryan Peterson & Gretchen Frendt to meet with Gilhoi so he can teach them how to work on website.

Roadside cleanup –it was suggested we will talk about this at annual meeting.

Organ –still hasn't been fixed we will put organ on annual meeting.

New Business:

Nominating committee –ask people if they would like to run for council.

Open Discussion:

Jeanne Johnson questioned the print on the e-mail messenger – Pastor stated they are working on it. Reminder –submit anything you want for messenger, needs to be submitted by 25th of month.

Mmp to adjourn.

Next meeting December 13, 2018 at 6:00pm.

Georgetown Shepherding Group

Dec. 2nd Sherry's Group

Dec. 9th Carol and Mary Lou's Group

Dec.16th Charlotte's Group

Dec. 23rd Roberta's Group

Dec. 30th Tressa's Group

GLC Lutheran Church – OCTOBER 2018
10/1/2018 through 10/31/2018 (Cash Basis)

INCOME	10,127.50
Miscellaneous Income	5,411.00
Blessing Bucket	99.00
Fall Dinner	3,217.00
Sherrard's Fundraiser	2,095.00
Offering	4,716.50
EXPENSES	-4,550.78
Church	-535.57
Electric	-130.10
Telephone	-99.47
Garbage	-63.00
Propane	243.00
Fees & Charges	-38.00
Bank Fee	-38.00
Office Expenses	-325.00
Organist	-325.00
Pastor	-3,652.21
Continuing Education	-100.00
Disability Benefit	-85.11
Health Insurance	-710.50
Home Equity	-119.00
Life Insurance	-8.51
Mileage	-143.34
Retirement	-303.55
Salary	-1,932.62
Social Security Tax	-249.58
Overall Total	5,576.72

Georgetown WELCA

November 4, 2018 Present: Stacy, Teresa, Kirsten, Roberta, Jeanne, Marvel, Diana and Mary

Meeting hosted by Stacy. Diana led lesson on De-stressing the Holidays and a Season of Thanks.

Meeting was called to order. Secretary's report was read and approved. Sunshine report also given. Treasurer's report : General fund- \$ 1260.77 Memorial \$487.39. It was shared that Fall Dinner served 270 people and raised \$3217 and the quilt raffle \$743. The Sherrard Resort Fundraiser \$2100.

Old Business- We sent 55 quilts and 60 school kits to Lutheran World relief. Charlotte made a motion to pay the postage for the quilts and school bags. Jeanne seconded the motion and it passed.

Roberta looking into putting a strip between the tile and carpet in the fellowship hall. Blood drive November 5th from 12:30-6:30. The next one is in January. Address up at church for the Monsons and Filkins.

Jeanne made a motion to buy Pastor and George a present, \$50 to CRA, Interfaith Caregivers, and Luther Point. Marvel seconded it and motion passed.

Roberta mentioned that we need more glasses and forks for when we have large dinners and funerals. Motion made by Diana to adjourn and Jeanne second. Meeting adjourned

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Kirsten

Trinity Shepherding Group for December

Bill and Kelly Anderson and group will serve in December.

Trinity Council Meeting minutes

Nov. 20th 2018 Present: Christine, Steve A., Allie Snowbank, Mandy, Kelly, Pastor Diane and Brenda R. treasurer

Read Special Congregational meeting minutes, Motion Allie/Christine, carried

Treasurer's Report: The print out available on the bulletin board has two line items that have Pastor on them, one P Pastor and the other Pastor's salary . The first one is Portico, the payment was taken out the last of the month and the beginning of the next. General fund: \$16,293.00 Motion to accept, Kelly/Allie carried. The council approved the purchase of Quick books for the new computer for the Treasurer. Motion Steve A./Allie carried

Church and Parsonage insurance is due, we didn't receive an itemized bill. Mandy will call and get the amounts for each and split the Parsonage with GT.

Pastor's Report

Safe return to Texas for Ray and Jan Clark and prayers for Joy Severson, as she has been in the hospital.

Advent Worship coming up, also we will have an ELCA "Good Gifts Tree" to purchase from. These donations help buy animals and provide income to people in other countries.

Pastor will be starting Dwelling in the Word before each council meeting in January.

Emergency Benevolence is available at the Police station in Cumberland. Motion to give \$200 Christine/Mandy carried

Motion to change the bulletin inserts to the Celebrate inserts. They have a larger print and more content. We will begin in March. Allie/Christine carried.

Doors for the Parsonage are in the garage and ready to install. The contractor stated that he is not interested in the replacement or repair of the Egress window.

Old Business

Sound & Logic still need some items but the TV's are up

Mike Rouzer will install the motion lights

Discussion about Secretary position

Received the quote from Heat by Design regarding the heat pump. The bid is for \$9000, that does not include the hard wiring and the pump would not be large enough for our Sanctuary. The council discussed ceiling fans, but tabled the discussion until the Annual meeting or spring.

New Business

W.O.W. starts at 5:45 with meal at 5:45.

Advent Songfest, Dec. 2 at 6:30pm with cookies after

Christmas Program on Dec. 16th at 9am

Council Budget meeting Dec. 18th at 6pm

Christmas Services, Dec. 23 at 6:30pm

January Council meeting on the 15th and Annual Meeting on Jan. 27th.

Discussion about an estate gift in 3M stocks. The council decided to transfer the stock into the Church's name with tax id number. We will be asking the Synod to help guide us and have more information at the Annual Meeting.

Poinsettias can be purchased through the Luck FFA \$7 each.

Motion to adjourn, Kelly/Mandy carried

Trinity WELCA

We met at the church on November 8, 2018. Those present were Gurine, Deedra, Cecelia, Gail and Ellen. Deedra led our Bible Study on Faithful Repentance. Turning as the church to the world. We read from 1 John 1:5-10 and John 8:31-36. Our decision to repent was not about something other people had done a long time ago: it was about the fact that the church of the past and the future are joined together in the church of "now". We never need to fear turning to God who is faithful and just, who will forgive and renew us. This is not only true for individuals but for the whole body of Christ. The church is still intended by God to reflect the image of Christ outward to the world. We should not put pride or the need to be right above sharing the love of Christ. We need to repent as a whole community and be healed and reconciled. Repentance bridges the past and future in a moment of healing of what was and what will be. We closed with prayer.

Secretary's report was read and approved.

Treasurer's report was read and approved.

We took our offering and for World Hunger.

Donations were made for the year. Deedra will write the checks out.

Joy Severson is in the hospital. Deedra will take a prayer shawl to her when she visits.

Our Christmas Brunch which is open to all church ladies will be held at Lakeside in Cumberland at 11:00 am on December 1st. There will be a sign-up sheet.

We need cookies for cheer boxes on December 2nd and the Song Fest. There will be a sign up sheet.

We will not be having a regular WELCA meeting from January to April.

We are working at putting a Thank Offering service together. It will be on Sunday, November 25th.
We wish all a Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends!
We closed with prayer. We sang the table prayer and Cecelia served a delicious Apple dessert!
Respectfully submitted: Ellen Bergmann, Secretary.

Christmas Worship service times and places:

Sunday, December 23rd we will have our regular worship times of 9 a.m. at Trinity and 10:30 a.m. at Georgetown to worship on the 4th Sunday of Advent.

Sunday, December 23rd at 6:30 will be Christmas Eve worship at Trinity Lutheran.

Monday, December 24th at 4:00 p.m. will be Christmas Eve worship at Georgetown Lutheran. There will be no Christmas Day service.

Merry Christmas to each of you and have a blessed and meaningful celebration of the birth of the Christ!

God With Us

Family Advent Worship Series

Come celebrate the birth of Jesus, with us this Advent as we use the "God With Us Family Advent Worship Series." Each week family members of all generations will come together to worship on Wednesday evenings at 5:45 pm. We will gather for a simple meal and then we will learn that in Jesus, God is with us as our Potter, our Shepherd, our Living Branch and our Guide. The order of service each week includes the lighting of the Advent wreath, hymns, and special responses for children, prayers, a message for children and adults, a family craft project and discussion questions for a family conversation.

Week 1: Our Potter (Isaiah 64:8-9): God is with us as our Potter, and we are the clay. Through faith in Jesus, we are formed as a new creation as God shapes us according to his will. Families will use air-dried clay to make a Christmas ornament.

Week 2: Our Shepherd (Isaiah 40:10-11): God is with us as our Shepherd. Jesus our Good Shepherd came to lay down his life and rise from the dead to bring us forgiveness and eternal life. Families will create paper and cotton ball sheep.

Week 3: Our Living Branch (Isaiah 11:1-2): God is with us as our Living Branch. Jesus, a shoot from the stump of Jesse, was born into the family tree of King David. By faith we are the branches, and Jesus is our true Vine. Families will plant and grow a little Bethlehem field from grass seed. By Carol Geisler. © 2018 Creative Communications for the Parish. All rights reserved.

Schedule:

December 5 we will be together at Trinity at 5:45 p.m.

December 12 we will be together at Georgetown at 5:45 p.m.

December 19 we will be together at Trinity at 5:45 p.m.

ELCA Good Gifts giving opportunity:

At both Trinity and Georgetown churches, ELCA Good Gifts ornaments will be displayed. During our God With Us Family Advent worship services the offering received will go towards purchasing these good gifts chosen by our children. These gifts provide many different needs, from animals that support families with food and income, school supplies, medical supplies, etc.

You are invited to choose an ornament and make a donation online, the website is listed on the back. Or you may choose to write a check to ELCA Good Gifts and the churches will mail them out for you.

Sunday School Christmas Programs

December 16th at Trinity 9 am. The kids will bring us the story of Christ's birth in a program conceived and directed by Debbie Wickstrom.

December 23rd at Georgetown at 10:30 am The kids will bring us the story of Christ's birth in a program conceived and directed by Nicole Norlund.

Thank you to our Directors for their hard work! Invite you family and friends and neighbors to hear the Good News proclaimed by our young people.

Dear Friends of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

I am writing this the day after I get home from my first even trip to the Holy Land.

My husband, Randy and I decided that after three decades as Pastors we should make a pilgrimage to all the places we've been preaching about for so many years. I was excited to see Bethlehem, Jerusalem, the Sea of Galilee, Capernaum, the Garden of Gethsemane, the Temple Wall, and Athens. Corinth, and Rome and all the other landmarks of our spiritual geography. I was especially excited to see Bethlehem.

While I was in Bethlehem, I heard Pastor Lori Ruge-Jones, a gifted storyteller recite from heart, Luke 2; the Christmas Story. We were in a beautiful chapel on the site where according to tradition, the angels announced to the shepherds the Good News of Jesus' birth. Imagine these familiar words spoken from the heart echoing off the stones of the Shepherd's Field chapel.

The group of pilgrims I was with, sat in silence for a few moments before we sang Christmas carols: O Little Town of Bethlehem, Angels we have heard on High, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Silent Night, Away in a Manger.... It was a holy moment and the highlight of our trip to the Holy Land. It was simple, beautiful, goosebumps, Hallmark moment.

BUT the undercurrent of that moment is more complicated as tourists we are well aware that Bethlehem in 2018 is a city controlled by the Palestinians and the surrounding area is controlled by Israel. It is a land that have been fought over throughout known history by those who considered it Holy; Jews, Muslims and Christians. It is a place that builds walls to separate and struggles with daily violence and conflict.

The Shepherds of the first century were well aware that Bethlehem was under foreign occupation by Rome. The Roman Caesar Augustus sent out a decree that Jews were to be enrolled in their home towns to be taxed. There were uprisings and revolts against Roman rule of the Jews. It was complicated and there were no quick fixes.

But, all of that is far away and long ago. How about the here and now? Is your life like a beautiful, peaceful Hallmark card wishing season's greetings or is your life more complication like a major geo-political conflict? Or is it somewhere in between? Regardless, there is one thing that is true, in the midst of the all God put on flesh and came down to us to live among us in the midst of it all, Jesus was born.

Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson, Bishop of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

◀ November		December 2018					January ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1 TLC WELCA Christmas Gathering 11am at Lakeside Restaurant in Cumberland	
2 TLC Service 9:00 GLC Service 10:30 Advent Songfest 6:30pm TLC	3 GLC WELCA 5:30pm at Village Pizzeria in Amery	4	5 WOW Wed. at Trinity at 5:45 pm God With Us Advent Service	6	7	8	
9 TLC Service 9:00 GLC Service 10:30	10	11	12 WOW Wed. at George town at 5:45 pm God With Us	13 Georgetown Council meeting at 6 pm	14	15	
16 TLC Service at 9:00 Christmas Program GLC Service at 10:30	17	18 TLC Council at 6pm	19 WOW Wed. at Trinity at 6:00 pm God With Us	20 GLC Community Meal at noon	21	22	
23 TLC Service at 9:00 GLC Service at 10:30 Christmas Program Candlelight Service at TLC 6:30pm	24 GLC Christmas Eve Service 4pm	25	26 No WOW	27	28	29	
30 TLC Service 9:00 GLC Service 10:30	31						

