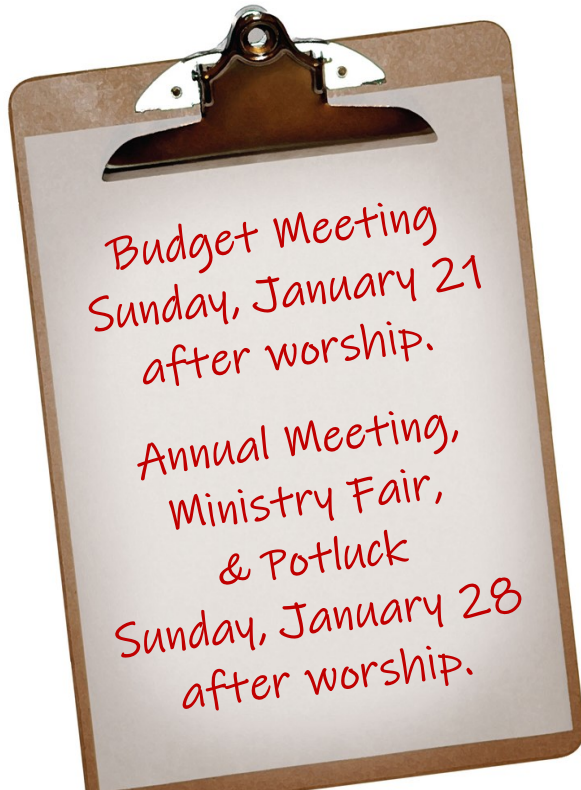


Trinity Tidings

January 18, 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
709 W BECKERT RD
NEW LONDON, WI 54961
WWW.TRINITYNEWLONDON.COM
TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
920-982-5833

REV. DR. CHARLES THOMPSON, PASTOR 920-273-5105;
PASTOR.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
SECRETARY: AMY VAN DREEL TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR: ANGELA KUECHLER
FAMILYFAITH.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM



January 28, 2024

Following Worship and prior to the annual meeting, stay for a Trinity-Get-Involved-Ministry Fair With Potluck

Come and see how the Spirit is working here at Trinity. This is a great opportunity to contemplate how you can join in and bring your time, energy, ideas, and/or talents to what is going on behind the scenes at Trinity. Sign up at the Info Center to bring a dish to pass. Join your church family and celebrate how God's Work, Our Hands is being accomplished here at Trinity.

January 2024

| 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 | | | |

Sunday, January 21

- Adult Bible Study 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Budget Meeting 10 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Story Time 10 AM

Monday, January 22

Tuesday, January 23

Wednesday, January 24

- Confirmation Class 6:30 PM

Thursday, January 25

- Bible Study 9 AM
- Quilting 10 AM
- Comfort Crafts 5:30 PM
- Carport Clutch 6 PM

Friday, January 26

Saturday, January 27

Sunday, January 28

- Adult Bible Study 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Annual Meeting, Ministry Fair, & Potluck 10 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- No Story Time

Click [here](#) for the most current calendar.
Click [here](#) for worship.

Office Hours:
8 AM - 12 noon
Monday - Thursday
Other times by appointment

Our First FREE Community Meal of 2024

Sloppy Joes will be served to the New London community on **Wednesday, January 31, from 5 to 6 pm.**



Donations needed for the January meal are:

- ♦ Healthy snacks (e.g. apple sauce, raisins, craisins, fruit cups, granola/protein bars, jerky, etc.)
- ♦ Desserts (packaged or homemade)

PLEASE NO NUTS and NO ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION. Place donations in the bin outside of church.

We are also in need of donations of Sloppy Joes. There are freezer bags located in the Narthex outside of the church sanctuary. Please take one and return your Sloppy Joe to church during office hours or during Sunday services. Please place the Sloppy Joe in the upright freezer in the storage room in the Fellowship Hall or the freezer in the downstairs kitchen by Sunday, January 28.



Email or call with your request.

Prayers & Praises

Healing:

- Millie Batzler - friend of Amy Kuehl, recovering from surgery
- Trista Jo Westphal - health concerns
- Brian Miller - health issues
- Ginny Halverson - friend of Lehl's, recovering from a stroke
- Peter H. - friend of Dyreson's, leukemia
- Patty Dyreson - recovering from surgery
- Julie Smith - daughter of Jean Smith, recovering from transplant surgery
- Mary Snyder - recovering from surgery
- Shelley Henke - sister of Woody Haag, recovering from surgery
- Leslie Larson - uncle of Marta Wesenick, cancer
- Mike Lopnow - cancer
- Beth Cochran - friend of Dan Wegner, health concerns
- Kaden Wegner - grandson of Michael Wegner, health concerns
- Pastor Dean Desilet - friend of Pastor Chuck, health concerns
- Steve Gohman - nephew of Terry & Lois Wegner; cousin of Dan and Kat
- Dixie Hill - health concerns
- Jill Maus - sister-in-law of Denise Knudsen, cancer
- Adam Lehmann - health concerns
- Dawn Haag - cancer

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Trinity has been very supportive of New London High School's music program and the students involved in the many offerings from band, choir, madrigal, and musical in the past. I am reaching out about another opportunity to help support them as we enter Show Choir season. Tammy McCartney and I are the festival chairs for this event as well.

NLHS Vision Show Choir kicks off their 41st season this month and on **January 19th and 20th** will be hosting the 3rd annual Singstock Festival at the high school. This festival is a fundraiser to help offset the costs incurred throughout the year and helps keep participation fees to the students manageable for families. This event relies on volunteers and takes hundreds of man hours to ensure we are able to deliver a high quality festival for both competing groups and spectators and we were wondering if any members of Trinity would be interested in volunteering at the event? No experience is needed and there are many different opportunities - concessions, admissions, back stage crew, hall monitors, set up & clean up. **The shifts are typically in two hour blocks and anyone who volunteers for at least four hours receives free admission for the weekend.**

Volunteers are able to sign up via the Sign Up Genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4BADAC2DA02-44552243-singstock>

Anyone interested can reach out to us directly as well, or with any questions.

Sheila- [920-585-8935](tel:920-585-8935) or walterfam_5@yahoo.com

Tammy- [920-250-2465](tel:920-250-2465) or tamelamccartney@yahoo.com

We greatly appreciate your consideration in sharing this opportunity with the Trinity family! If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Thank you,
Sheila Walter



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW LONDON

Trinity Bingo!
 After church on February 4
 Win prizes!
 Fun and fellowship!
 All ages and skill levels

Bingo isn't the same without your prize donations! Do you have some re-gifting items to donate for Bingo? To make the party a success we will need some small prizes donated. Bingo will be held for about an hour after church service on February 4. Please drop Off in the bin outside (clearly labeled for Bingo) or in the church office.

Thank you!
 Support and Service committee



Trinity Times after worship is a great time to visit with each other.

Is this a ministry in which you can participate? We need people to help keep this fellowship opportunity going!

Weekly, we need a person to make coffee, host and clean up. We need a few people to bring in snacks.

Please look at the sheet in the Trinity Times area and sign up for a week!

Serving at worship on Sunday

Ushers

Alivia Graichen, Tom Luba

Lector

Terry Wegner

Communion Assistant

Carol Cleveland

Slides

Lisa Graetz

Livestream

Tom Vigil

Altar Guild

Dawn Haag, Dawn Hess

To Our Conference Partners from
Executive Director, Lynn Ann Clausing Rusch
Linwood Community, A Ministry of Fox Valley Lutheran Homes
Our supporting congregation members are **always** welcome at our Linwood Community Events.

“Fall Prevention”

Presented by our Wellness Coordinator, Yon Abel
Thursday, January 18 at 2 PM

Falls are the leading cause of injury among older adults and put us at risk for serious injury. Physical changes and health conditions make falls more likely as we age. Join us in the Commons to learn fall prevention strategies.

“Elder Law Basics”

Thursday, January 25 at 2 PM

Join us in the Commons as we learn the basics of Elder Law with Attorney Drew McDonald. Drew will discuss the basics of Elder Law including financial Power of Attorney documents, wills and trusts. Attorney McDonald has a long history of working with estates and veterans. He is a founder of the “Old Glory Honor Flight”.

“Keeping Your Mind Sharp”

Presented by our Wellness Coordinator, Yon Abel
Thursday, February 15 at 2 PM

Research shows that our brain continues forming new connections throughout our lifespan and you can bolster your brain’s reserves by adopting some basic health habits. Join our Wellness Coordinator Yon as we learn about ways to keep our mind sharp as we age!

“Funeral Preplanning”

Thursday, February 29 at 2 PM

Joyce Schroeder will present a basic workshop on funeral preplanning. Joyce has a wealth of information to share as a former funeral director and office administrator for two Appleton area funeral homes. She is excited to meet with our tenants and understands how to present difficult information with sensitivity. She will supply handouts to help attendees wishing to do their own planning without using this workshop as a means of gaining new clients.

Linwood Community is a faith based independent living community for persons 62 and over. We serve persons wishing to partake in community living and maintain independence without the work of home maintenance.

In His Service,

Lynn Ann Clausing Rusch, Executive Director
920-734-7225 lynnann.fvlhomes@gmail.com





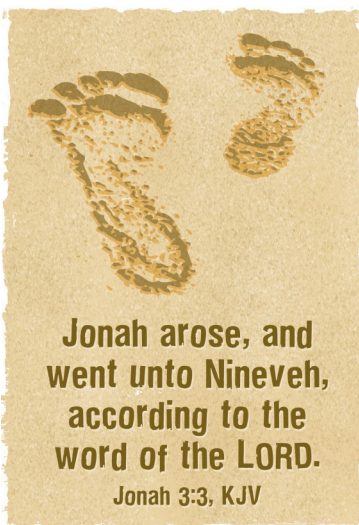
Third Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.



Psalm 62:5-12

⁵For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.
⁶God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.
⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.
⁸Put your trust in God always, O people, pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted.

Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;

though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

¹²Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.



Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.



SERMON NOTES

Jonah

"40 days more and Nineveh will be overthrown!"
An 8-word sermon.
Could I get away with that?
I know people do not like really long sermons.



"You were preaching a 45-minute sermon
a 25-minute zone, Pastor. I'm going to have
to see your license and ordination."

But eight words,
how lame!
Of course, if you
back up to the
beginning of the
story, we see Jo-
nah did not want
to preach in Nine-
veh at all.
God calls him to
go to that horrible
place, in his mind
a god forsaken
place, and tell
them to repent.

God was commanding him to give a hellfire and
brimstone sermon to those wicked people.
He runs away but God arranges a great fish to swal-
low him.
God gives him another chance.
So he goes to Nineveh and gives that lame sermon.
And you know what?
It works!
The people of Nineveh call a fast and everyone re-
pents.
God then decides not to destroy them.
Jonah goes outside the city hoping to watch them
get wiped out.
He is disappointed.
God has the audacity to let Nineveh off the hook.
Jonah is not happy at all!
How could God possibly forgive these people?
God's answer to him was why shouldn't I care about

these people?

Who are you to tell me upon whom I should show
mercy?

So Jonah learns, God's mercy is not for him to con-
trol, but is God's alone.
Is not there some Jonah in us?
We too would like to control God's mercy.
We do not like to see wicked people (as we see
them) get let off of the hook.
It's kind of like siblings enjoying watching each other
get punished.
However, we all know that things do not always turn
out the way we expect.
There is injustice all over the place.
While we are to always strive for justice, ultimately
we need to trust God to work.
He is the one who ultimately will make all things
right.
We all fail to trust God completely.
There's a little Jonah in all of us.
We need to remember that ALL of us are dependent
upon God's mercy, but we forget.
We tend to point fingers at others rather than looking
at ourselves.
In spite of all of this, God chooses us, fickle and of-
ten completely unreliable messengers, to bring
God's word of love and mercy to the world. Yet, this
is an act of God's mercy too, isn't it?
We can give people grace because God has given
each of us amazing grace.
We can show compassion and mercy because God
has first given these to us.
In our own we cannot conquer hatred and division.
As Rev Dr. Mar-
tin Luther King
put it:

As with Jonah,
we can learn to
trust in God's
mercy and com-
passion.
We all fail to
show love and
be lights to the
world.
But we can let
go and let God
work.
Let God be the judge.
Trust that in Jesus' death and resurrection we are
reconciled to God.
God in Christ has done the work of salvation for us.
It's not about us: It's all about Him!
Amen.

**Darkness cannot
drive out darkness;
only light
can do that.
Hate cannot
drive out hate,
only love
can do that.**

**The Rev. Dr. Martin
Luther King, Jr.**

TerryHershey.com