

The Monthly Newsletter of Trinity Reformed Church

CONNECTIONS

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Welcome to the Combined Dec-Jan Connections!

As we prepare for the holidays and the first snow, we hope you explore these pages with a mug of hot chocolate and a yummy cookie...

Here you'll read about our Advent series that invites us to explore Jesus as our Promised Prince of Peace, You'll get to hear about Rob Harrington's deep commitment to Evergreen Commons as this issue's Trinity Volunteer, You can enjoy the latest article by Rex and the Jerusalem Temple Gazette, and get up-to-date on a new mission initiative coming our way in 2026.

And make sure to flip all the way to the back for updates on upcoming events like the Parade of Lights and the Christmas Breakfast Potluck!

May you each sense the wonder and the promise of our God with us, our Emmanuel, this Advent and Christmas. And may you experience the joy of gathering with friends and family, with neighbors and church folks this holiday season!



The Trinity Bus all decked out for the Parade of Lights!



NOTE FROM PASTOR AMANDA

Dear Trinity family,

I think it probably began about 7 years ago.

I had returned to work after my six months of parental leave with Jakob. and Brian was taking his 6 months of parental leave. At some point, I stopped being able to hear Jakob's cries in the middle of the night. When I'd learn over coffee the next morning that Brian was up 3 times with him and that I slept through it all, I just shrugged it off as the consequence of being an exhausted working mother.

But then there were other signs: not catching every word someone said to me and not realizing that I was mentally filling in a lot of words from context; asking Brian to turn up the volume of the tv much louder than he needed to have it; or not hearing someone call my name from down the hall at work.

And then when the pandemic hit and everyone was wearing masks and keeping distance from each other, I realized how much I depended on watching people's lips when they talked and how close I needed to stand to someone to hear their voice.

But even then it took me another couple of years to actually visit an audiologist. When I finally did have enough courage to schedule an appointment, I had confirmation and had to face that fact that, yes, I did have hearing loss.

On average, people experience noticeable hearing loss for 7 years before they seek out help. And that was indeed true for me.

From those missed cries during the night to the time I walked into an audiology appointment, I had been living with hearing loss for just shy of 7 years.

So this year, as we head into the holiday season, where we will find ourselves in large and small group gatherings full of conversation and noise and surrounded by people we love, here's a word of encouragement from your 41 year old pastor with hearing aids:

If you find that you're having trouble hearing the precious voices of those you love (especially women's and children's voices), and if you find yourself pulling away from social gatherings because it's just too exhausting to try to hear and understand, please don't wait 7 years like me. Schedule an audiology appointment.

Because hearing the voices and stories of those we love is absolutely worth it.

And for those who love someone with hearing loss, there are helpful ways you can make gatherings a little easier: get their attention before you start speaking, face them rather than talk away from them, and ask if moving to a quieter corner of the room to have a deeper conversation would be helpful.

In this season of gathering and connection, may we help each other know how loved we are by little acts of kindness and inclusion as we celebrate together. And if you're unsure how to help or how to get help, all you gotta do is ask.

With love,
Pastor Amanda

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his
shoulders. And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God,
Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.

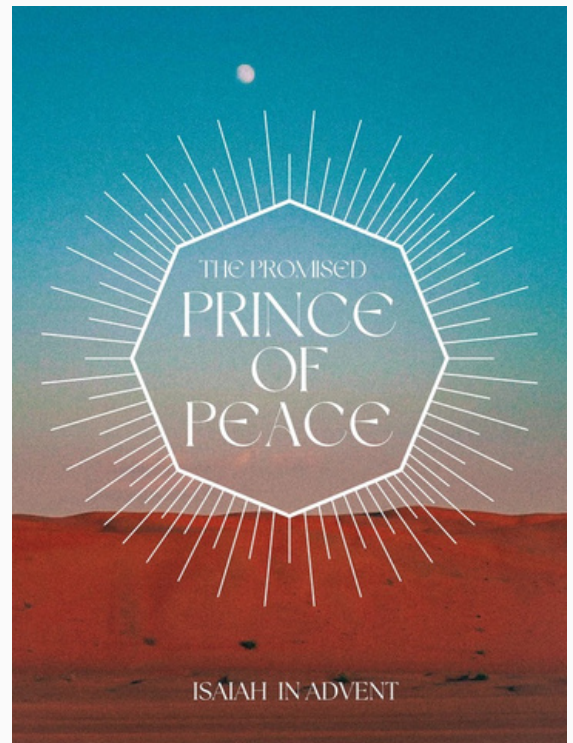
This Advent season, we journey with the prophet Isaiah and his powerful words about God's promised Prince of Peace.

Placing his faith in the unfailing promises of God, Isaiah speaks of hope in the midst of despair, peace in the midst of violence, joy in the midst of scarcity, and love in the midst of hate.

As we journey with Isaiah this Advent, may we remember and believe in God's promises then, for us now, and for the world to come.

In a world marked and marred with darkness and loneliness, war and violence, let us put our hope in Jesus, the promised Prince of Peace, who has already come and who will come again.

**And let us wonder together,
as followers of the Prince of Peace,
how we are to live this peace here and now
in our everyday lives...
In our church...
In our neighborhood....**



Nov 30 | 1st Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 11:1-10 - A Vision of Hope

Dec 7 | 2nd Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 2:1-5 - A Vision of Peace

Dec 14 | 3rd Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 35:1-10 - A Vision of Joy

Dec 21 | 4th Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 7:10-16 - A Vision of Love

Dec 24 | Christmas Eve Service
Isaiah 9:2-7 - Our Prince of Peace

Dec 28 | Sunday After Christmas
Matthew 2:13-23 - Flight to Egypt

Jan 4 | Epiphany
Isaiah 60:1-16 - Light in the Darkness

63

My Soul in Stillness Waits

Refrain Dm/A Dm9 F G A B^b C Am7 Dm9 *Fine*

For you, O Lord, my soul in still-ness waits; trul-y my hope is in you.

Am Dm9 Am Dm9

1 O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of glo - ry,
 2 O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our spir - its;
 3 O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with - in us,
 4 O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our pil - grim - age;

Am Dm9 Am Dm9

your ra - diance shines in all who look to you.
 our thirst - y hearts are yearn - ing for your Word.
 and in your ad - vent draw us all to you,
 we ev - er seek, yet un - ful - filled re - main.

Am Dm9 Am G C Am7 Dm9 *To Refrain*

Come, light the hearts of all in dark and shad - ow.
 Come, make us whole; be com - fort to our hearts. —
 our hope re - born in dy - ing and in ris - ing.
 O - pen to us the path - way of your peace. —

TRINITY VOLUNTEERS

**This month's Trinity volunteer
is Rob Harrington!**

Rob volunteers and commits large chunks of his week to the work and mission of Evergreen Commons.

Evergreen Commons is a community centre for those 55+ that seeks to inspire purposeful and active living for older adults in the greater Holland, Michigan area through wellness programs, community connections, and compassionate support.

All this is made possible in part by volunteers like Rob...



Q: How did you get started volunteering with Evergreen Commons?

Rob: I got started volunteering at Evergreen Commons when I saw a posted need. They are always posting volunteer needs because they are a nonprofit, so they rely largely on the assistance of volunteers. I figured I could do something.

Just over three years ago, I began by volunteering at the fitness desk. Since then, I've also driven their bus in parades and shuttling special events. Then I found I could help with setting up and tearing down special events which helped me learn more about the staff and purposes of Evergreen.

Q: What do you do at Evergreen Commons?

Rob: When I volunteer I get to know the people who come in; I talk with them and get to hear their stories. The staff who work the special events recognized my willingness to get involved, so we've gotten to know each other more as well.





Q: What do you want others to know about Evergreen Commons?

Rob: I want people to know that Evergreen Commons is a “one of a kind” place in west Michigan for people 55 and over. They do more than just offer quality fitness. They offer programs that meet the age related needs of the community.

For example, they have several programs and support groups for Parkinson’s and Dementia; they provide for the care givers as well as the individuals who are experiencing these diseases. They have recently extended their hours so more people who continue to work can take advantage of what they have to offer.

Q: And, finally, how does your volunteering deepen your relationship with God and your neighbor?

Rob: I see many people from Evergreen in the community and even in our church. My participation at E.C. has helped me open up more by making myself available to others and expanding my own social circle.

Just when I stepped into a larger care giver role in my own mother’s life, God provided this place and people to support me. When I partially retired three years ago, I wanted to see how God could use me in other ways. My role at Evergreen has shown me that God still has plans for me. That’s exciting!

Thank you to Rob and all those who help make Evergreen Commons such a gift to our community!

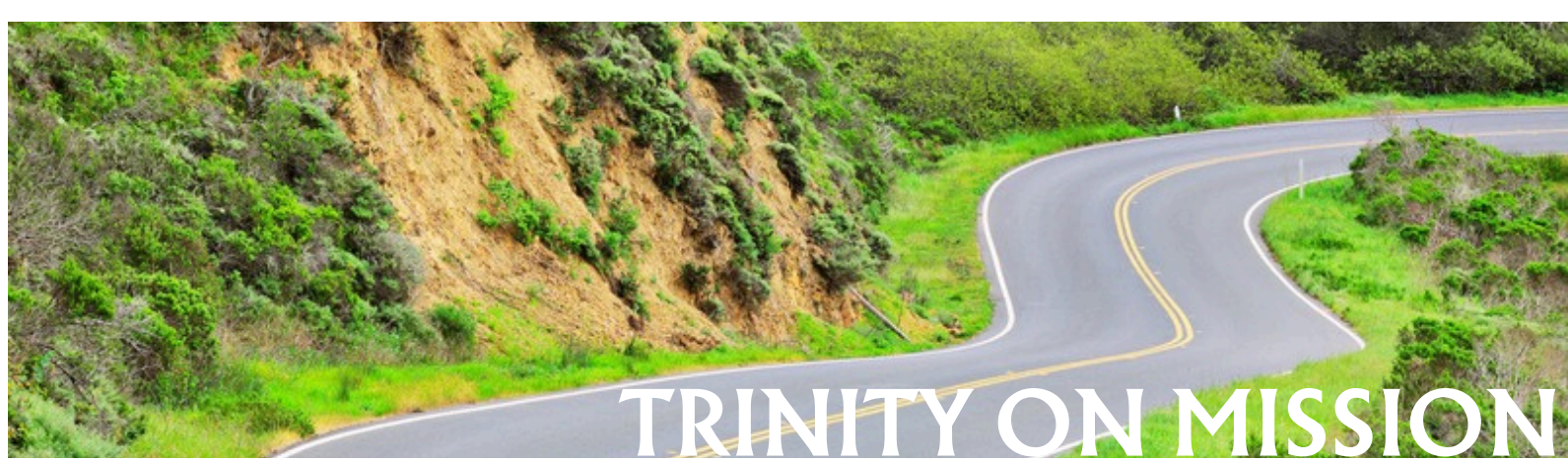
Did You Know About the Resource Hub?

The team at Evergreen Commons has curated a platform with a comprehensive collection of articles and directories designed to equip adults 55+, care partners, and service providers with the resources they need.

The purpose is for this information to empower individuals in the community, especially in Ottawa and Allegan counties, as they navigate the concerns and needs of those 55 and older.

At the Resource Hub you will find articles on the following topics...

- Care & Support: Caregiver resources, support groups, adult day services...
- Living & Mobility: In-home solutions, transportation resources...
- Financial & Legal: Low-income assistance, estate planning, long-term care options...
- Medicate & Social Security: Help understanding benefits and how to access them...
- Health & Wellness: Physical and mental health resources, disease-specific care, nutrition...



Update: On Our Emergency Food Drive

How did it go?



14 Care Closet Clients received unexpected food for the week



Trinity congregants practiced formational justice-oriented ministry



Lakeside Clubhouse received a donation of food for it's members





Introducing a New Initiative: Churches in Mission!

What do we mean by “Churches in Mission?”

Trinity is going to participate in something called “Churches in Mission”, in which Pastor Lydia and a team of 4-6 congregants will be embarking on a 1-year outreach program called “Churches in Mission” with the help of WTS’s curriculum and support. This program is intended to help churches explore the needs present in both their neighborhoods and congregations. Then, it provides a framework to identify guiding questions, tension points, and next steps. The hope is to clarify next steps for our local mission by getting to know others, wrestling with what’s heard, responding with action, and discerning Trinity’s expression of ministry in this season!

Why?

Consistory agreed to apply to the Churches in Mission program because:

- ✓ **Great Candidates:** The program is made especially for churches who have experienced change in the last decade
- ✓ **Aligns with Current Priorities:** The program provides helpful advice, support, and a framework for Community Engagement and Outreach Ministry and Team
- ✓ **Helps Trinity live out its Mission Statement:** “Discovering and growing in intimacy with God and others by following Jesus”

Want to learn more? Wondering how to Engage?



Pray



Ask about
Participating or
Volunteering



Make a
Suggestion or
Ask a Question

“ Participants overwhelmingly agree that the process challenged their assumptions around **missional engagement and the role of the church in mission work**, and that the experience helped them to better discern their sense of **missional calling...** ”

The work has provided a **pathway for deeper commitment** to the surrounding community by their church, and that their work within this experience has led to the development of **actionable steps their team can take within the neighborhood...** ”

Dr. Meg Mullins



JERUSALEM TEMPLE GAZETTE

by Rexilius, investigative scribe of the Jerusalem Temple Gazette, AD 33 or so

Rex-- Hello, faithful readers of the Jerusalem Gazette. My time-traveling guest today is the famous second son of Abraham and Sarah-- Isaac. Well, Isaac, your miraculous birth, your miraculous escape from child sacrifice, your bride's story, your own kids, and more, have fascinated readers of Genesis throughout history. Thanks for joining me today to give your perspective on those events.

Isaac-- Shalom, Rex. Truly, my life was seldom boring. I think I'll start at the beginning and talk about those events chronologically.

First, my early childhood. My Mom, Sarah, was ninety-one when I was born and my dad, Abram, was one hundred and one. We were the typical nomadic band of that area, but probably bigger than most bands. We had an army of 318 warriors, and all their wives and kids. We had flocks of sheep, goats, camels, donkeys, a few horses, beef cattle, chickens, geese, and pigeons and all the herders with their wives and kids. We had all the usual cooks, weavers, carpenters, metal workers, etc. that a band like ours needed. I don't know the total number of our band, but it was several thousand at least. We needed a lot of farm land, pasture, and a lot of water for our animals and for our food needs. We were as big, or bigger, than many of the "cities" in

our area. Dad was the sheik of our band and his word was law. Mom was "First Wife" and she ran the household. Her word was law there.

Both were old when I was born so neither was a very "hands on" parent. I was "super special" as the miracle baby of course, so I was cared for especially well, but not so much by them personally. I had lots of "nannies." Mom didn't trust Hagar, "second wife" with me though, so I didn't spend a lot of time with her. I think Mom was afraid Hagar would do something to me so Ishmael, my older brother, would become sheik. In my experience Hagar was not at all like that, and Ishmael and I were pretty typical brothers. He was older by fourteen years, bigger, stronger, and more experienced than me and could beat me in everything. And, he enjoyed doing it. We were pretty typical brothers, as I said. I remember being very sad when Hagar ran away with Ishmael when I was little and so happy when they came back. Mom and Hagar never got along though, and she treated them both quite badly. I was really shocked when Dad finally gave in to Mom's demands and "dumped" them in the desert with nothing but a sack of food and a water skin. That was a typical "death sentence." We heard that another band found them and the sheik saved them. I know God had a hand

in that miracle. (The thought just occurred to me--did Dad "sacrifice" his first born son Ishmael to satisfy his demanding wife, my Mom Sarah? What does that say about him? Hmmmm!) Dad took me along with him everywhere he could, so I would learn how to be the sheik. Ishmael came too as son of the "Second wife" when they were with us still, and Ishmael saw all the same things I did. I think that's where he learned to be the leader that he eventually became.

Rex-- Well, since you just had that thought about child sacrifice in Ishmael's case, let's talk about that situation in your case. That is really a weird and disturbing story in Genesis. Our rabbis today have a very different interpretation than that described in our translations of Genesis.

Isaac-- I was about twelve years old when it happened exactly as described in Genesis. Abdull and Shamid, those two unnamed servants, travelled with us to Mt. Sinai. It took about a week of camping travel to get there. They stayed at the base of the mountain while we hiked up to a meadow above the tree-line. We arranged the stones for the altar, piled on the wood, and sat down to wait for God to "supply the sacrifice" as my father had said. I was shocked when he looped the slip-knotted cord around my hands and tied me up. I think I



must have fainted from fear when he laid me on that altar on top of the wood and pulled out his Kris-knife and raised it above me. I can still "see" the sun gleaming on that blade, and just retelling you the story makes me break into a cold sweat! I woke up and found myself untied, lying about twenty feet from the altar in the shade of a bush. Dad was walking toward me dragging an Ibex ram by its horns. When he saw I was conscious, he said, "God stopped my hand, son. God pointed out this ram caught in a bush. He **did** supply the sacrifice exactly as I predicted. He even called me 'Blessed' because I did not withhold even you from Him." Then he had me help butcher the ram and make the burnt offering that we had come for. Did God call to him and stop him from cutting my throat, gutting me, cutting me in pieces and burning me as a sacrifice to Yaweh? I don't know. I just know that I'm alive. The ram was discovered and sacrificed. I did not see or hear anything. But, my dad believed every word he said.

It was a long walk back to the base camp and a long, very quiet trip back to Mom and our band. I never told the servants what happened up there. In fact, I don't think I ever told anyone but Mom and Rebecca (and now you) the real story of what I felt. The Genesis writer records what God supposedly said and what Dad supposedly heard and interpreted in

his dreams. It says nothing about me and nothing about Mom's reaction or about anyone else. I never totally trusted my dad again after that experience. I never talked to him in the same way or felt comfortable in his presence as I had before. I doubt that any kid who was tied up and put on an altar and saw a knife raised to cut out his heart would trust that parent again. When we got back home, everyone could tell that something serious had happened and that my relationship to Dad was very different. Mom finally got me to tell her what happened up there. When she heard what he had actually done and what he had attempted to do, she went ballistic. I think the neighboring bands in the next valley could have heard their argument. The rabbis have it right. She accused him of child abuse, of misunderstanding what God wanted, of refusing to argue with God regarding me as Dad had argued for Sodom and Lot's family, of not loving her and their marriage covenant, etc., etc.. That incident destroyed their marriage and she eventually left Dad and moved back to her family near Ur. When she died at 127 years of age, Dad traveled back there and bought a piece of land from the Hittites with a burial cave for her body. He really did love her through it all, but she could not accept his vision of God as "Divine Child Abuser."

Rex--Wow, Isaac! Just hearing you tell your side of the story raises goose bumps along my spine. Imagining how you felt and what that did to you as a twelve year old kid is not something that most readers of Genesis ever consider. Again, hearing how that affected your Mom makes total sense too. If all these commands came in a dream that your dad had one night, how did he know it was a true dream vision and not just a nightmare caused by some spoiled mutton? Wasn't your God supposed to be different from the gods of the surrounding bands? Did Yawah also demand child sacrifice? Your dad obviously thought that He did! Heavy memories! Wow! Let's move to a happier story. Tell us about Rebecca becoming your wife.

Isaac--yes, that was another miracle. It's recounted accurately in Genesis 24 according to Abdull, my father's right hand man. Abdull traveled back to Nahor near the big town of Ur and stopped at the village well just as it is written. (Rebecca is the daughter of my father's brother's son. She is a cousin, but I can never remember if she's a first cousin or second cousin. I think it's second cousin). It is so obvious that God led Abdull to the well, that God led Rebecca to the well to meet Abdull and do everything exactly as requested, that God influenced Laben and the clan leaders to agree to the marriage, and



that God influenced Rebecca to leave her home the next day and go into a completely unknown future with this guy telling such a wild and improbable story. (She really was a romantic at heart).

Rex--Do you know that lots of people today use that story to prove that God has one special woman for each man and if each of us just prays and trusts God enough, that God will arrange some miracle events to bring the two chosen persons together?

Isaac--Yes, I have heard that theory. I don't buy it though. Our story and Adam and Eve's story are the only stories in the Scriptures that suggest such a thing. If it was true for everyone, I believe there would be more examples showing God arranging the marriages. There seems to-be an overwhelming number of marriages that are just random. There are lots of examples where the marriage is definitely "not arranged by heaven."

Rex--Would you describe your marriage to Rebecca a happy one?

Isaac--Yes, I would. Have you noticed that our marriage story doesn't have any infidelities by either of us. I never had concubines or additional wives or interludes with prostitutes. She is never described as unfaithful. Our marriage was quite different from our parents or relatives and from most of the major players of the Sacred story.

Rex--She did have a serious preference for one of your twin sons (Jacob instead of Esau) and she planned the whole scheme for Jacob to get the blessing and the inheritance that rightly belonged to Esau. Didn't that bother you?

Isaac--not really. I was old and almost totally blind, but my other senses were still pretty sharp. If your eyes don't work well, you learn to rely more on touch and sound and smell. She and Jacob thought they had fooled me, but get serious. Do people really think that I couldn't tell Jacob's voice from Esau's when we talked? Do people really think that I could not tell the fleece of a sheep from the beard of either of my sons. We hugged a lot in our culture, you know. I had/have trusted God my entire life. I trusted that this exchanged blessing and inheritance between Jacob and Esau was of God's doing. History, as recorded in Scripture since that time, has proven me right. I was kind of proud of Rebecca to think of such a neat scheme on such short notice. She really was very creative.

Rex--Wow, again, Isaac. You've given us another whole way of thinking about the Genesis stories. That old saying, "Anything is possible with God, but not everything is probable," seems more relevant than ever. One last question if you have time. How did you and Ishmael get along as you aged?

Isaac--We kept in touch. We had our agreements and our disagreements. He was made heir of his adopted sheik's goods and made sheik of his band. The Negev and surrounding area is big but not "that big." We interacted more than people realize. Mom died at 127 and was buried at the cave of Mamre. Dad died at 175. He lived 38 more years after she died and had six more sons with a number of concubines. (He was quite the stud). Ishmael and I took Dad's body to Mamre and buried him there with Sarah. I became sheik of our band. All of our kids and grandkids and great grandkids interacted. As time passed, those interactions became more and more bitter as the sense of family and clan became weaker and weaker. The Scriptures tell of terrible relationships. I predict that in the far future things will become so bad that genocide will become reality. Is it inevitable? No! Is it likely? Definitely!

Rex--Thanks, Isaac! This has been a fascinating interview! You've given us another point of view on some of the most well-known old stories. You've made them come so much more alive. I can't thank you enough.



COMMUNITY NOTES



BEFORE



AFTER

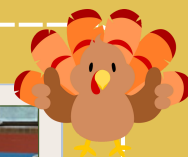
Thank you to all who had a hand in getting this project off the ground and accomplished! Not only does the paint look great, but it will help protect the metal roofing for many years to come.



Annual Weather Cancellation Reminder

In the event of inclement weather, any service cancellation will be communicated **by 8AM on Sunday morning**. Following the decision to cancel made by the preaching pastor and the Vice President of Consistory, the church office will send email communication, as well as posting our cancellation on the following news outlets; Wood TV8, Fox 17, WWMT Channel 3 and WHTC 1450 AM Radio.

For any church events happening throughout the week, the cancellation and communication will come from the **ministry organizer**.



Thanksgiving Meal Success!

This year, our Thanksgiving Meal welcomed around 72 guests! We extend our gratitude to the volunteers whose efforts made this event possible. Every detail was meticulously planned, and many volunteers took on multiple roles to ensure the day was a success. It truly was a blessing to share a meal with one another, our neighbors from Appledorn, and the clients we regularly serve at Care Closet.

Join in the fun!

**The Trinity Bus will be
decked out in the
DOWNTOWN HOLLAND
Parade of Lights
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2 AT 6:30PM.**

Here's how you can participate:

- If you want to **RIDE** in the bus in the parade be at church **by 4:45PM** (seniors get first dibs!).
- If you want to **WALK** with the bus, meet it between 9th & 10th on Columbia Ave **by 6:00PM.**
- The parade route is 8th street from Columbia to the Civic Center.
- Come on out and join the fun!



CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST *Potluck*

BRING A DISH TO SHARE!

Thursday, December 18 at 9:30AM



Please sign up at the Welcome Desk
or call the church office
at 616-396-6526!

Poem

*As the light of Christmas come to shine
and the bells of the holiday
ring on street corners
May the heart of the season not be lost
with the hurry and scurry of buying gifts.
And the love in our hearts
at this dear season
Be not of this earth or as the world gives.
May we not forget why we celebrate
Nor lose in our hearts where love comes from
for once the eyes are focused on the season
of Santa Claus and mischievous
The peace, the hope, the joy, the reason
is lost in the manger of long ago.
For peace is reality and hope is now
and joy is forever.
As Jesus lives so shall we.
The season is always.
Our God reigns.*

Submitted by Linda Louisa Johnson

December Birthdays

Kimy Oom	12/01	Gretchen Fisher	12/18
Mary Naber	12/03	Joyce Harper	12/19
Barb Long	12/05	Dan Kruithof	12/22
Ed Prince	12/07	Bev DeKorte	12/24
Joyce Warncke	12/08	Amanda Eckermann	12/28
Brian Bork	12/10	Ramona Garza	12/31

January Birthdays

Ruth Klungle	01/04	Jim Simmons	01/24
Dave Tanis	01/04	George Jacob	01/25
Pat Trevino	01/11	Marj Kleis	01/28
Dick Boss	01/13	Tiffany Shull	01/29
Elsie Kossen	01/14		

December Anniversaries

Gregg + Sally Harper	12/09
Rob + Teresa Harrington	12/16

January Anniversary

Ed + Marlene Plaggemars	01/21
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Budget Report

October 2025

<u>Budgeted Income</u>	\$34,718.92	<u>Actual Income</u>	\$36,656.51	<u>Income YTD</u>	\$263,180.51
<u>Budgeted Expenses</u>	\$34,718.92	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	\$37,998.85	<u>Expenses YTD</u>	\$316,434.63
		<u>Net Income</u>	\$ (1,342.34)	<u>Net Income YTD</u>	\$ (53,254.12)

Please know you can mail your contribution or use the link on our website or the QR code to the right if you are unable to worship with us.



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 Advent 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	1 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 5:30pm - 6:30pm Final Parade of Lights Assembly 7:00pm - 8:00pm Creation Care Group	2 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 6:00pm - 7:30pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	3 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 5:30pm - 6:30pm Parade of Lights Disassembly	4 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night 7:00pm Community Connections Meeting	5 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	6 9:00am - 2:00pm BH Ladies Christmas Luncheon 10:00am - 2:00pm Quilt/Craft Group Meeting
7 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	8 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	9 9:00am - 10:30am Care Closet Packaging 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 11:30am - 1:00pm Staff Christmas Lunch Office Closed 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	10 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 12:00pm Care Closet 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 5:00pm - 9:00pm TRC Wednesday Family Night Advent Themed	11 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	12 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	13 11:00am - 5:00pm TBD Lampen Christmas Party
14 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	15 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	16 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 6:00pm - 7:30pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	17 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	18 8:00am - 1:00pm Senior Ministries Christmas Brunch Potluck 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	19 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife 6:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Leadership Meeting	20
21 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship 4:00pm - 7:00pm Boss Christmas Party	22 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 5:00pm - 8:00pm Kruithof Christmas Party	23 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts	24 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 7:00pm - 8:30am Partnership Meeting TRC + BH	25 Christmas Day Office Closed for Christmas 11:00am - 4:00pm Borgman Christmas Party 3:30pm - 7:30pm Kooyers Christmas Party	26	27
28 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	29 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	30 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts	31 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	1 Office Closed for New Year's Day	2	3 10:00am - 2:00pm Quilt/Craft Group Meeting

January 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	29 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	30 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts	31 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	1 Office Closed for New Year's Day	2	3 10:00am - 2:00pm Quilt/Craft Group Meeting Church Building Closed at 8pm
4 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	5 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	6 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	7 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	8 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	9 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	10 Church Building Closed at 8pm
11 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	12 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	13 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	14 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 12:00pm Care Closet 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	15 9:30am - 10:30am Third Thursday Breakfast 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night 7:00pm Community Connections Meeting	16 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife 6:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Leadership Meeting	17 Church Building Closed at 8pm
18 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	19 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice	20 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study 7:00pm - 9:30pm Consistory	21 Connections Deadline 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	22 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night 7:00pm - 9:00pm Cover to Cover Book Club	23 6:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Prayer Meeting 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	24 Church Building Closed at 8pm
25 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 9:45am - 10:45am Children & Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House Coffee & Breakfast 11:30am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	26 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Worship Life Meeting	27 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Book of Acts 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	28 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group	29 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	30 HHS Boys Swim + Dive Retreat 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	31 HHS Boys Swim + Dive Retreat Church Building Closed at 8pm



Trinity Consistory

Elders:

Gregg Harper, *Vice President*
Teresa Harrington
Dee Hubbard
Bob Koning
Lynda Simmons

Deacons:

Jay Lynn Wheeler, *Chair*
Matt Oom, *Clerk*
Warren Kooyers, *Treasurer*
Steve Lundy
Shirley Perez

Trinity Staff

Rev. Amanda Bakale, *Pastor*
Rev. Lydia Ribich, *Resident Pastor*
Hope Ward, *Assistant Treasurer*
Samantha Valentine, *Office Administrator*
Jim Allen, *Facilities Coordinator*
Dan Kruithof, *Custodian*

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hope@trinityrc.org
samantha@trinityrc.org
jhallen_48@yahoo.com
dan@trinityrc.org

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday | 9am to 1pm

After Hours Emergency Contact *Pastor Amanda | 616.402.4671*



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