



NEWSLETTER



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Contact

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church

www.stpaulplankinton.com
facebook.com/stpaul/plankinton
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Elders Justin Everson
Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

Vice President Marv Jira

LWML President .. Marlene Johnson

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Elders Scott Meier
Dan Guericke
David Bogenhagen

President Dean Suelflow

LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Brianna Bogenhagen
Ruth Circle



Send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at trinitywlsd@gmail.com.
Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon. Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thanks!

JANUARY 2022

(See more in the News sections on pages 2-3.)

Divine Worship Services

Sunday, January 2, 2022 — 8:30 a.m. at Trinity
Sunday, January 2, 2022 — 10:30 a.m. at St. Paul's

Joint Divine Worship Services

Saturday, January 8, 2022 — 6 p.m. at Trinity
Saturday, January 15, 2022 — 6 p.m. at St. Paul's
Saturday, January 22, 2022 — 6 p.m. at Trinity
Saturday, January 29, 2022 — 6 p.m. at St. Paul's
Saturday, February 5, 2022 — 6 p.m. at St. Paul's

Joint Youth Confirmation and Saturday School Classes

4:45 p.m. on the same dates and in the same locations as the Saturday Divine Worship Services listed above.

Release-Time Class

Trinity 2:15 p.m. Wednesdays

Bible Study — TBD

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – January 4, 2022, 2 p.m.
Trinity Ruth Circle – January 4, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – January 10, 2022, 2 p.m.

Serving the Lord's Church in JANUARY

TRINITY

Elder Dan Guericke
Ushers Dan Meier
Dean Suelflow
Acolytes

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Justin Everson
Ushers Kieth Albrecht, Jaylen Kemp, Josh Kemp
Altar Sandy Tuschen

Scripture Readings

Jan. 2 1 Kings 3:4-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52
Jan. 8 Isaiah 43:1-7; Romans 6:1-11; Luke 3:15-22
Jan. 15 Isaiah 62:1-5; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11
Jan. 22 Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10; 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a; Luke 4:16-30
Jan. 29 Jeremiah 1:4-10; 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13; Luke 4:31-44
Feb. 5 Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 14:12b-20; Luke 5:1-11

***Websites** – Visit the Services option on www.stpaulplankinton.com and www.trinitywhitelake.com for the weekly bulletin. Trinity's website also offers links for the live stream of their worship and the printed service that goes with each service. See the News link on both websites for archived newsletters and bulletins.

The **February 2022 newsletter** will be available on/after January 29, 2022. Articles are due January 25, 2022.

FROM OUR PASTORS

Pastor Charlie Adams. Due to health and family issues, Rev. Adams has resigned his call to be our resident vacancy pastor. He sends these greetings:

Dear friends in Christ,

We are extremely humbled and grateful as we celebrate the Lord's birth. Your kindness, caring and generosity fill us with joy by God's grace. Thank you for the many kind cards, calls, and gifts. Thank you for receiving us so warmly during the brief time I was able to be with you. Thanks for your prayers during my health crisis. Thanks most of all to God for His mercy and miracles, especially the miracle of the manger and empty tomb.

Cardiac rehab is going well. I'm getting stronger each week. We plan to come sometime in January to retrieve my belongings and hope to see many of you then.

May God bless and keep us all in His grace!

Pastor Charlie Adams

cell: 785-893-4387



Pastor Jens Jenson. *Was Jesus Born on December 25?*

December 25 is a good estimation, but Scripture does not articulate the exact day. Scripture tells us exactly when Jesus died, but not so in regards to His birth. The date of December 25 for celebrating the birth of Christ is quite old, extending back to the third century.

December 25th came about by looking at Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist. Zechariah served in the temple around the 8th month of the Jewish calendar which would have been between mid-October and mid-November.

At that time Elisabeth conceived John. The Virgin Mary visited Elisabeth when Elisabeth was six months pregnant. The angel Gabriel said to Mary in Luke 1, *And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.*

If we assume a date of October 25 for John's conception, then March 25 would be the sixth month of her pregnancy which would be the time the angel appeared to Mary and announced that she would be the mother of God. This would mean that Jesus was born close to December 25th. The exact date is not real important, but the fact that God took on flesh, was born of the Virgin Mary, and lived, suffered, and died for us. December 25th is a good estimation though.

Happy New Year!

In Christ,
Pastor Jens Jenson

ST. PAUL'S/TRINITY NEWS

At the Joint Congregational Meeting at St. Paul's December 29, 2021, Circuit Visitor Rev. Ryan Loeslie presented a plan for our parish vacancy to the 26 members in attendance. This plan was approved by consensus.

- **Rev. Jens Jenson**, Redeemer Armour, will serve as our vacancy pastor.
- Divine Services will be held jointly on **Saturday evenings at 6 p.m.** Worship will be held at St. Paul's prior to the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month. Worship will be held at Trinity prior to the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.
- Pastor Jenson's first service will be January 8, 2022.

January services:

- January 8: Trinity
- January 15: St. Paul's
- January 22: Trinity
- January 29: St. Paul's

Continued on page 3.

At this time, joint Confirmation (7th-8th grade students) and Saturday School classes will be held Saturdays at 4:45 p.m. at the same locations as the Divine Services.

Congregational leadership will work with Pastor Jenson to determine Nursing Home and shut-in visits and Bible classes. They will also work on a plan for Ash Wednesday and Holy Week services; it is not likely that we will have weekly Lenten services this year.

Pastor Loeslie stressed that flexibility is the key for this to work. He shared his idea of the benefits of following his presented plan:

- An opportunity for St. Paul's and Trinity members to worship/work together on a weekly basis.
- Based on previous attendance, there's plenty of room at each congregation to hold joint services.
- Hopefully increase attendance.
- To help a young pastor put on a few less miles.

He sees us as making incremental progress; that is, slow but always moving, and that this not turn into a permanent vacancy.

If you have questions, please contact the congregational presidents or elders.

Thank You. St. Paul's Lutheran Church would like to thank the members of both congregations from Plankinton St. Paul's and White Lake Trinity for all their help and support to repair the church parsonage. Also, thank you to Peace Lutheran Church of Brookings for their anonymous grant given to help pay for repairs to the parsonage. The support from all congregations has been greatly appreciated!



LIFE SUNDAY 2022 "GOD CHOSE YOU"

"God Chose You" is Lutherans For Life's theme for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which is set for January 23, 2022.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit (John 15:16).



Main Street Living January 2022

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit: www.mainstreetliving.com

January 2, 2022

10 a.m. **"The Other Wiseman"** — Another Magi, making his journey to the Christ child, encounters others and shows kindness along the way.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Bill Heermann, pastor at St John and Trinity Lutheran Churches in Wagner and Fairfax, presents a message titled "A Father's Love." This sermon is based on Luke 2:41-52.

January 9, 2022

10 a.m. **"Money for Marriage"** — A woman's decisions at work put strain on the new couple's marriage.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Kenneth Soyk, pastor at Faith and St. Peter Lutheran Churches in Parkston and Clayton, presents a message titled "Why would Jesus need to be baptized?". This sermon is based on Matthew 3:13-17.

January 16, 2022

10 a.m. **"Burden Made Light"** — The housekeeper helps a family through the struggle of an increasingly sick child.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Ryan Drevlow, pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD, presents a message titled "The Abundance of Presence." This sermon is based on Exodus 33:13.

January 23, 2022

10 a.m. **"Like Father Like Son"** — A father's example leads to his son making questionable choices at school.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Michael Saleminck, Executive Director of Lutherans for Life, presents a message for Life Sunday. The sermon is based on John 15:12-17.

January 30, 2022

10 a.m. **"Twisting Road"** — A young man and his wife deal with life, future, and regrets of things left unspoken.

(No pastor recorded yet)

2022 Divine Services with Vacancy Pastor Rev. Jens Jenson

January–June

Services will be held jointly on Saturday evenings at 6 p.m., starting January 8, 2022.

Worship will be held at St. Paul's prior to the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month.

Trinity will host prior to the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

SUN	M	T	W	Th	F	SAT
						Jan 1
2 1st S Jan	3	4	5	6	7	8 Trinity
9 2nd S Jan	10	11	12	13	14	15 St. Paul's
16 3rd S Jan	17	18	19	20	21	22 Trinity
23 4th S Jan	24	25	26	27	28	29 St. Paul's
30 5th S Jan	31	Feb 1	2	3	4	5 St. Paul's
6 1st S Feb	7	8	9	10	11	12 Trinity
13 2nd S Feb	14	15	16	17	18	19 St. Paul's
20 3rd S Feb	21	22	23	24	25	26 Trinity
27 4th S Feb	28	Mar 1	2 Ash W	3	4	5 St. Paul's
6 1st S Mar	7	8	9	10	11	12 Trinity
13 2nd S Mar	14	15	16	17	18	19 St. Paul's
20 3rd S Mar	21	22	23	24	25	26 Trinity
27 4th S Mar	28	29	30	31	Apr 1	2 St. Paul's
3 1st S Apr	4	5	6	7	8	9 Trinity
10 2nd S Apr	11	12	13	14	15 G Fr	16 St. Paul's
17 Easter	18	19	20	21	22	23 Trinity
24 4th S Apr	25	26	27	28	29	30 St. Paul's
1-May	2	3	4	5	6	7 Trinity
8 2nd S May	9	10	11	12	13	14 St. Paul's
15 3rd S May	16	17	18	19	20	21 Trinity
22 4th S May	23	24	25	26	27	28 St. Paul's
29 5th S May	30	31	June 1	2	3	4 St. Paul's
5 1st S June	6	7	8	9	10	11 Trinity
12 2nd S June	13	14	15	16	17	18 St. Paul's
19 3rd S June	20	21	22	23	24	25 Trinity
26 4th S June	27	28	29	30		



Report on The 62nd Regular Convention The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod December 5–7, 2021

The Sixty-Second Regular Convention of The South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) opened with a worship service at Sioux Falls Lutheran School on Sunday, December 5, with Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, Synod President, as preacher. The convention theme, “Rooted in Christ, Abounding in Thanksgiving,” based on Colossians 2:6-7, was woven through the next two days, as pastors, lay members, and special guests gathered for business and fellowship activities at the Sioux Falls Convention Center.

In his **Synod President’s Report**, President Harrison gave an update on the work of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod both in the United States and abroad, announced upcoming initiatives, and engaged in a Q&A session with the delegates. Rev. Michael W. Newman, President of the Texas District of the LCMS, was the **Convention Essayist**, and spoke of our “Gospel DNA,” tracing the roots of the LCMS and its founders to the solid truth of the Gospel and establishing key characteristics that are essential to continuing the work of bringing souls to Christ.

Elections. Rev. Scott C. Sailer of Sioux Falls was re-elected to serve a third term as President of the South Dakota District. Also re-elected were Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher, Pastor at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, and Rev. Timothy Rynearson, Senior Pastor at Peace Lutheran Church, Brookings, to their second terms as District First Vice-President and Second Vice-President respectively. Also elected to serve on the District Board of Directors were Rev. David Otten, Pastor at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Gettysburg and Christ Lutheran Church in Lebanon, as District Secretary; Mr. Kent Harnisch of Resurrection Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls as District Treasurer; and Mr. David Andrews of St. John Lutheran Church in Wagner, and Mr. David Zuercher of Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre as lay members.

President Sailer delivered his **District President’s Report** to the delegation with emphasis on the relevance of the convention theme to the work of the District and its congregations, as well as to the opportunities ahead. He reminded us that despite challenges, we have much for which to be thankful, and that our deep roots in the Gospel equip us to spread outward in witness, in love, and in mercy to

care for our neighbors and lead them to Christ, highlighting ways in which we can work together toward this end.

Business. Delegates voted on and adopted several resolutions during the convention. Among those were Resolutions 1-03 and 1-04, through which the District’s Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws were amended to implement a new procedure for electing the Vice-Presidents of the District; to account for new categories of membership in the Synod; and to account for Synod Convention action on a new definition of representation of congregations and parishes at meetings of the Synod and Districts by voting and advisory delegates. The adoption of Resolution 1-06 serves to realign the District’s electoral circuits in order to fulfill certain membership number requirements for circuits established in the Synod’s Bylaws and to bring some parishes, with congregations overlapping circuit lines, into the same circuit. The convention also ratified Resolution 2-01, which continues the agreement between the South Dakota District-LCMS with Lutheran Family Service, and Resolution 2-02, which continues support for Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram, missionary to Southeast Asia, and adds financial support for Rev. Dr. Cory Rajek, missionary to Eurasia, through Together in Mission. The adoption of Resolution 2-04 suspends the current Service Area structure and establishes a Mission and Ministry Council to explore new ways of providing support and ministry resources to churches, congregations, and schools. Delegates recognized the importance of church workers in the passage of Resolution 2-06, which encourages care for our church workers to promote [their](#) wellness, and Resolution 2-08, which encourages the recruitment of church workers through support from our congregations, schools, and laypeople.

Throughout the convention, delegates received greetings and information from several partner organizations and institutions. Numerous individuals, special ministries, and organizations were recognized with thanksgiving for their work in sharing the Gospel.

Please plan to be a part of the next South Dakota District Convention, which will take place February 16–18, 2025!

Mrs. Krista Erickson, Public Relations Director



WORD FROM THE CENTER

Welcome to “Word from The Center” MONDAY, a devotional word from the Center of our faith, Jesus Christ, with reflections on His Word. I’m Gregory Seltz. Today’s verses are Luke 2:25–26, where the Bible says, *Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.*

SOME THINGS IN LIFE ARE WORTH WAITING FOR!

People seem to be more impatient than ever today. We don’t like to wait for much of anything. Life today is often like this: “Let’s hit the drive thru, roll down the window, pick up the order of our choosing, and get on to the next thing.” The pandemic has increased our disconnectedness from people and surely challenged our patience anew. In a world of UBER EATS and SAME DAY DELIVERY, can there be any good in waiting? Or, can there be anything good worth waiting for?

Yes, even amidst the impatience of our age, there are some things worth the wait. We can endure waiting in traffic for the joy of getting home to our loved ones. We’ll wait in line for that must-have gift for our children each Christmas season. We’ll endure the wait when it’s for that new job offer, a good test result from a biopsy, or that special someone’s call because we are so excited just to hear their voice.

There are still things worth waiting for. And the more valuable that thing or person is, the more power we have to wait with joy, hope, and eager expectation. That’s what is going on in our Bible reading today. Simeon was a man who had learned the power of waiting with hope. Why? Because of the one for whom he waited. He was not waiting for a special trinket or even a special relationship, he was waiting for the Messiah, the one who would come to fulfill the promises of God. He awaited “the consolation of Israel” who is the Savior for all people.

Now it’s important to realize that this “waiting period” for Simeon wasn’t just a few years, or even a few generations either. Centuries earlier, the captivity of the Israelites in Assyria and Babylon, and the destruction of Jerusalem had left many believers in Israel not only waiting, but often times waiting with discouragement. In the midst of these

trying circumstances, Simeon was one who continued to wait faithfully because he knew that the God of Israel was the God who always fulfills His promises. You can hear his joy in his wonderful words that we often sing in church,

“Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel” (Luke 2:29-32).

Like the pregnant mother who forgets the “pain of waiting” when the child is born, like the proud father who endures the tough work of disciplining and leading his children because of the joy of seeing them grow and mature into fine adults, Simeon’s Christmas joy teaches us that there is ONE PERSON who is always worth the wait. May Simeon’s expecting, “confident of receiving” spirit be yours this coming New Year as you learn the power of faith which trusts in Christ and His Word in all circumstances.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, give us a faith that eagerly waits for You to answer prayer, that leans on Your Word to guide us in our lives when we might feel otherwise, and that eagerly trusts in Your promises to sustain us through all troubles. You are not only the consolation of Israel, You are our consolation and hope in all things. AMEN.



JANUARY 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Services will be held jointly on Saturday evenings at 6 p.m. beginning January 8, 2022. Worship will be held at St. Paul's prior to the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month. Trinity will host prior to the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.						1
2 2nd Sun. a. Christmas 8:30 a.m. TR Service 10:30 a.m. SP Service	3	4 2 p.m. TR Hope Circle 6:30 p.m. TR Ruth Circle	5	6 Epiphany	7	8 Baptism of Our Lord 4:45 p.m. Trinity Joint Confirmation Class 6 p.m. Trinity Joint Divine Service
9 Baptism of Our Lord 2nd Sunday of January	10 2 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle	11	12 2:30 p.m. TR Release-Time	13	14	15 Second Sunday Epiphany 4:45 p.m. St. Paul's Confirmation/Sat. School 6 p.m. St. Paul's Joint Divine Service 7 p.m. St. Paul's Voters
16 Second Sunday Epiphany 3rd Sunday of January	17	18	19 2:30 p.m. TR Release-Time	20	21	22 Third Sunday Epiphany 4:45 p.m. Trinity Confirmation/Sat. School 6 p.m. Trinity Joint Divine Service 7 p.m. Trinity Voters
23 Third Sunday Epiphany 4th Sunday of January Life Sunday	24	25	26 2:30 p.m. TR Release-Time	27	28	29 Fourth Sunday Epiphany 4:45 p.m. St. Paul's Confirmation/Sat. School 6 p.m. St. Paul's Joint Divine Service
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