

DECEMBER 2010

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
120 W. 7th St.
Tipton, IA 52772
Pastor Donnita Moeller
Office: 886-2991
Home: 886-3272
Secretary: Jodi Byrd
Home: 886-8173
Fellowship hall: 886-2712

Organists: Judy Bontz, Alan Daedlow,
Elaine Moes, Jan Penningroth
Choir Director: Susan Calloway
Janitor: Kae Linebaugh

MISSION STATEMENT: Trinity is a
community of Christ providing a
foundation of God's love to grow
and learn together.

Dear Trinity members and friends,

Stir up your power, Lord Christ in us
Stir up our hearts, Lord God,
Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God
Stir up your power, Lord Christ in us

These are words from Advent prayers. Notice the theme of asking God to stir us up. Sometimes it seems as if the darkness of our lives will consume us; personal or professional worries, economic crisis, ongoing wars, loss and grief. It is difficult to see the light of our individual or community lives. It can make us lethargic, without hope or direction.

This Advent hear the words of these prayers. See in the darkness, the Light of Christ and be renewed. The coming of the Christ child is more than just a pretty story with beautiful carols. Awaiting Christmas is a growing awareness of our darkness and the need for the Light.

In all of our Christmas preparations, may we prepare our hearts for the power of God among us.

Peace,
Pastor Donnita K. Moeller

May the Light of Christmas shine brightly in your hearts and lives. Merry Christmas to you all. Pastor Donnita, Ann and Meg

WORD AND WORSHIP

December brings us the beginning of a new church year with Advent. We'll spend these weeks learning what it means to wait for the Messiah..

The Christmas season begins on December 25th and lasts 12 days.

Sunday December 5- Time & Talent information will be introduced. Worship

Assisting Ministers will be commissioned during the service.
Sunday December 12- Time & Talent sign up will take place during worship. After worship we'll set up the Christmas tree.

Sunday December 19- the Children's Christmas program will be during worship.

Friday December 24- Christmas Eve
Candlelight at 4pm.

Saturday December 25- Christmas
morning worship at 9am.

Sunday December 26- First Sunday
after Christmas and Healing Service
with Anointing and Laying on of Hands.

December Worship Assistants

Dec 5

Greeter –Norene Boyle

Assistant- Deb Cook

Usher – Verna Kruse, Sandra Sturdy

Communion – Cleo Ferguson, Dolores

Kunde, Craig and Gail Mirfield

Acolyte – Hannah Owens

Cross- Leanne Rouse

Organist- Elaine Moes

Dec 12

Greeter – Gertrude Moeller

Assistant- Mike Pelzer

Usher- Kim and Noah Pelzer

Communion- Ellen Hanks, Eric Newton

Acolyte- Brady Koogler

Cross- Megan Moeller

Organist- Judy Bontz

Dec 19

Greeter-Darlene Peck

Ushers- Jill Holstein, Darlene Peck

Organist- Judy Bontz

Dec 26

Greeter- Gertrude Moeller

Assistant- Ellen Hanks

Usher- Cleo Ferguson, Beth Ahreans

Communion- Keith and Alma Chapman,

Betty and Bob Thumma

Acolyte – Cole Wehde

Cross- Kali Hein

Organist-Alan Daedlow

Locking/Unlocking Doors

Craig Mirfield 886-6048

Altar Guild

Rosemary McElhinney

Sharon Hein

Worship Assisting Ministers

On December 5th, Jodi Byrd will be
commissioned to assist in the Laying on
of Hands and Anointing services,
visiting the sick and shut-ins. Lisa
Schneklath will be commissioned to take
communion to shut-ins.

*Education during the month of
December will lead us to the Christmas
story.*

3 year olds- 6th grade will practice for
the Christmas program during part of
their Sunday School time. The program
will be held during worship on Sunday
the 19th.

The Adult class will study the book,
The First Christmas by theologian
Marcus Borg. We'll discuss the
historical, theological and literary
writing of the Gospel's stories of Jesus'
birth.

7th & 8th grade confirmation class will
not meet in December but watch for
information about a meeting on
Wednesday, January 5th.

LSI Christmas gifts for the children are
to be brought back to the church
unwrapped by Sunday December 5th.
Thanks for your participation.

The Christmas tree will be set up and
decorated on Sunday, December 12th
after worship. Please plan to stay and
help with the fun!

DISCIPLESHIP AND STEWARDSHIP

During Advent we are focusing on the gift that God gives in the birth of Jesus. This focus leads us to also remember our lives offered as a gift to God. Sharing our time, talents and treasures is our gift of thanks to the graciousness of God.

The Evangelism committee reminds us to invite a friend or neighbor to church during this holiday season.

WELCA

December 6 @ 7:00pm- Joint WELCA meeting at the church. Program & fellowship. Please bring cookies to pack for homebound members and friends. Please join us.

In meeting with some other Tipton church women, we have been very impressed with concern for and ministry to those who are victims of Domestic violence. We have been made aware that it is something we cannot ignore. The Iowa City shelter is where Cedar county seeks to help. We can help by supplying things they need. We will do more planning for this after Christmas, but in the meantime, here is some information on the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP)

The Iowa City Shelter serves over 400 people in a year. Others use the service but do not stay at the shelter. Statistics show that 1 out of 3 persons will be a victim of domestic violence. There are one or two new victims in Cedar county every week.

- They are open to church or other groups doing service projects at the shelter. Suggestions are: helping to clean (you'll ALL want to do that!), cooking with the clients (they have to prepare all of their own meals), Arts & Crafts such as knitting or crocheting or crafts with kids (they do have money to purchase craft

items). Just reading to the children-anything really!

- Some needed items: any gift card is appreciated but cards to K-mart or HyVee are the most convenient. (HyVee provides cooking staples and the cards can be used at the gas pumps so the mothers can get to work or apply for jobs)
- Bed pillows, twin size bedding are needed because clients take these with them when they leave to their new home. New underwear for children and adults, hand towels, large diapers sizes 4-5, sanitary pads, tampons, shampoo (no conditioner), staples for the kitchen like sugar and oil, etc, paper products such as toilet paper & paper towels and soap of any kind.

You can drop these items off at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, corner of Market St. & Dubuque St. Enter front doors and leave items in the closet area to the LEFT.

The Iowa City Domestic Violence Intervention Program can be reached at: 1-800-373-1043 or business number @ 319-351-1042

Youth group

Is selling calendars until Dec 5th for anyone who would like one. We will be meeting on Nov 28 to have a mini Thanksgiving meal together and watch Facing the Giants with our families. We also have been collecting toys for our toy drive.

The Stewardship committee will invite the congregation to respond to the Time & Talent information on Sunday December 12th. Information on the various projects, committees, activities will be given out the previous Sunday so that you will have time to pray and

consider where God is calling you in the ministry of Trinity. Posters will be on the walls in the church and you can put your name on the posters under the area that you would like to volunteer.

Participating in the ministry of Trinity is part of the gifts that we offer to God in thankfulness to God's grace.

E-offerings opportunity is now available at Trinity! If you would like to have your offering automatically withdrawn from your checking account, you can sign up now. See the brochure included in this newsletter.

2010 offering that you want recorded on your 2010 statement must be given by Sunday December 26th. All offering given after that date will be recorded on your 2011 statement. Thank you.

The Stewardship committee will meet on Sunday December 12th after worship to begin collating the Time & Talent information.

The Youth would like to thank you for your generous support of the Christmas Toy Drive. Toys will be given out on Saturday December 11th. If you know of anyone that needs help in purchasing toys for their children, please tell them about the toy drive.

Book Club will not meet in December but mark your calendars for Tuesday January 18th at 6:30pm when we will discuss, Cutting for Stone.

50th Anniversary for Keith & Alma Chapman will be celebrated on Sunday December 5th during Fellowship and during an Open House at the church from 1-4pm.

Property committee: Thank you to Eric Newton for power washing the church trim and Dick Hein & Les Schnekloth for painting the "shudders". Looks great.

Pastor will be on vacation December 27- January 2nd. In case of an emergency, contact her mother, Gertrude, at 886-3201.

Council highlights for November
Devotions by Pastor about Luther's statement of the Priesthood of all Believers.

Minutes and Treasurer's reports were accepted.

Committee reports:

Education/Youth: congregation will be asked to purchase gifts again for LSI children; middle/high school Sunday School class will sell Fair trade

Chocolate at Tipton's Tour of Lights

Stewardship: automated giving for offerings will be initiated

Wellness: Walk to Jerusalem will begin in January

Old Business

Jeff Byrd will install new gutters on the front of the church

New Business

Needed:

- new council members for election at annual meeting

- new website manager

discussed ways to purchase janitor supplies

Annual meeting has been set for January 16th after worship and a potluck.

Charline Thumm, secretary

The Annual meeting for Trinity will be help immediately following a potluck after worship on Sunday January 16th.

All Committee chairs are asked to have their reports into the church office by Tuesday, January 4th.

Remember in prayer: Lorna Seebeck, Kathy Lewis, Louise Morden, Edna Martin (Judi Hein's grandmother), Julie Paulson, Nancy Meyers, Jim Stahle (Lorna Seebeck's son-in-law), Marge Seebeck, Noel Van Deer, Irene Adams, Dan Wright, Pat Boedecker (Sharon Hein's friend), Ramona Bell (Kathy Daedlow's mother), Larry Bontz, Cheryl Stolte, Marvin Evers, Chuck McAtee (grandson of Wendell & Joanne Beckley), Wendell Beckley, Mbaga Lutheran church in Tanzania, Andy & Ginger Zoerb & family in Seminary.

December birthdays

1-Elizabeth Zoerb
4-Jason Stonerook
7-Evelyn Meier's
 Whitney Lewis
 Carolyn Belitz
12-Marvel Harmel
 Ron Belitz
 Deb Black
 Bob Thumma
13-Ruth Jennings
 Noah Pelzer
16-Rodney Albaugh
 Richard Timm
17- Dominic Mathias
18- Michael Black
19-Caleb Schnekloth
20-Helen Sissell
 Judy Bontz
21- Virginia Edens
23-Jenny Kruse
25-Cheryl Stolte
26-Lisa Schnekloth
28- Aubrianna Hein
29- Shawn Kleppe
30-Cristine Newton
 Keith Chapman

Brenda Emrich-Herring

LOCAL AND WORLDWIDE MISSIONS

Mission & Ministry- Our budget includes items for the ongoing ministry of our church and ministries around the world.
Receipts for
Expenses for

Circle of Support is a way for families who are struggling financially to find encouragement. Trinity will host this support group and their first meeting will be on Wednesday, December 1st at 7:00pm.

Toy Give Away for families who need help providing gifts for their children will be held on Saturday, December 11th at the church.

Thank you to the congregation from Wartburg Seminary for our continued support of Andy Zoerb. A check for \$250.00 was received and credited to his account.

Thank you to congregation for their generous offering of \$482.00 for ELCA Hunger Appeal and Mbaga Lutheran Church!

Financial Report

10-31 =\$2264.69
11-7 =\$3057.46
11-14 = \$1914.20
Auto =\$ 150.00
Loose =\$ 142.00
Sunday School =\$36.98
World Hunger = \$ 140.00
W.H. Special Offering=\$392.00
Food Pantry=\$10.00