

Parish Gazette

From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. William Ostrem

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God...

³ *A voice of one calling:*

"In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord"

-Isaiah 40:1-3 (abridged)

The season of Advent has begun and is upon us. These seasons of Advent through Christmas and Epiphany spark so many emotions. For many, it is a season of celebration and preparation of meals, family gatherings, and maybe a gift or two. For others, it is a time of remembrance and grief as friends and family are not present among us. As we begin to enter into the season, we know God is in the presence of it all. As we see the world rushing along, we can't help but to get "wrapped up" in it (pun intended).

Advent carries two simultaneous visions of our expectations: we await yet again the birth of the babe in the manger, and we also await Christ's coming again to fulfill all things. We often prepare for Advent by "getting ready": planning, organizing, and ordering supplies for various gatherings and worship services. Yet preparing for the coming of Christ is not a matter having everything under our control. Christ's arrival disrupts—disrupts everything in society and into the brokenness that we are deeply embedded in. -Sunday & Seasons

This year we will be looking at a series called *Make Ready for Holy Disruption: A Contemplative Advent*. I look forward to worshipping with you as we journey in our faith; individually, as a congregation, and as a parish.

November 27: Breathing

December 04: Releasing

December 11: Receiving

December 18: Rejoicing (Sunday School Christmas Program)

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Will



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Contact Information

Pastor Will Ostrem

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eaglespride@tds.net

Trinity Office

Monday/Wednesday 8:00-4:00

Tuesday 12:00-4:00

St Peter Office Hours

2nd & 4th Thursday 8:30-12:30

Visitations

Thursdays

Parish Assistant

Wendy Reinhardt

715-845-3530

trinitystettin@yahoo.com

Tuesday/Thursday 9:00-1:00

Trinitystettin.org

Follow us on Facebook:

@trinitystettin

@st peter elca

Mutual Ministry Committee

Jayme Buttke	608-338-6228
Haley Ellenbecker	715-571-2298
Perry Nikolai	715-216-7041
Amy Fromm	715-680-8414
Sheila Frey	715-443-2039
Werner Zuleger	715-443-2016

Birthdays And Anniversaries!



December Birthdays

		12-15	Marlo Krueger Reid Passehl
12-02	Vanessa Krueger	12-16	Gail Bloch
12-03	Jennie Voigt	12-18	Megan Powell
12-04	Fletcher Ellenbecker	12-19	Susan Mathwich Jared Powell
12-05	Chris Lynn Duane Mueller Holly Zuleger	12-20	Henry Buttke Brenda Steidinger
12-06	Blake Underwood	12-21	Alan Borchardt Ryker Matson Henry Voigt
12-07	Diane Johnson Dani Kulas	12-28	Cody Klockziem
12-09	Luke Mucha	12-29	Cale Hieronimus
12-10	Cory White	12-30	Coleton Bloch
12-11	Ed Zoborowski	12-31	Kris Klinger Audrey Mueller
12-14	Lyle Weise		

December Anniversaries

12-01-2018	Steve & Shelby Olm
12-03-1960	Allen & Karen Buttke
12-03-2016	Briah & Christopher Perry
12-07-1968	Edmund & Judy Hall
12-22-2006	Josh & Jennifer Passehl
12-29-2017	Ryan & Abby Behnke 5





December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship St Peter 8:30am Trinity 10:15am				1 Mid Week Svc 6:30pm	2 Youth Group Cookie Event 6-8pm Pastor Out →	3
4 Advent Youth Bake & Craft Sale	5 St Peter Council Meeting 6:30pm	6	7 Confirmation Trinity 6pm	8 St Peter Text Study 10am Mid-week Svc 6:30pm	9	10
11 Advent Mutual Ministry 4pm	12 Trinity Council Meeting 6:30pm	13 Quilting 1pm	14 Confirmation Trinity 6pm	15 Mid Week Svc 6:30pm	16 Newsletter Articles Due	17
18 Advent Children's Christmas Programs	19	20	21 No Confirmation	22 St Peter Text Study 10am Mid-week Svc 6:30pm	23	24 Christmas Eve St Peter 4pm Trinity 6pm
25 Christmas Day 9am Svc Trinity No Sun School	26 Pastor Vac →	27 No Women's Bible Study	28 No Confirmation	29 No Mid Week Svc	30	31 New Years Eve →



Trinity Church

December Volunteers

DATE	USHER/CARPORT	COMMUNION	LECTOR
December 4th 2nd Sun of Advent	Myron & Karen Totzke, Judy Nelsen	Pam Fromm	Myron Totzke
December 11th 3rd Sun of Advent	Duane & Audrey Mueller, Shari Parks	Denny Bowen	Tim Buttke
December 18th 4th Sun of Advent	Perry & Connie Nikolai, Robert Dehnel	Perry Nikolai	Candyce Krautkramer
December 24th Christmas Eve 6pm	Richard & Janice Hawley, Jim Werner, Jim Wiedeman	Richard Hawley	Richard Hawley
December 25th Christmas Day 9am	Mike Buttke, Sandy Utecht, Renae Wesolowski	Mike Buttke	Jayme Buttke



St. Peter's Church

DATE	ACOLYTE	BELL RINGER	LECTOR	COM-MUNION	USHER / CARPORT
December 4th 2nd Sun of Advent	Jacob Mathwich	Bill Mueller	Val Stubbe	Amy Fromm	Bill & Rita Mueller
December 11th 3rd Sun of Advent	Brett Dehnel	Scott Grund	Linda Zernicke	Jacie Dehnel	Craig & Becca Klumpyan
December 18th 4th Sun of Advent	Ben Winter	Susan Thurs	Mary Kickbusch	Mary Kickbusch	Jennifer Fehlhaber Eugene Fehlhaber
December 24th Christmas Eve 4pm	Aiden Klinger	Bill Mueller	Linda Zernicke	Bill & Rita Mueller	Linda & Lyle Zernicke

Announcements



Thank you to
Shaun Mathwich
for donating his time and
talent to place new LED
lighting on the
St Peter steeple cross.
It shines so beautifully now!
Thank you!

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards are available for purchase in the entry way at Trinity Church.

The Women's Bible Study thanks you in advance for your support!

Any questions, please contact
Bernice Steidinger (715-443-2951)
or
Gerri Loy (715-551-2608).

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Trees are up at both St. Peter and Trinity Churches. For the past 12 years we have provided clothes, hygiene products, household items and toys to youth and their families in Lincoln, Langlade, and Marathon counties. Many of these youth would not have anything to open on Christmas Day without your generosity!!!

Haley Ellenbecker will be coordinating the Giving Tree again this year and is also available to do your shopping for you if you would like to contribute, but not shop. Please contact Haley with any questions or to donate/purchase at (715) 571-2298 or wicksinthewoods@gmail.com.

**Please have all gifts (wrapped or unwrapped) back to your church by Sunday, December 11th at your worship time.
Thank you!**



SCRIPT CARDS DEADLINE

If you have any special gift cards you wish to order before the end of the year, please contact Dave Pickruhn 715-257-7623 or Susan Thurs 715-443-2426 **by December 4th.**





Bake & Craft Sale

WHAT: FUNDRAISER
WHEN: **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022**
WHERE: TRINITY CHURCH
WHO: BENEFITS THE YOUTH GROUP



The Youth Group is asking for donations for the annual Bake & Craft Sale. Please have all donations to Trinity Church prior to the 10:15am Worship Service with prices on them.

Thank you in advance for your donations & purchases!

Bonnie Blake has accepted the organist position at St Peter Church. We are excited to have her share her talents with us. Please take the time to introduce yourself and welcome Bonnie to St Peter's church family.



Geraldine will no longer be organizing the Bingo fundraiser. St Peter Church has been doing Bingo at the Athens Fair since 2014. It has been a very successful fundraiser for the church. Anyone interested in taking over or even co-chairing with someone, please contact Geraldine **by December 18th** as the Athens Fair Board needs to be informed of the intentions of St Peter Church for 2023.

Geraldine can be contacted at 715-536-5429 or ggvoigt50@gmail.com).

Job Opportunity

The Director position for the Greater Wausau Christian Services is still in need of filling.

The ideal candidate would have ministry experience, and a heart for those in nursing homes, assisted living and jail facilities. The focus of our director is to provide Bible study and lead worship, along with developing relationships with eldercare and jail personnel. This is a paid position and has a flexible schedule of approximately 32 hours a week. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please contact the GWCS office at: 715-842-5635 or gwcs@mail.com



Mutual Ministry Committee

The Mutual Ministry Committee is a confidential place for Pastor and committee members to share topics of interest. We encourage congregation members to share their concerns or ideas with Pastor or any committee member. Whether we are looking at current or future plans this is our sounding board to review those items. We welcome all communication.

Jayne Buttke	608-338-6228
Haley Ellenbecker	715-571-2298
Perry Nikolai	715-216-7041
Amy Fromm	715-680-8414
Sheila Frey	715-443-2039
Werner Zuleger	715-443-2016

Please check out the beautiful addition to
Trinity's Education Building

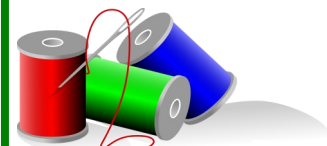


Mark 10:13-16 New International Version

The Little Children and Jesus(A)

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.^(B) ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."^(C) ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms,^(D) placed his hands on them and blessed them.

Do you like to quilt? If interested in joining the quilters group, come to Trinity's Education Building on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1pm. We would love to have you join us!



Text Study at St. Peter

Come and join the Text Study Group at St Peter church!

We meet every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 10am in the fellowship hall.

Conversations on the upcoming Sunday scripture readings are discussed.



Women's Bible Study

On the 4th Tuesday of each month, the Women's Bible Study will be held at 1:00pm in Trinity's Education Building.

All women from Trinity and St Peter are welcome and encouraged to attend. We hope you can join us!

Join us for Worship...

Sunday Mornings:

St Peter 8:30am
Trinity 10:15am

Thursday Evenings:

Trinity 6:30pm (joint service)

Christmas Eve Services:

St Peter 4pm
Trinity 6pm

Christmas Day Service:

Trinity 9am (joint service)



Merry Christmas!



Youth Page



This is the place to find out what is happening in Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth group, and the exciting things they are involved in.

YOUTH CONTACTS



Confirmation

Bill Buttke	715-842-3649	buttkewn@frontier.com
Mike Buttke	608-515-3931	mike.buttke@gmail.com
Pastor Will	715-571-2750	eaglespride@tds.net

St. Peter Parish Education Committee

Kristen Winter:	715-821-0160	kristenmw18@gmail.com
Rebecca Klumpyan:	715-581-5027	rmklumpyan@gmail.com

Youth Group Committee

Lisa Hieronimus	715-574-0027	hieronimus98@yaho.com
Mike & Jayme Buttke	608-338-6228	jaymelou.buttke@gmail.com; mike.buttke@gmail.com
Susan Mathwich	715-573-6906	ssmath4@hotmail.com

Trinity Parish Education Committee

Jayme Buttke:	608-338-6228	jaymelou.buttke@gmail.com
Jessi Utecht:	715-573-9925	jessiatecht@hotmail.com
Heidi Seefeldt:	715-370-2677	hhall384@aol.com
Krystle Gertschen	715-297-0756	kgertschen@gmail.com

YOUTH GROUP

**** DON'T FORGET ****

On Sunday, December 4th, Trinity is having their annual bake and craft sale. Funds from this sale will be donated to the youth group for future events. So, to help support this event and participate as a youth group we are going to make Christmas cutout/ sugar cookies to sell at the bake sale.

We are going to meet **on Friday, December 2nd at Trinity from 6:00-8:00pm** to frost and decorate cookies! We'll provide supper, cookies, frosting and decorating supplies. We just need you to bring your appetite and willingness to have fun... and maybe your sweet tooth to enjoy a few of the cookies! Hope you can join us for this sweet event!

We may also work on putting together a little holiday care package for some of our shut-in members from both churches.



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES

TRINITY

Each Sunday School family should have received an Advent calendar from the Parish Ed Committee in mid-November. We are hopeful that each family will take the time to celebrate the season of Advent, beginning at the end of November, by following the calendar and following the journey of Jesus' birth.

The Children's Christmas Program "12 symbols of Christmas" will be presented on Sunday, December 18th during the 10:15am worship service. We will have a dress rehearsal for the Christmas Program on Saturday, December 17th from 9-11am.



There will be No Sunday School classes on December 25, January 1, and January 8 for winter break. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 15, 2023.

ST PETER



Christmas program

St. Peter's Sunday School children will present "Signs of Christmas" during the Sunday church service on Dec. 18. The congregation is invited to join in fellowship and enjoy some yummy baked goods and coffee following the service.

Donations sought

St. Peter's Sunday School children need a few props for the Christmas program. If anyone is able to lend the following items for use on Saturday, Dec. 17, and Sunday, Dec. 18, we would greatly appreciate it. Please let Kristen Winter or Becca Klumpyan know if you have any of these items and would let the Sunday School use them for the Christmas program as soon as possible.

- Christmas wreath (not too large for a 5-year old to carry)
- Large wooden cross (preferably about 3 feet tall)
- Large candle

Family reminders

The Sunday School children will have a dress rehearsal on Saturday, Dec. 17, for our Christmas program from 9 to 11 a.m. Please plan on having your child attend this final practice. In addition, each family is asked to bring two dozen cookies or some sort of baked good on Saturday to be served to the congregation following the program on Sunday.

There are NO Sunday School Classes on December 25 and January 1 for winter break. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 8th.

CONFIRMATION

Just a reminder:

There are NO confirmation classes on December 21, December 28, and January 4 for winter break.

Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 6pm at St Peter Church.

Council Updates

These are summaries of the minutes from all council meetings. If you would like a copy of the complete minutes for either church, please contact a council member.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Summary November 1, 2022

October 2022

General Fund: \$22,234.02

Income: \$17,234.62

Memorial Fund: \$42,365.04

Expenses: \$12,413.50

Pastor's Report:

- A joint Funeral Book has been completed and distributed to both Trinity & St. Peters.
- Theological Conference focused on Advent. Pastor will use ideas garnered to build our advent services.
- First Communion will be November 13th.
- Accept the transferring members. Pastor is working to welcome the Kleist and Oelhafen families to the congregation.

Old Business:

- Property committee – Gary Carr reports completed asphalt work... No handicapped car painting will be done until 2023.
- Copier - New machine will arrive next Wednesday (*has arrived*). Color will be an option.
- Building Loan – Bill Buttke reports loan has been updated and good until July 1, 2023.

New Business:

- Joint Council with St. Peters is set for Tuesday, November 8th at 6:30 PM at St. Peters.
- Salary changes for Wendy and pastor were discussed. .
 - *Wendy provided a report of her work hours for the year with 20.75 as the average per week. More hours were accrued on behalf of St. Peter's projects.
 - *The Synod recommends a 5-6% raise for pastors with Pastor Will's experience.
 - *The recommendation is in excess of Trinity's budget for 2023.

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY November 7, 2022

Pastors Report:

- 1st Call Gathering (Nov 13-15). Pastor will be out of the office.
- Funeral Planning Guide – Suggested to include note about All Saints Sunday.
- 1st Communion – Scheduled for 11/13/22. 5 families participating. Collecting letters and thoughts to share with group.

Old Business:

- Property Committee – John Stubbe, Roger Borchardt (Kevin & Brad), Shaun Mathwich and Bob Fromm have all agreed to help. Need to add order of calls to procedures. Scott is working on this.
- Member Mailboxes – Will not be started until later in the year/early next year.
- Organist – Bonnie Blake has officially started

New Business:

- Christmas Committee – Stubbe and Thurs families—list was in Annual Report. Will add to bulletin and Scott will call John Stubbe.
- Newsletter deadline – November 18th
- 2023 Budget – Review for next council meeting
- 11/06/22 Service – Congregation raised questions related to the role of the Assistant Minister during yesterday's service. Need to provide more detail about this role going forward.
- Amazon Smile – Gives dollars back to charitable organizations based on personal settings. Church can be set up as an organization. Council approves, need to determine how to get it set up. Once Church is set up send note to congregation on how to set up when using Amazon.
- Pastor was dismissed so that the council could discuss 2023 Salary Adjustments.

**TRINITY/ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH
JOINT COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY
November 8, 2022**

Mutual Ministry – Reviewed proposed expectations. Approved. Will need a church council member elected from both churches for 2023. Next meeting 12/11/22 @ 4:00 at Trinity.

Pastors Report:

- Newsletter deadline – November 18th.
- 1st Communion – Communion table will be used instead of alter.
- Funeral Planning Guide – Suggested to include note about All Saints Sunday.

Old Business:

- New Desktop and Printer – Purchased new desktops for both Pastor Will and Wendy. New printer can make color copies but both councils declined switching to color.

New Business:

- Christmas Schedule – St. Peter's has early service, Trinity has late service Christmas Eve. Christmas day is Sunday, no need for 2 services.
- 2023 Alternating Worship Service Schedule – (Council suggested) Lent rotation with other pastors would be preferred if it works. Soup Supper is determined by the individual churches.
- 2023 Salary Adjustment for Parish Assistant Wendy Reinhardt – Council proposed a \$1.00 per hour increase.
- 2023 Salary Adjustment for Pastor Will Ostrem – Council proposed a 3% increase.

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Trinity—St. Peter ELCA Parish
232280 120th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401-5443

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Trinity Council

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Mike Buttke—Vice President
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Duane Mueller—Secretary
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