



JANUARY 2023

NEWSLETTER



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Contact

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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.stpaulplankinton.com

605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Marv Jira

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.trinitywhitelake.com

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605-249-2333

Elders Dan Guericke
David Bogenhagen

President Dean Suelflow

LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Brianna Bogenhagen
Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Joint Divine Worship Service Schedule for January

Sunday, January 1, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, January 8, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, January 15, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, January 22, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, January 29, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's

Christian Education

Joint Bible Study – Book of 1 Peter 6 p.m. at the same location as the Joint Divine Service.

Joint Confirmation Class — same location as the Joint Divine Service, 3:45 p.m.

Trinity Release-Time — Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – No meeting in January.

Trinity Ruth Circle – January 4, 2023, 6 p.m.

St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – January 6, 2023, 11:30 a.m.,

Christmas Party at Commerce Street Grille.

Annual Meetings

St. Paul's Voters — Sunday, January 15, 2023, 6 p.m.

Trinity Lutherans For Life — Sunday, January 22, 2023, 6 p.m.

Trinity Voters — Sunday, February 15, 2023, 6 p.m.

Serving the Lord's Church in JANUARY

TRINITY

Elder Dan Guericke

Ushers Dan Meier

Dean Suelflow

Acolytes Brant Bogenhagen

Mataya Kahler

Altar Jane Guericke

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Justin Everson

Ushers Kieth Albrecht

Josh Kemp

Acolyte Jett Kemp

Altar Sandy Tuschen

Scripture Readings

Jan. 1 Numbers 6:22–27; Galatians 3:23–29; Luke 2:21

Jan. 8 Isaiah 42:1–9; Romans 6:1–11; Matthew 3:13–17

Jan. 15 Isaiah 49:1–7; 1 Corinthians 1:1–9; John 1:29–42a

Jan. 22 Isaiah 9:1–4; 1 Corinthians 1:10–18; Matthew 4:12–25

Jan. 29 Micah 6:1–8; 1 Corinthians 1:18–31; Matthew 5:1–12

The **February 2023 newsletter** will be available on/after January 29, 2023.

Articles are due Tuesday, January 24, 2023.

Please send newsletter and 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. Thank you!

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

On Your Mark! Get Set! Open Your Bibles!

Many Christians have considered challenging themselves to read through the Bible in one year. Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is offering you that very opportunity! The Gospel Outreach Committee has created a monthly reading plan to guide you.

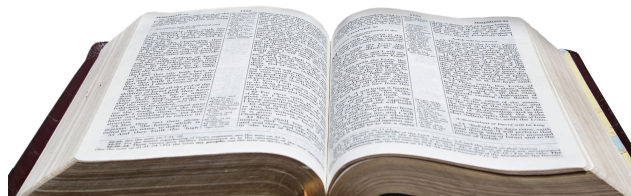


2023 JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 Genesis 1–2 Psalm 1 Luke 5:27–39	02 Genesis 3–5 Psalm 2 Luke 6:1–26	03 Genesis 6–7 Psalm 3 Luke 6:27–49	04 Genesis 8–10 Psalm 4 Luke 7:1–17	05 Genesis 11 Psalm 5 Luke 7:18–50	06 Genesis 12 Psalm 6 Luke 8:1–25	07 Genesis 13–14 Psalm 7 Luke 8:26–56
08 Genesis 15 Psalm 8 Luke 9:1–27	09 Genesis 16 Psalm 9 Luke 9:28–62	10 Genesis 17 Psalm 10 Luke 10:1–20	11 Genesis 18 Psalm 11 Luke 10:21–42	12 Genesis 19 Psalm 12 Luke 11:1–28	13 Genesis 20 Psalm 13 Luke 11:29–54	14 Genesis 21 Psalm 14 Luke 12:1–31
15 Genesis 22 Psalm 15 Luke 12:32–59	16 Genesis 23 Psalm 16 Luke 13:1–17	17 Genesis 24 Psalm 17 Luke 13:18–35	18 Genesis 25 Psalm 18 Luke 14:1–24	19 Genesis 26 Psalm 19 Luke 14:25–35	20 Genesis 27:1–45 Psalm 20 Luke 15	21 Genesis 27:46–28:22 Psalm 21 Luke 16
22 Genesis 29:1–30 Psalm 22 Luke 17	23 Genesis 29:31–30:43 Psalm 23 Luke 18:1–17	24 Genesis 31 Psalm 24 Luke 18:18–43	25 Genesis 32–33 Psalm 25 Luke 19:1–27	26 Genesis 34 Psalm 26 Luke 19:28–48	27 Genesis 35–36 Psalm 27 Luke 20:1–26	28 Genesis 37 Psalm 28 Luke 20:27–47
29 Genesis 38 Psalm 29 Luke 21	30 Genesis 39 Psalm 30 Luke 22:1–38	31 Genesis 40 Psalm 31 Luke 22:39–71				



You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore (Psalm 16:11).





Science Walks by Sight

With the beginning of a new year, I thought it would be appropriate to talk about the beginning of all things. In the beginning the Triune God created all things from nothing. The entire universe with everything in it was created in six days. You do not have to be a Christian to know that someone made everything. Creation bears witness to the fact that God made all things. Where there is a building there is an architect and builder. This truth we observe every day. It would be unreasonable/unscientific to say that the pyramids came about by random, chaotic processes over great expanses of time (Yet, the atheist asserts that the cell, which is leaps and bounds more complex than any structure, came about from chaos and randomness).

For the most part, our schools and universities teach as *undeniable fact* that there is no God, everything came from nothing (*Big Bang*), life came from non-life, order came from chaos, complexity came from randomness, etc. These are not only contradictions, but they are also contrary to everything we observe in our world. We observe that something causes something else, life comes from life, order and complexity come from a maker. Science walks by sight, that is, we gain knowledge through our observation of the world. What is being popularly taught in our nation's schools is not science, but the religion of atheism. Science, what we observe in our world, bears witness to the truth that there is a creator and that there is order, purpose, good, and evil.

Where do you think justice and morality come from? They do not come from a random, unguided, chaotic universe, but they come from a just and good Creator. You do not have to be a Christian to know it is wrong to cheat on your spouse, murder, steal, bear false-witness, etc. The Creator's law is written on man's heart. If we did come from a non-living, primordial soup, then

we should not have any sense of justice or morality. There would just be the survival of the fittest. This is in line with the religion of atheism which says that you have no purpose and there is no good or evil. Popular atheist Richard Dawkins sums up the atheist religion well when he said, "The universe we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil and no good, nothing but blind, pitiless indifference." Everything he says is contrary to science, that is, contrary to what we actually observe on a day-to-day basis, but in full agreement with atheism.

Atheism says human life has no inherent value, your life has no purpose, there is no good or evil, etc. No wonder the communist nations (which are atheists) had no problem slaying millions of their own people. The atheists will admit that everything looks designed, but they cannot accept that because then they would have to admit that there is a Creator who caused all things to be and to Whom they are accountable. What they promote as science is unreasonable and not science. It is contrary to what we observe. **What is being taught in our schools and pushed on our children as undeniable science is really nothing but the religion of atheism.** Science bears witness that there is a God and God's Word reveals who He is.

- ✚ John 1, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men ... ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*
- ✚ Job 26, *⁷ He stretches out the north over the void and hangs the earth on nothing ... ¹⁰ He has inscribed a circle on the face of the waters at the boundary between light and darkness.*



Main Street Living January 2023

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

January 1, 2023

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. Daniel Grimmer, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Mitchell, presents a message titled “Whack-a-Mole Jesus.” This sermon is based on Matthew 2:13–23.

January 8, 2023

10 a.m. — **“Senior Citizen”** A man struggles with purpose and a place in life after retirement.

10:30 a.m. — Vicar Joseph Greenmyer, of Zion Lutheran Church in Mitchell, presents a message titled “The Education of our Lord.” This sermon is based on Luke 2:41–52.

January 15, 2023

10 a.m. — **“The Deadly Pen”** A businessman struggles with the guilt of another man’s death.

10:30 a.m. — Rev. Brian Lemcke, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Delmont, presents a message titled “The Things We Seek.” This sermon is based on Matthew 4:12–25.

January 22, 2023

10 a.m. — **“Live Option”** A 15-year-old pregnant daughter and her mother disagree on the future of her child.

10:30 a.m. — TBA, after this episode is recorded.

January 29, 2023

10 a.m. — **“Transition”** A young boy reacts to the reality of a divorce of his parents and the new reality he now faces.

10:30 a.m. — TBA, after this episode is recorded.

SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY

January 22, 2023

In observance of this day, **Trinity Lutherans For Life** will be placing an insert in the bulletin and taking a free-will collection after the Divine Service on that day. The collection will be used for ongoing Trinity LFL projects. They will also hold their Annual Meeting following the Divine Service. Everyone is welcome!



LWML Convention

LWML is meeting in convention June 22–25, 2023 to hear from mission grant recipients and learn how God is using them to share His love both near and far. Registration for the 40th Biennial Convention of the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) opens January 9, 2023. The Winter Issue of the *Lutheran Woman’s Quarterly* includes information to walk you through the exclusive online registration process (early registration fees apply). The 16-page insert contains information you will need to plan your attendance at the 40th Biennial Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The LWML South Dakota District is planning a bus for easy transportation. Contact the bus coordinator, Colleen Keiser, for more information. colleen.keiser@gmail.com

STAY IN TOUCH

Websites

www.stpaulplankinton.com

www.trinitywhitelake.com

Links for the bulletin, printed service, and for the YouTube recording are updated weekly under the Services tab!

Email

trinitywlsd@gmail.com

- Submit newsletter and bulletin articles.
- Update a prayer request.
- Request a digital copy of the newsletter.

Social Media

facebook.com/trinitywhitelake

Recordings of Divine Services

Available on the YouTube channel,
Trinity White Lake.



WORD FROM THE CENTER – December 26, 2022

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 verse is **John 8:12: *When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”***

BEHOLD, THE ONLY LIGHT THAT SHINES “FOR YOU”

A blessed Christmas Day and Season to you all. I’m so very glad that NOTHING in this world can ultimately prevent the message of the good news of our Savior from being proclaimed year in and year out. Jesus reminds us, **“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away”** (Matthew 24:35). That same Jesus tells us today that He, and He alone, is THE light of the world. Dear Jesus, shine brightly into our hearts, and into our world!

In our culture, I’m thankful that the whole Advent/Christmas time is still a time for lights, aren’t you? That’s one thing that hasn’t been cancelled yet. People still string up their houses, bushes, and trees. They fill the neighborhood with light virtually every night from Thanksgiving to New Year’s Day. Yvette, Devin, and I especially enjoy driving around neighborhoods with a cup of hot cider enjoying the lights. One of my favorite pictures is when the lights are beaming with a muffled glow, piercing even the snow cover of a winter storm. Lights shining in the darkness, lights overcoming snow cover, light’s power piercing through the storm -- all of that shows light’s power to bless.

Jesus reminds us today that He doesn’t just “represent” light in our lives. He IS the light of the world for all who live in darkness. He shines to expose our need for Him (piercing through the world’s ultimate darkness), but, more importantly, He shines to provide a way home, and to invite us HOME with Him. He’s the light of the world, the light that overcomes the darkness and CALLS US HOME TO GOD IN HIM. THAT’S

HIS AUDACIOUS CLAIM -- HE IS THE REAL LIGHT OF THIS WORLD.

Revealing light and saving light show us THE light of the world at work in our world. Oh, don’t miss His light this Christmas. See Him as He really is because Jesus is the only light that shines “for you” for the things that really matter, both now and forever. No political light, no relationship light, no economic light, no identity light, nor any “stature in community” light can shine like His light for your life and salvation.

Natural light is a pretty amazing thing. In a time of “manufactured light,” we often take natural light for granted. Natural light reveals the world to us. Body and soul crave it. Light sets our biological clocks. It triggers in our brains the sensations of color. Light feeds us, supplying the energy for plants to grow. It inspires us with special effects like rainbows and sunsets. Light gives us life-changing tools, from incandescent bulbs to lasers and fiber optics. Scientists don’t fully understand what light is or what it can do. They just know that it IS ESSENTIAL TO LIFE AND THAT IT will illuminate our future.

ALL OF THAT PROVIDES JUST A GLIMPSE OF WHO JESUS IS FOR YOU! He declares, “I am the light of the world,” and He shines forth to give you the light of eternal life.

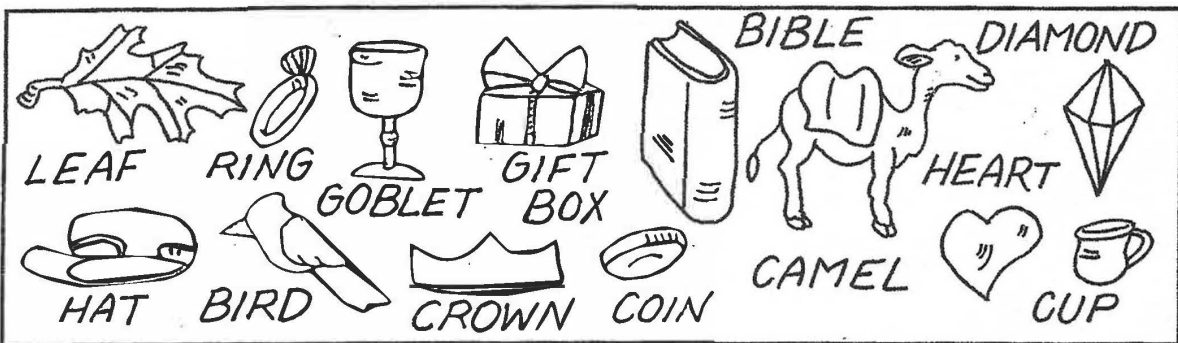
PRAYER: Dear Jesus, may this Christmas and Epiphany Season open up my heart to see my need for You. Then grant me faith to trust in You as the light of my life now and forever. AMEN



What did the wise men give Jesus?



They brought gifts for Jesus!



What is myrrh?








The wise men worshiped Jesus.
 They gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Find and circle the objects hidden in the picture.



January 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  Circumcision and Name of Jesus Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	2	3	4 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time 6 p.m. TR Ruth Circle 	5	6 Epiphany 11:30 a.m. SP Dorcas Circle Christmas, at  Commerce	7
8  The Baptism of Our Lord Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	9	10	11 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	12	13	14
15  Second Sunday after Epiphany Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. SP Voters Meeting	16	17	18 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	19	20	21
22  Sanctity of Life Sunday Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. TR Lutherans For Life Meeting	23	24	25 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	26	27	28
29  Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	30	31	<i>In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it (Luke 1:4-5).</i>			

Pastor Jenson out of the office.