

Trinity

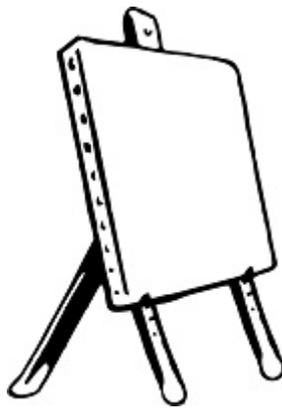
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
1314 E Lexington Blvd • Eau Claire WI 54701-6434
2019, January Newsletter—Vol. LXV No. 001



Drawn to the Word

On Sunday, January 6, you are invited to a special worship and artistic experience, “Drawn to the Word,” at Trinity’s 9:45 A.M. worship service. Within the hour of worship, artist and pastor Paul Oman will paint a larger-than-life sized mural before our eyes, inspired by the gospel text and worship unfolding around him. The mural will then remain at Trinity to enjoy for years to come. We are grateful to Mary & Ed Elworthy who are sponsoring this event in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. A reception in the Trinity Room will follow the worship, featuring food, fellowship, and a gallery of 20–30 of Paul’s paintings. All are welcome!

Paul Oman, artist and pastor, shares his “Drawn to the Word” artistic ministry with audiences ecumenically across the country. He served as a science teacher, then Lutheran pastor when, in 2011, he took up work as an artistic pastor full-time. Paul seeks to give new vision to God’s Word by using the process of painting to captivate audiences in our visually oriented culture. Painting and drawing have been a part of Paul’s life since childhood. Receiving national and international recognition for his work in watercolor, Paul uses this gift to proclaim the Gospel in unique and powerful ways that impact lives and inspire mission.



Baptism Celebration

Don’t miss the Baptism celebration in worship on Sunday, January 13, and Wednesday, January 16, when we look back at photos of those baptized at Trinity in 2018! We’re going to read about Jesus’ Baptism and see how it has an important message for our lives today. Come to worship and hear again the news of Jesus’ Baptism and how it applies to your life!

Noah's Ark Preschool Open House

All interested families are invited to attend our Preschool Open Houses on Sunday, January 27, at 10:45 A.M. following the Noah’s Ark Sunday worship, and Monday, January 28, at 6:00 P.M. Visit the Noah’s Ark classroom, learn about the Noah’s Ark program, ask questions, and gather 2019–2020 school year registration information. You will meet Marlee Knickerbocker, the Noah’s Ark Preschool Director, along with teachers Jill Kasmarek and Cassie Brenden. Members of the 2019 Noah’s Ark Preschool Committee, who are Noah’s Ark parents, will also be available to share their family experiences at Noah’s Ark and answer parent questions. Registration will open to Trinity members on Tuesday, January 29, at 8:00 A.M. Brochures for the 2019–2020 school year will be available in the Trinity Lobby and throughout the building. It is also available online at trinity-ec.org

Good God Books

On Tuesday, January 22, at 6:00 P.M. in the Fireside Room, join Pastor Brahm to talk about the book “Take This Bread” by Sara Miles. It’s a book about Miles’ conversion to faith, the importance of communion, and her work in feeding the hungry.



Lead Pastor Search Process

There are three things that all of you can assist with in regard to our search process for the new Lead Pastor:

1. The January 6 deadline is fast approaching to submit applications for service on the Call Committee. Applications are available on Trinity's website, in the church office, and near the bulletin board in the church lobby. If you have questions related to potential service on the Call Committee or its work, please contact me as I will happily visit with you about this opportunity. If you know of someone whom you believe would make a great member of this committee, I would ask that you share the name with Tami Satre, our congregation president, or me in order that we can follow up with invitation to that person to prayerfully consider submitting an application. The Call Committee will consist of six members of Trinity and will be appointed by our church council.
2. Lead Pastor Candidate names are now being accepted. Perhaps you know of a very effective pastor who you believe might have the qualifications to be considered as a candidate for Trinity. In addition to the synod office, the congregation will be a key source in providing names of potential candidates. There are nomination forms for Pastoral Candidates available online, in the Trinity church office, and in the lobby. I encourage you to fill out this form and submit at your earliest convenience. This form simply requires minimal basic information which will establish some key reference points for the individual identified, allowing for our Synod Bishop's office to follow up in a confidential manner to assist the Call Committee in vetting the candidate for possible consideration. Please note that the Call Committee will be unable to keep the submitter informed as to any specific communication with, or consideration of, any individual candidate in respect for the strict confidence required in this process of dealing with names received.
3. We will be undergirding the entire process with prayer and ask all members to provide ongoing Prayer Support toward every component of this important process.

Trinity is a vibrant, active, committed and exciting congregation. I am confident that God has already identified the right person for this lead pastor role, and it is through prayerful diligence throughout this important process that will discern that divine selection!

Peace and love in Christ to each and every one of you as God's plan unfolds for 2019!

Brian Mortenson
Interim Lead Pastor



January Spice Drive

Myrrh is mentioned in the New Testament as one of the three gifts the wise men brought to Jesus when he was born (Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh). Myrrh is a spice that has many uses including as a fragrance and as a flavoring in food products. One of the things rarely donated to food pantries is spices and food seasonings. To mark the arrival of the three wise men and highlight this need in the food pantry, Children's Ministries will hold a spice drive during the month of January. See the display in the lobby for more information. Please bring UNOPENED spices and food seasonings to donate to the Trinity Food Pantry.

Recycle

You can recycle plastic and paper bags, but don't put them in your recycling bin! Drop them off at the Trinity Food Pantry. We are in need of both plastic and paper bags. Thank you!

Sharing at Christmas

Thank you to all who shared the spirit of generosity and love this Christmas. Because of your generosity, we were able to distribute toys, jackets, snowpants, clothing, household products, and food to 30 families in the community. This annual Christmas Sharing Project addresses needs of families with school-age children. Thank you to all who helped by purchasing gifts and food, by donating money, and by sorting and delivering the items to the families. Trinity makes a difference in people's lives, and you have a part in that mission. Thank you for your generosity.

Thank You from the Trinity Staff

The Trinity staff extends sincere thanks to all who remembered us during the celebration of Christmas. Your cards and delicious treats were appreciated. Most of all, your thoughtfulness and support touched us richly. We are grateful to God for calling us to serve this congregation and to experience your friendship and goodwill in so many ways throughout the year.



Genesis: New Year, "Old" Wisdom

Ever wanted to begin digging into the Bible but didn't know where to start? Begin 2019 "In the Beginning" with a study of the book of Genesis with Pastor Sarah. The book of Genesis is both foundational to the Christian faith and fascinating to read! From where do we come? How does God deal with evil? What does it mean for God to make promises, and how are they kept? We'll explore these questions and more on six Thursday evenings at 6:00 P.M. beginning January 10. Register by Friday, January 4, at Clipboard Central or online at www.trinity-ec.org by clicking on the blue "Sign up Here" button to ensure your spot. Cost is \$12 to cover materials, checks/cash can be dropped off at the church office.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Join the Annual Meeting of Trinity on Sunday, February 3, in the Worship Center at 10:45 A.M. This constitutionally directed event brings together all confirmed members to hear reports from the staff, review 2018, elect a new council, and adopt the 2019 budget. Reports to be included in the report are due to Amber Moltzau on Wednesday, January 9. You may email them to her at amber@trinity-ec.org

The online Annual Report will be available at trinity-ec.org starting January 27. Please print a copy and bring it to the meeting. Print copies will also be available in the Lobby and at the meeting.

In Gratitude

We give thanks to God for the generosity of Trinity members and friends who have made the visit of our Jamaica Partners Norris & Lorraine Rainford, with children Josiah, Ethan, and Micah; Natasha & Kirk Campbell, with children Denesha and Jakim visit possible.

The alumni families and friends who donated toward the cost of travel and the many Trinity members who have helped organize hospitality for this visit.

- Darrin & Julie Schober who are hosting our partners for the entirety of their stay.
- Ken Vance Motors.
- Trinity's 2018 Global Mission Board (Jim & Lynn Gullicksrud, Mary & Bob Schoenknecht, Kirk Myhre, Kristin Jadeke, Darrin Schober).

Morris & Audrey Brumberg Family Fund

The story of Morris & Audrey Brumberg is one of faithfulness and commitment: to God, to Trinity and the Lutheran church, to family and community. Morris & Audrey were Charter Members of Trinity Lutheran Church. Both Morris & Audrey were present at the groundbreaking for Trinity Lutheran Church in 1954. Through their legacy to Trinity, a named fund of the Trinity Endowment Trust has been established. The Morris & Audrey Brumberg Family Fund will support ministry with children, youth, library, and quilters.

Memorials & Gifts

Library

- In memory of Tim Tyler: Jim & Marge Oleson
- In memory of Judy Lindahl: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Children's Bibles

- In memory of Jim Oleson: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht, Ruth Circle, Larry & Mary Hoepner
- In memory of Richard Linn: Linda McClelland

Food Pantry

- In memory of Jim Oleson: Lori Juneau, Shirley Freeberg, Jim & Marilyn Bollinger, Tom Rouse, Gary & Mary Rambo
- In memory of Judy Lindahl: Mike & Mary Black
- In honor of Barb Tischer: Pat Garber
- In honor of Pat & Dave Mertens: Pat Garber
- In memory of Lorraine Hansen: Clif & Doris Husberg,

Mission

- In memory of Jim Oleson: Rick & Helen Mateski
- In memory of Mike DeRusha: Rick & Helen Mateski
- In memory of Jim Davis: Rick & Helen Mateski
- In memory of Mark Hillestad: Rick & Helen Mateski

Memorial

- In memory of Jim Oleson: Pat Garber

Health Ministries

- In honor of Vicki Dueringer and Colin Dueringer: Pat Garber
- In honor of Sandy Moszer: Pat Garber

Noah's Ark Preschool

- In memory of Jim Oleson: Jim & Sherry Jones
- In memory of Kjerstie Pressler: The Clouse Family

Women's Advent Tea

- In memory of Aunt Ann: Lynn Gullicksrud

Poinsettias:

- In memory of our parents: Dave & Deb Tackmann
- In memory of Ordean Grant, Charles & Dorothy Clark: Maureen & Roger Clark



Noah's News

Happy New Year
from Noah's Ark Preschool!

We return to preschool after a delightful Advent and Christmas season with the children of Noah's Ark! The children learned the Christmas story of Baby Jesus and shared it with their family and friends through our class party programs, gifts to their families, and with their songs and words. It is the blessing of the season to have these children know Jesus and share his love with their families and friends.

As January begins, Noah's Ark will relish a more relaxed schedule after the Christmas season. Kids are excited to be back to school with their friends and have time to play, discover, investigate, create and learn. We will celebrate Epiphany with the bright shining star, singing songs to celebrate the light of God. Nighttime will be a theme we'll investigate. We'll also focus on the winter season with cold and ice activities. Watch for beautiful ice sculptures to appear outside our preschool windows.

We look forward to Noah's Ark Sunday on January 27 at the 9:45 A.M. worship service. The children and families of Noah's Ark have been invited to join us at this service, and the kids will share a song during worship. Look for our beautiful rainbow tie dye t-shirts created by each child. If you have a tie dye shirt from Noah's Ark or elsewhere, join us by wearing it on this Noah's Ark Sunday! Following worship, we invite you to our Noah's Ark Open House. Come see our beautiful classroom space, talk to the teachers and committee members/parents and learn what we are all about. We value discovery and learning through play, helping children become peacemakers, and sharing the love of God with every child who enters our space. Please look for our brochures placed in kiosks and holders throughout Trinity and share them with family and friends with preschool age children. Registration for the 2018–2019 school year will open to congregational members on January 29 with a phone-in registration. Contact me with any questions regarding our program or registration process at marlee@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext 205.

In peace,
Marlee Knickerbocker



Children's Ministries

Open Gym

On Tuesdays, January 8 through March 19, from 10:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M. the Trinity Room will be open for parents and their young children (toddlers-preschool) to come in and use our equipment in a large safe space. The area will be supervised and a story time and snack will be offered during the last half hour. Members, friends of members, and non-members are welcome to attend. No registration is required for Open Gym. The cost per session is \$3 for one child, \$2 for each additional child from the same family.

Trinity at Pinehurst Park

Join us on Sunday, January 20, from 1:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M. at Pinehurst Park, 3523 Delbert Rd, Eau Claire, for an afternoon of sledding, ice skating and cross-country skiing. We will provide hot chocolate! Bring your sled or ice skates, and join us for an afternoon of fun! All ages are welcome! It is a family friendly event. Contact Sara Reed with questions at 715.832.6601 ext. 218 or sarar@trinity-ec.org

Children's Ministries Inclement Weather Policy

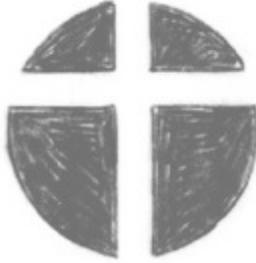
During the winter, there are times when we cancel children's programs due to snow or ice storms. Please check our website for updates, or call the church office if unsure. It is our policy to close if the Eau Claire public schools are closed.



Youth Ministries

NEW Club 78 Youth Group

Attention all Club 78 Youth! Do you love hanging out with friends, playing games, and serving others, all while growing in your faith? I have the group FOR YOU! A NEW seventh and eighth grade youth group will begin meeting weekly on Wednesdays beginning January 9 from 5:15 P.M.–6:15 P.M. Youth are welcome to bring supper to eat while we meet and are encouraged to bring their friends. Come and check it out! I can't wait to see you there! Contact Ashley at ashley@trinity-ec.org if you have any questions.



Luther Park Recharge Club 78 and 9 Retreat

The next Luther Park Recharge is January 4–5. This retreat is 24 hours of camp to recharge faith through faith discussion, music, friends, and activities. This year's theme is Firm Foundation. The registration cost is \$80 and includes programming from 7:00 P.M. Friday until 7:00 P.M. Saturday, meals, lodging, and a Recharge t-shirt. Sign-up at the Toolbench. Register online at www.lutherpark.org or call 715.859.2215. Scholarships are available if needed. Contact Ashley at ashley@trinity-ec.org with any questions.

Friends of Flynn Weekend Meals

On Wednesday, January 9, from 4:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. Club 78 and Club 9 youth and adult volunteers will assemble weekend meals for Flynn Elementary and other elementary school students in the Eau Claire district. Please meet at Feed My People Food Bank, 2610 Alpine Road, on Eau Claire's west side.

Community Table

Food is a basic need of humankind, and it is our privilege to serve those who go without! Trinity youth will prepare and serve a meal at the Community Table on Sunday, January 13, from 1:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. Both students and parents are needed to provide this service to the community. The sign-up sheet is available at the Tool Bench.

Trinity at Pinehurst Park

Join us on Sunday, January 20 from 1:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M. at Pinehurst Park (3523 Delbert Rd, Eau Claire, WI 54703) for an afternoon of sledding, ice skating and cross-country skiing. We will provide hot chocolate! Bring your sled, or ice skates and join us for an afternoon of fun! All ages are welcome! It is a family friendly event.

Action City

On Wednesday, January 23, Club 78 youth will attend their mid-year party at the Metropolis Trampoline Park from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M. It will be a night to celebrate all their hard work this school year thus far!

New Driver Recognition

On Wednesday, January 30, students who are eligible to earn a driver's license in year 2019 will be recognized during the Wednesday Evening Worship Service at 6:30 P.M. Students will receive a key chain as a gift from the Parish Nurse and the Youth Ministry Team.

Wreath Fundraiser Thank You

The Trinity Youth thank the congregation for supporting the Wreath Fundraiser. The youth will use the monies raised to put toward the High School Summer Trip to the Appalachian Mountains in 2019. A tithe from the proceeds will go to ASP (Appalachian Service Project) to help with supplies needed. Thank you again for your support.

College Care Packages Thank You

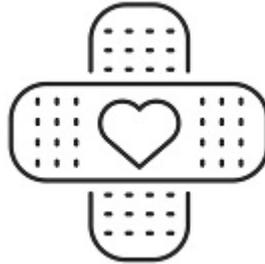
Many Trinity Lutheran Church young adults are pursuing their secondary education at colleges and technical colleges around the state and country. Care Packages were sent to 21 Trinity college students in early December. Please hold our college students in your prayers as they continue to learn more about their vocational callings in life and discover how they can use the unique gifts God has given them to find joy, fulfillment, and to serve the world. Thank you, parents and grandparents, for sharing your college student's address so that we may continue to share God's Love.



Health Ministries

Dear Trinity Members,

Happy New Year 2019! Are you looking forward to this New Year as a fresh beginning or as a continuation of 2018 that has brought you happiness? Or maybe 2018 was filled with heartache and sorrow, and you are glad to see it over. Wherever you are in your journey, God is right there with you.



When I need inspiration for newsletter articles, I often turn to a devotional called "The Daily Texts." The following is a prayer from December 31, 2017, but I found it very applicable for today. "Look again, Lord, upon your precious, broken world. See our angers and sorrows, our vanity and empty strivings. Have mercy on us, Jesus. Help us to rise up in the light of your presence to bind up the broken hearted. Show us the way to a new and glorious day of peace and life for all. Amen."

For each of you, I pray that this coming year is filled with blessings, love, peace, and hope.

I have to throw in a bit of humor. Have you ever Googled "special days for the month of....." Well January has some very interesting "special days," and someone has too much time on their hands. So, happy Bath Safety month, Oatmeal month, Soup month, Throw Out the Fruit Cake Day, Old Rock Day (music or stones???), and Peculiar People Day. I like the last one!!

Vicki Dueringer
Parish Nurse

New Support Group

A Huntington's Disease Support Group will begin at Trinity on Saturday, January 5, from 10:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M. For additional information, contact Deb Gilbertson at debbiegilbertson1@gmail.com

When You Are Hospitalized

The Pastoral Care Team of Trinity makes frequent trips to visit hospitalized Trinity members. But to know about your hospitalization, they depend upon the hospitals having your admission coded into their system. This will not result in your name being shared with anyone beyond the staff. So, when you or a family member are admitted, please inform the hospital of your church affiliation. Better yet, share information about planned or unexpected hospitalizations directly with us by:

- Calling 715.832.6601 or emailing trinity@trinity-ec.org in advance of or at the start of hospitalization.
- Asking the hospital chaplain to call Trinity's office.

If you wonder if a Pastoral Care Team member is going to call on you, that's the time to call the church office! Thank you.

Get Your Blood Pressure Checked

One in three American adults have high blood pressure. High blood pressure increases your risk for serious health problems including stroke and heart attack. Get your blood pressure checked regularly starting at age 18—and do your best to keep track of your blood pressure numbers. Trinity's Health Ministries offers free blood pressure screenings in the Parish Nurse's office on the second Sunday of every month.

Monthly Healing Service

Trinity offers a Healing Service the third Sunday of each month in the Chapel starting at 9:15 A.M. This service is for anyone who seeks healing in body, mind, or spirit. We will offer time for personal prayers for healing, anointing, as well as time for reflection and peace.

Save the Date!

Red Cross Blood Drive on Thursday, February 21. Save the date!

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, January 17, 9:30 A.M. Trinity
Hostess: Jan Kneer
Leader: Jan Kneer

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, January 15, 6:30 P.M. Trinity
Hostess: Marilyn Johnson
Leader: Kathy Gjesfjeld

Miriam

Wednesday, January 16, 9:30 A.M. Trinity
Hostess: Dawn Stienessen
Leader: Group

Ruth

Tuesday, January 15, 1:30 P.M. Trinity
Hostess: Mary Hoepner
Leader: Group



Trinity Library

Reach out to read in the new year! This January, resolve to read a book from the Trinity Library!

Christmas Fiction *(in case you missed them)*

- *Alaskan Holiday* by Debbie Macomber. Macomber brings us to the Alaskan wilderness for a magical Christmas tale about finding love where it's least expected. (FIC MAC) Also by the same author, *Twelve Days of Christmas*. (FIC MAC)
- *The Noel Stranger* by Richard Paul Evans. This powerful new holiday novel from Evans explores the true poser of the season, redemption and the freedom that comes from forgiveness. (FIC EVA)
- *A Redbird Christmas* by Fannie Flagg. Flagg's enchanting Christmas story of faith and hope is a modern classic for all ages. (FIC FLA)
- *Restoring Christmas* by Cynthia Ruchti. (FIC RUC)
- *Christmas Bells* by Jennifer Chiaverini. (FIC CHI)
- *A Lowcountry Christmas* by Mary Alice Monroe (FIC MON)



Other Fiction

- *Unsheltered* by Barbara Kingsolver. This timely novel interweaves past and present to explore the human capacity for compassion in times of great upheaval. (FIC KIN)
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid # 13: The Meltdown* by Jeff Kinney. When snow shuts down Greg Heffley's middle school, his neighborhood transforms into a wintery battlefield. (+ FIC KIN)
- *Squirm* by Carl Hiaasen. Hiaasen tells a wickedly funny, slightly twisted tale about families, figuring out what really matters, and knowing when (and when not) to let things go. (+ FIC HIA)
- *Owen and Eleanor Move In, Book 1* by H.M. Bouwman. Eight-year-old Eleanor is very unhappy when her family moves into a duplex, so she asks her new neighbor, seven-year-old Owen, to help her escape to her old house. (+ FIC BOU)

Picture Books

- *May God Bless You and Keep You* by Sarah Raymond Cunningham. In gentle rhyming text, Cunningham explores the curiosity and wonder of a child's life from the playroom to the playground, dinnertime to alone time, all with a recurring chorus: May God bless you and keep you. (++) FIC CUN)
- *A Giant Headache: The Story of David and Goliath* by Paul and Delores Gully. This book is the biblical story of David and Goliath in a rhyming, fun format. It teaches how we receive courage and strength from God when we trust in God completely. (++) FIC GUL)

- *The Big Flood: The Story of Noah and the Ark* by Paul and Delores Gully. This book for children is the biblical story of Noah and the great flood in a rhyming, fun format. It teaches how we can trust God, even when we don't understand, so we can carry out God's plan. (++) FIC GUL)
- *The Snowy Nap* by Jan Brett. After hearing about winter from his friends, Hedgeie the hedgehog tries to stay awake to experience its wonders. (++) FIC BRE)
- *Quiet Bunny and Noisy Puppy* by Lisa McCue. Quiet Bunny's forest friends all hibernate or go south for the winter, but when he meets a puppy from a nearby farm, the two become the best of friends, even though they are opposites in every way. (++) FIC MCC)

Book Recommendation

by Ann Nelson, Trinity Library Committee Member

The Guernsey Literary and Potato Pie Society by Mary Ann Schaefer and Annie Burrows. *I strongly recommend this delightful quick read. Even though the subject of the German Occupation of the Guernsey Island during WWII is serious, the book is quirky, charming, and witty.*

Trinity Page Turners Book Club

The Page Turners Book Club meets on Tuesday, January 15, at 6:30 P.M. to discuss *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson.

Bryan Stevenson was a young lawyer when he founded the Equal Justice Initiative, a legal practice dedicated to defending those most desperate and in need: the poor, the wrongly condemned, and women and children trapped in the farthest reaches of our criminal justice system. One of his first cases was that of Walter McMillian, a young man who was sentenced to die for a notorious murder he insisted he didn't commit. The case drew Bryan into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination, and legal brinkmanship—and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever.

"Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News"

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Teacher

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Teacher

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Sharry Hebert sharry@trinity-ec.org

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Parish Nurse

Pat Garber garberpa@uwec.edu

Visitation Ministry Director

Worship & Music Ministry

Nick Drayton nick@trinity-ec.org

Interim Music Director

Gary Rambo—Trinity Choir

Ryan Poquette—Trinity Tollers

Kris & Brian Pressler—Worship Music Leaders

Andy Hofer—CrossWord Youth Band

Jeanne Cooper—God's Little Singers

Corrine Gransee Paral—Jesus And Me, Celebration Singers, Impact Music

Building & Grounds Team

Don Peterson

Sheri Peterson

Ministry Support

Gail Brian gail@trinity-ec.org

Financial Ministry Assistant

Amber Moltzau amber@trinity-ec.org

Office Administrator

Becky Ragsdale becky@trinity-ec.org

Communication Ministry Assistant

Cindy Beck cindy@trinity-ec.org

IT/Ministry Assistant

World Missions

Jabneh Christian Academy, Grange Hill, Jamaica

Blantyre Lutheran Parish in Malawi, Africa

Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

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- Please submit all articles for the Tidings **electronically** in MS Word, Corel WP format, or in the body of an email. Submit to: cindy@trinity-ec.org
 - All submissions must be your own work. Any copyrighted material (code, images, or otherwise) must include written permission from the original source.
 - Deadline for the February Newsletter is Tuesday, January 15.