

Ripples of Faith 2017



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CIRCLE OF FAITH PARISH

PO Box 328
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 Welcome, MN 56181



St. Peter, Ceylon, MN
 Trinity, Welcome, MN
 Waverly, Trimont, MN

Office hours: M-Th 9-1:00

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Sundays— 8:30 Worship St. Peter
 9:30 SS
 9:15 SS—Trinity
 10:30 Worship
 9:15 SS—Waverly
 10:30 Worship

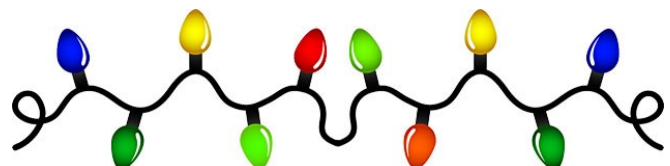
Tuesdays: Men's Sunrise Bible Study.

Wednesdays: Confirmation
 7 pm Choir practice WLC

Thursdays: Women's Sunrise Bible

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 12-5 Parish Council Christmas Party
Mary Circle WLC
- 12-6 Communion @ TSL
St. Peter WELCA
4 pm Family Confirmation
6 pm Worship @ WLC
- 12-12 Worship @ THCC
Trinity Council mtg
- 12-13 Goldfinch Communion
Youth Group
- 12-14 Waverly Council Christmas Party
- 12-17 Youth Group Caroling
- 12-20 January Ripples deadline
4th "Sunday" of Advent Worship @ TLC
- 12-24 No morning worship
Waverly & Trinity Christmas Eve Service
St. Peter Sunday School Christmas program
- 12-27 9 am Assemble Ripples



Staff / Email

Anthony Christoffels - Lead Pastor	achristoffels@circleoffaithparish.org
Eric Midthun-Associate Pastor	emidthun@circleoffaithparish.org
Lisa Wohlhuter	lwohlhuter@circleoffaithparish.org
Eileen Morrow	emorrow@circleoffaithparish.org



December Worship Schedule

		St. Peter	Trinity	Waverly
1 st Week in Advent	Sunday, December 3 rd <i>Altar: Blue</i>	Worship w/Comm 8:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM
	Wednesday, December 6 th <i>Altar: Blue</i>	Worship w/Communion at Trinity 6:00 PM <i>(Everyone welcome)</i>		
2 nd Week in Advent	Sunday, December 10 th <i>Altar: Blue</i>	Worship w/Comm 8:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM
3 rd Week In Advent	Sunday, December 17 th <i>Altar: Blue</i>	Worship 8:30 AM	Worship 10:30 AM <i>SS Christmas Program</i>	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM <i>SS Christmas Program</i>
4 th Week in Advent	Wednesday, December 20 th <i>Altar: Blue</i>	Worship w/Communion at Trinity 6:00 PM <i>(Everyone welcome)</i>		
	Sunday, December 24 th	<i>No Sunday morning worship services on Christmas Eve. "Fourth" Sunday of Advent service at Trinity on Wednesday, December 20th at 6:00 pm</i>		
Christmas Eve	Sunday, December 24th <i>Altar: White</i>	SS Christmas Program 7:00 PM	Candlelight Worship w/Comm 5:00 PM	Candlelight Worship w/Comm 5:00 PM
1 st Week of Christmas	Sunday, December 31 st <i>Altar: White</i>	Worship w/Comm 8:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM	Worship w/Comm 10:30 AM

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP IN DECEMBER

If you haven't checked out our Wednesday worship services at Trinity, you may want to take 30 minutes and see what the buzz is about! These services are short to accommodate busy schedules while still celebrating Holy Communion.

Wednesday, December 6th
6:00 pm @ Trinity
Worship w/Communion
St. Nicholas Day

Wednesday, December 20th
6:00 pm @ Trinity
Worship w/ Communion
4th "Sunday" of Advent

If Sunday morning worship doesn't work for you, come Wednesday evenings instead.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Trinity, Welcome – 5:00 pm w/Holy Communion

Waverly, Trimont – 5:00 pm w/Holy Communion

St. Peter, Ceylon – 7:00 pm Sunday School Christmas Program
(Sunday School meet in fellowship hall by 6:40 pm)





PRAYER CONCERNS

As Christians, we believe that prayer is our way of communicating with God. We also believe in the power of prayer; that God actually hears our prayers of thanksgiving and our cries for help. Since everyone is in need of prayers, each week during all worship services we will pray for a few families in our parish.



HIGH SCHOOL



In December, we will have our regular youth group meeting/Bible study on Wednesday, December 13th at Trinity at 7:00 pm.

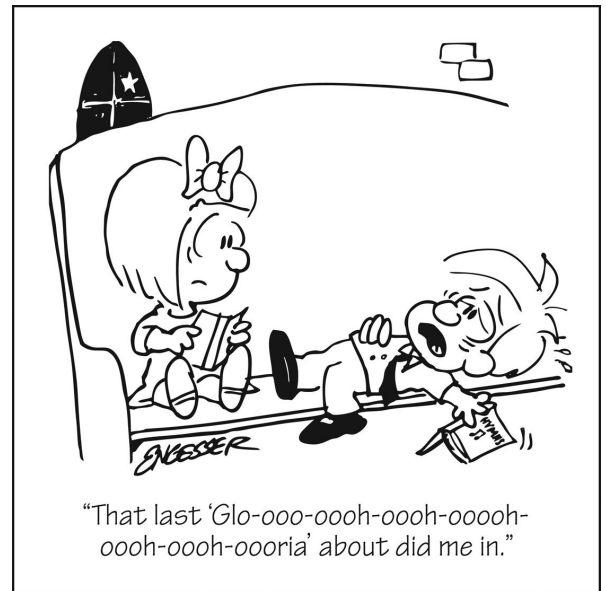
On Sunday, December 17th, we'll travel around our parish and do some caroling. We will meet at Waverly at 2:00 pm. Our afternoon of caroling will end at the Pizza Ranch in Fairmont for supper.



Sunday school
Christmas Programs

Sunday, Dec. 17 - 10:30 am
TLC & WLC

Sunday, Dec. 24 - 7 pm
St. Peter



2017 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing the 95 Theses to the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Please join Pastor Anthony and Pastor Stephanie as we walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation beginning in Rome and ending in Germany in the summer of 2018. Brochures are available in all three churches. For more information talk to Pastor Anthony.





COUNCIL MINUTES

Parish Council No meeting in November

Trinity Council No meeting in November

Waverly Council November 16, 2017 7PM

The meeting was called to order.

Meeting Minutes: Minutes were read. Motion made to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Agenda: motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: Current budget is \$15,300 behind. All quarterly bills have been paid and are factored in. The elevator assessment has been done. Waverly budget is behind \$1,041 for the month of October. November and December traditionally come in over budget. Endowment will be reported on a semi-annual basis. Year-end will be reported the end of December/beginning of January. Current Endowment balance is \$62,197 (as of June 30th). Cemetery fund as of June 30th, \$68,081. Quarterly payment to the Parish is \$14,578. The budget will be reviewed at the annual meeting.

Average worship attendance went from 54 to 52 this year.

Pastor's Report:

Prayer requests will now have a rotation of all members added to the prayer list.

Pastor Stephanie will be deployed to the Middle East in the upcoming year. Pastor will be coordinating with all of the Churches as the time of her deployment moves closer.

We ask that you keep their family in your prayers and be willing to make adjustments.

Motion made to have the Waverly Council meet every other month beginning in January on odd numbered months.

Motion made to approve. Motion carried.

Worship Committee: Thanksgiving Eve Service will be at Waverly at 7PM Wednesday, November, 23. Decorating of the Church for Christmas will be held off until the weekend of December 2-3. Advent begins on December 3rd. We will be "Filling Shoes" at the Service that Sunday. Christmas Program is on December 17th. Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year. Worship will be in the evening only on December 24. The 4th Advent Candle will be lit on Wednesday, December 20th at the 6PM Worship Service at Trinity. There will be Christmas Eve services at all 3 Churches. Worship Committee Meeting will be January 14, 2018 following Worship.

Ash Wednesday falls on February 17, 2018.

Caring Ministries: Visits continue at the facilities in the area. Nellie will be 100 on December 3rd. Motion was made to get a plant from the Church. Motion to approve. Motion carried. Belva will get the plant ordered and delivered.

Property Committee: One of the sink drains is plugged in the kitchen. Will evaluate the need for a plumber. LP has been contracted. The women's bathroom remodel is still pending.

Faith Formation: Sunday School skit has been approved for the Christmas Program. Music will be added in. Teachers are in place thru January. There will be no Sunday School following Thanksgiving thru the New Year. Will resume in January.

Parish Council: No report

Old Business: None

New Business: Susan announced her resignation as Custodian effective January 2018. The position will be announced formally to the Congregation in the next Newsletter. The Church carpets are in need of cleaning. Service Master has been contracted in the past. The basement and sanctuary carpets have never been cleaned professionally. This would be over the budget for this year, but could be added in for Spring 2018.

The December Council Meeting will be a Budget Review. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion approve. Motion carried.

Lord's Prayer
Adjournment

St. Peter Council November Council meeting was the 28th.

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Ushers & Worship Assistants

St Peter

DATE	LECTOR	USHERS
December 3	Muriel Klenz	Jeremy and Chelsie Wink
10	Bernice Lehmann	Ronnie and Jane Leiding
17	Jordan Petschke	Kevin and Angie Schmidt
24 7 pm SS Program		Larry W Schmidt and Bob Nelson
31	Jeannine Rasmussen	Darrel and Muriel Klenz
January 7	Muriel Klenz	Keith and Jody Franck



Trinity

DATE	LECTOR	USHERS	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION
DECEMBER 3	Megan Gerhardt	Todd Williams Larry Puhrman	Brianna Morrow Brice Oechsle	John Garbers John Frerichs
10	Liz Stahl	John and Rita Garbers	MiKenna Harder Kiaya Schweiss	
17	MaryAnn Frerichs	Jon and Jen Saxon	Logan Hughes Kylee Jagodzinske	
20		Larry and Deb Philipp		Lonnie and Bob Moffitt
24 5 pm	Megan Gerhardt	Bocky and Susie Borchardt	Brianna Morrow Logan Hughes	Velma, Brian, Joel Jon S.
31	Liz Stahl	MaryAnn and John Frerichs	Kylee Jagodzinske Kiaya Schweiss	Lonnie and Bob Moffitt
JANUARY 7	MaryAnn Frerichs		MiKenna Harder Logan Hughes	



Waverly

DATE	LECTOR	CHILDRENS TIME	ACOLYTE	COMMUNION ASSSISTANT
DECEMBER 3	Deanne Gaalswyk	Tom Peterson	Youth	Laurie Sherman
10	Sonja Haugen	John Sherman	Youth	Laurie Sherman
17	Kiley	Worship Team	Kaylea Nathan	Kelley
24 5 pm				
31	Belva Peterson	Pastor	Youth	Laurie Sherman
January 7				



December Ushers: Steve Williamson, Troy Schmidtke, Todd Rathman, Will Hecht

January Ushers:

St. Peter Ripples



Sunday School Christmas Program practice—
Sunday, December 3, 10, 17 1:00—3:00 pm

Program is Sunday, Dec. 24, Christmas Eve @ 7 pm
(Sunday School meet in fellowship hall by 6:40 pm)



Instead of a regular December meeting, The St. Peter WELCA will have a Christmas Luncheon at noon on December 6th. This is for St. Peter ladies and their guests. Group 1 is in charge of this with all the regular members of WELCA furnishing the food. We realize some of our younger members have jobs and cannot attend - perhaps we can have something else another time. But please come if you can.

Muriel reports a balance of \$1,780.00 in the treasury. \$200. was given to Lutheran Disaster Response. Gifts to Disaster Response are used entirely for these hurricane disasters, until the response is complete. Many people are still in shelters so long term recovery efforts are still needed.

I have not had much response in regards to the service group lists. Thank you if you have decided to still be contacted for donations when needed. If you are unable to help, let me know by the middle of December.

Next work duty: Group 2

December Altar Care: Marge Schley

December birthdays: Elaine Krueger — Dec. 1

Shirley O'Sell - Dec. 4

Janice Franck - Dec. 6



Advent is a season of waiting and also a season of anticipation and preparation. The word "ADVENT" actually means arrival or coming. While we are preparing for the holidays, we can also prepare ourselves spiritually to celebrate Christ's renewed presence in our lives.

Have a Blessed Christmas - Jeannine

Trinity Ripples



If you wish to grace our altar with a poinsettia during the Advent Season, please contact Mary Ann DeBus at 728-8778 or the church office at 728-8259. The flower can be 'in memory of' or 'in honor of' a loved one. The poinsettias may be brought to the church during office hours or on a Sunday.

A memorial list will be printed in the Christmas Eve Bulletin.



Waverly Ripples

Church custodian position open

After 22 years of service, Susan Rathman is resigning from her custodian duties at the end of the year. If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please talk to Tim Peterson or Pastor Anthony. Applications are due no later than Monday, December 18 and they are available through the parish office.

St. Nicholas is Coming









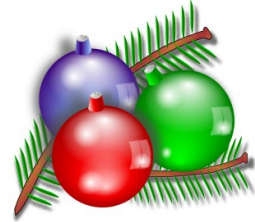
Sunday, December 3rd
10:30 am – Waverly

Come see and hear the story of the life and legend of the real person behind the story of Santa Claus. There will be treats for all ages, plus a visit from Saint Nicholas.

On December 6th each year, churches throughout the world celebrate the life and work of St. Nicholas. This year Waverly will be learning and celebrating the work that St. Nicholas did for Christ's church. You are invited to join us on Sunday, December 3rd as we learn about St. Nicholas and rejoice in the Lord.

Note: You will be invited to remove your shoes before entering the sanctuary for worship (this is a St. Nicholas tradition). If you are uncomfortable with taking your shoes off, that's okay, you won't be required to remove your shoes.









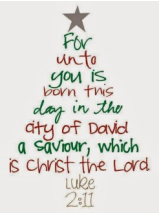



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Elaine Krueger Tony & Susan <i>Hed</i>	2 Keith Thiesse Greg & Jennifer Moore
3 Wes Strausser Alysha Gibson Nellie Oanes Shirley Burmeister	4 Shirley O'Sell Nathan Chukuske	5 Barbara Sherman Alexander Hansen	6 Janice Franck Tanner Muller Payton Leiding Steve Morrow <i>Lee & Mary Thompson</i>	7 Laura Justice	8 Tonya Brooks Tracy Winter Carol Senne	9 Janet Poppe 
10 Madison Fletcher Jenna Minscer	11 Cory Lyons	12 Justin Hansen Joel Rabbe Dawn Greeley <i>James Sr. & Carol Chukuske</i>	13 Bryanna Petschke Josh Peterson Dan Armbrust Dallas Rasmussen	14 Gayle Askeland	15 Renee Hartwig <i>Jack & Mim Potter</i> <i>Tom & Rose Hovick</i>	16 Steve Wenzel Elizabeth Benge Bob Moffitt Kollyns Gerhardt Jeff Miller
17 John Garbers	18 	19 Justin Hansen Joel Rabbe Dawn Greeley <i>James Sr. & Carol Chukuske</i>	20 Bryanna Petschke Josh Peterson Dan Armbrust Dallas Rasmussen	21 Kirsten Olson	22 Matthew Benge Brice Oechsle	23 Bob Nelson <i>Wes & Carolyn Strausser '50'</i> <i>Steve & Marleone Williamson</i>
24 	25 Phil Burgess Jordan Peterson	26 Johanna Petshcke	27 <i>James & Monica Chukuske</i>	28 Tyler Lyons Eva Lueth	29 Liam Hecht	30 Todd Morrow <i>David & Laurie Jensen</i>
31 Angie Schmidt Jo Miller Kelsey Traetow <i>Darrell & Deb Miller</i>						

DECEMBER

2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Communion—ALL 8:30 am Worship StP TLC & WLC 9:15 SS 10:30 Worship 	4	5 6 pm Parish Council Christmas Party @ Tami's on the Ave 7pm Mary Circle - WLC @ Nancy Nordstrom	6 10 am Comm—TSL 12 pm WELCA - StP 4-6 pm Family Conf. 6 pm Wednesday Evening Worship @ TLC	7	8 	9
10 8:30 am Worship StP TLC & WLC (Comm) 9:15 SS 10:30  11:30 am TLC Basement rsvd	11	12 9:30 am THCC Worship 6:30 pm TLC Council mtg	13 2 pm Goldfinch Comm. 4 pm Confirmation 7 pm Youth Group	14	15	16
17 8:30 am Worship StP TLC & WLC (Comm) 9:15 SS 10:30 2 pm Youth Group Caroling	18 	19 	20 Ripples Deadline 4 pm Confirmation 6 pm Parish Worship @ TLC Communion 4th "Sunday" of Advent	21	22 	23
24 NO morning services WLC & TLC  5 pm Christmas Eve Service St. P 7 pm SS Program	25 	26	27 9 am Assemble Ripples	28	29	30
31 Communion—ALL 8:30 am StP TLC & WLC—10:30						



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

If you have moved or are moving, please notify the church office so we are not charged postage expenses for Change of Address. Thank You !



I chose this hymn to write about back in 2008 - the problems of the world have not really changed that much - this still applies to 'today' - just as it did back in the days of the Civil War when it was first written - so here it goes again. This hymn does not appear in many hymnals today but the message is still VERY relevant. The words were written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow back during the Civil War. He had been through tragic times, losing his wife in a fire, and then his son was wounded in a battle in Virginia. He brought his son home to Cambridge, Massachusetts, to nurse him back to health. He wrote the following on Christmas Day, 1863:

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day, their old familiar carols play, And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, good will to men.

And thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christmashom Had rolled along th'unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.

And in despair I bowed my head; "There is no peace on earth" I said. For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead, nor does he sleep. The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth good will to men."

Till ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day, A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on earth, good will to men!"

There are two more verses no longer included, concerning the cannon's roar and the fact that the continent and families were being torn apart. The poem was set to music by John Calkin, and first sung by the children that year in their Christmas celebration at the Unitarian church served by Longfellow's brother, Samuel. The message still rings out loud and clear today that right will prevail. "GOD IS NOT DEAD, NOR DOES HE SLEEP."