

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAT, 12/13	9:00 AM Gathered in Christ, Gathered to Create 6:00 PM Divine Service with Holy Communion
SUN, 12/14	9:00 AM Divine Service with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Adult Bible Studies (<i>fellowship hall</i>) 10:30 AM Sunday School (<i>school gym</i>)
MON, 12/15	6:00 PM Evangelism Meeting (<i>church library</i>)
TUE, 12/16	6:30 AM Men's <i>Lutheran Witness</i> Discussion 12:30 PM Church Staff Meeting (<i>church library</i>) 4-8 PM Culver's Night (<i>Edgewood Rd Location</i>) 6:00 PM Elders Meeting (<i>church library</i>)
WED, 12/17	8:30 AM Christmas Chapel – <i>Rev. Bahn (gym)</i> 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 12:00 PM Advent Service & Lunch – <i>Rev. Bahn</i> 12:45 PM Advent Lunch 5:00 PM Advent Dinner 6:00 PM Advent Service – <i>Rev. Bahn</i> 6:45 PM Middle & High School Christmas Party
THU, 12/18	9:00 AM Early Childhood Chapels – <i>Rev. Groth</i> 9:00 AM Dorcas Guild (<i>main fellowship hall</i>) 6:00 PM Trustees Meeting (<i>church library</i>)
FRI, 12/19	-----
SAT, 12/20	6:00 PM Divine Service with Holy Communion
SUN, 12/21	9:00 AM Divine Service with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Adult Bible Studies (<i>fellowship hall</i>)

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Senior Pastor: Rev. Theodore Groth, 720-737-1283

Associate Pastor: Rev. Daryn Bahn, 319-304-0184

Church Secretary: Stacy Brusius Principal: Dr. Karen Bahn
Business Director: Pat Powell School Secretaries: Dana Freymark
Asst. Business Dir: Shannon Sherman & Tanya Cross
Youth & Family Ministry: Evan Root Director of Music: Dr. Susan Benya
Bulletin Cover Art: Bill Godecke Associate Organist: Marilyn Mark
Maintenance: Brian Wright Forgiven Director/Keyboardist: Joy Ernst
Forgiven Musicians: Caity Monahan, Keith & Ava Olsen, Jana Pownell, Aaron Rowland

Church: 319-366-1569 | **School:** 319-362-6952 | **Emergency:** 319-350-2498
1363 1st Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405 | trinitycr.org

Church Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM & Fri, 8:00 AM – Noon

Iowa Lutheran School Tuition Organization

Time is short – December 31 is almost here! The Iowa Lutheran Student Tuition Organization (ILSTO) will gladly accept your gift that will provide financial assistance to our students. Your donation needs to be postmarked no later than December 31. You will receive a 75% tax credit on your Iowa taxes and possible charitable contribution on your federal form. To get more information for donating to the ILSTO, see the forms by the piano, go to iowalutheransto.com, or contact Dewey Torkelson at 712-260-2991.

Principal's Corner

Savior of the Nations, Come!

We are so excited for the coming of our Savior at Christmas! The children and staff are wearing their Luke 2 shirts to remind everyone why we celebrate Christmas. It's all about Jesus!

Thank you to Emily Gibson and Susan Benya for directing the PreK–3 Christmas Concert. The music was excellent, and the children worked hard on learning their songs and parts. It was a wonderful way to share the Good News of Jesus. Thanks again!

You are welcome to attend our basketball games. The schedule of games is on the athletics calendar on the website.

Our last school day of the year is Fri, Dec. 19. Classes will resume on Mon, Jan. 5. We pray that you have a blessed Christmas break!

In Christ,
Karen Bahn, Principal

Christ Lutheran High School News

Preparing Students to be Christian Leaders in all Walks of Life

The CLHS Board of Directors has had a busy few months. In October we attended a six-hour workshop led by a representative of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod's Church Extension agency. We learned about the type of governance that will need to be established as we open CLHS. This rather long meeting has been followed up by one-hour Zoom meetings to help us develop our plan and use the proper wording for policies, job descriptions, etc. We have been told more than once that starting a high school is a marathon, not a sprint. At the same time, we continue to await approval from the IRS of our application for tax exempt status. Due to the government shut down, this could still take months. This makes it challenging to do any major fundraising. We ask you to keep praying for Christ Lutheran High School. Want to know how you can get involved? Contact Mark Mueller at themarkmueller56@gmail.com.

The Christ Lutheran High School Board of Directors

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

Know Christ + Grow in Christ + Make Christ Known



THIRD SUNDAY
IN ADVENT

December 13 & 14, 2025
6:00 PM Saturday & 9:00 AM Sunday

WE WELCOME YOU IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD!
Did you know that heaven meets earth here at Trinity Lutheran Church? It truly does as our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, the Living Word, joins us to wash us at His font, preach to us from His pulpit, and feed us at His altar. It is our prayer that you would experience with us His lavish grace as we encounter Him through His holy Word and Sacraments.

CONCERNING HOLY COMMUNION
The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.



Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.
For further study, see Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

DIETARY NEEDS
If you require a gluten-free Communion wafer, please hold out your hand with a closed fist rather than an open palm during the Sacrament.
Alcohol-removed wine is available during the Sacrament as well in the rose-colored cups in the center of the tray.

LARGE PRINT & HEARING DEVICES
Large print bulletins & hymnals as well as assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.

ATTENDANCE CARDS
We ask that guests and members fill out an Attendance Card found in the pew in front of you. During the Offering, please place your completed card in the offering plate.

CHILDREN’S WORSHIP BULLETINS AND QUIET ROOMS
Two different children’s bulletins are available from the ushers: one for ages 3+ and one for ages 7+. We also have two quiet rooms – one in the back of each wing of the Sanctuary.

WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCASTS
Trinity’s Worship Service is aired with IMON Channel 4 at 2:00 PM on Thursdays and on Mediacom Channel 4 at 8:00 PM on Fridays. The service is also available on YouTube: youtube.com (The Trinity Lutheran Church—Cedar Rapids).

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 Offering Envelopes
Offering envelopes for 2026 have arrived and can be picked up in the west wing of the church sanctuary by the windows behind the piano.

Midweek Advent Services | Wednesday, December 17
Join us for midweek Advent services at Noon and 6:00 PM. “With Mary We Behold” the hope and salvation that Christ brings, blooming in the cold of winter and dispelling darkness. Meals will be served at 12:45 PM and 5 PM. *On Dec. 17, Home Missionary will be serving maid rites and green bean casserole.*

Individual Confession and Absolution | December 18 & 20
As Christmas approaches, our pastors are setting aside time to serve Trinity's members who desire to confess their sins and hear the comforting Word of Absolution. Pastor Bahn will be available in his study for this ministry on Thursday evening, December 18, from 5:30-8:30 PM. Pastor Groth will be available in his study Saturday afternoon, December 20 from 2:00-5:00 PM. Besides these scheduled times, you may always come and visit your pastors for this ministry. We use the order found in *LSB* on p. 292.

Culver’s Night | Tuesday, December 16 | 4:00-8:00 PM
Hungry for burgers and ice cream? Head over to Culver's on Edgewood Rd. They'll be donating 10% of sales to Trinity Lutheran School.

Christmas Worship Services | December 24-25
Celebrate the birth of Christ with us during our worship services on **Christmas Eve at 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM and on Christmas Day at 9:00 AM**. Candles will be lit during our Christmas Eve services as we sing “Silent Night.” All services will include Holy Communion.

End of Year Giving
Note that in order for offerings and donations to be credited to the 2025 calendar year, mailed offerings must be postmarked no later than December 31. Donations may also be dropped off in the church office December 29-31 from 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Any offerings received during worship on January 3 & 4 will be applied to your 2026 giving regardless of the check date.

Donating Stocks & Cryptocurrency to Trinity
Did you know you can donate assets (stocks and cryptocurrency) directly to Trinity? If you normally use a Donor Advised Fund (DAF), please consider giving assets directly here instead to better support our mission. If you'd like to learn more about how some of our donors give assets to increase their impact and lower their tax bill, you can learn more by scanning the QR code.



Joint Youth Epiphany Party | RSVP by Wed, Jan. 7
Join us for a joint Epiphany Party for all middle and high school students at LCMS churches in the Cedar Rapids area. When: Sunday, January 11 from 4:00-7:00 PM. Meet in the Trinity Lutheran School gym. Have fun with games, Bible study, and a pulled pork supper. We'll also collect donations for a local food pantry. RSVP to Evan Root at ejroot@trinitycr.org.

Dorcas Guild & Home Missionary | Thurs, Jan. 8 | 9 AM
Join us on Thursday, January 4 for quilting at 9:00 AM. Our Home Missionary meeting and lunch will start at 11:30 AM. See you then!

A Life Thought in the Church Year
December 14 – Advent 3: God sends us, like John, to be His messengers and share His Gospel with the world before He comes (Matthew 11:10). Instead of grumbling against one another (James 5:9), we have the privilege of sharing Christ’s forgiveness, comfort, and encouragement with those having feeble knees and anxious hearts (Isaiah 35:3-4), especially with those frightened women facing surprise pregnancies, women enduring the cross of barrenness, and those carrying the guilt of abortion.

Those serving the Lord on December 13-14	
Elder:	Carl Gloe
Comm. Assts:	9:00 AM – Steve Bruzek, Jon Benya, Mike Pownell
Acolytes:	6:00 PM – Kylie Riha 9:00 AM – Lincoln Smith & Wyatt Manthe
Usher Leader:	6:00 PM – Team 4: Kay Lenaburg 9:00 AM – Team 8: Rod Powell
Altar Guild:	Teri Burkett and Dennis & Sandy Bruns
Fellowship Treats:	Last names beginning with P, Q, R

Those serving the Lord in Advent: Wednesday, December 17	
Elder:	Carl Gloe
Acolytes:	6:00 PM – Benjamin Groth
Usher Leader:	6:00 PM – Team 6: Darwin Poock

Those serving the Lord on December 20-21	
Elder:	Bill Godecke
Comm. Asst:	9:00 AM – Carl Gloe, Matt Sprengeler, Jeremy Burkett
Acolytes:	6:00 PM – None 9:00 AM – Benjamin Groth & Hunter Beyelia
Usher Leader:	6:00 PM – Team 4: Kay Lenaburg 9:00 AM – Team 8: Rod Powell
Altar Guild:	Teri Burkett and Dennis & Sandy Bruns
Fellowship Treats:	Last names beginning with S, T, U, V