

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 Study on Scripture Readings from the 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent Only ( <i>west fellowship hall</i> )
MON, 12/22	-----
TUE, 12/23	6:30 AM   Men's <i>Lutheran Witness</i> Discussion 9:00 AM   Ruth Guild ( <i>main fellowship hall</i> )
WED, 12/24	<b>Christmas Eve - Church Office closed</b> 4:00 PM   Divine Service with Holy Communion 6:00 PM   Divine Service with Holy Communion
THU, 12/25	<b>Christmas Day - Church Office closed</b> 9:00 AM   Divine Service with Holy Communion
FRI, 12/26	<i>Church Office closed</i>
SAT, 12/27	6:00 PM   Divine Service with Holy Communion
SUN, 12/28	9:00 AM   Divine Service with Holy Communion

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL**

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

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

Church Secretary: Stacy Brusius  
Business Director: Pat Powell  
Asst. Business Dir: Shannon Sherman  
Youth & Family Ministry: Evan Root  
Bulletin Cover Art: Bill Godecke  
Maintenance: Brian Wright  
Forgiven Musicians: Caity Monahan, Keith & Ava Olsen, Jana Pownell, Aaron Rowland

Principal: Dr. Karen Bahn  
School Secretaries: Dana Freymark  
& Tanya Cross  
Director of Music: Dr. Susan Benya  
Associate Organist: Marilyn Mark  
Forgiven Director/Keyboardist: Joy Ernst

**Church: 319-366-1569 | School: 319-362-6952 | Emergency: 319-350-2498**  
**1363 1<sup>st</sup> Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52405 | [trinitycr.org](http://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. Tax credits are available, but the closer you donate to the deadline please call to make sure credits are still available. You will receive a 75% tax credit on your Iowa taxes and possible charitable contribution on your federal form. For more info, go to [iowalutheransto.com](http://iowalutheransto.com) or contact Dewey Torkelson: 712-260-2991 or [deweytorkelson@gmail.com](mailto:deweytorkelson@gmail.com)

## Principal's Corner

*Glory to God in the highest!*

We are so excited for the birth of the Christ child. We hear the angels proclaim that He is coming!

The 7th and 8th grade band led us with Christmas music along with Pastor Bahn. It was wonderful to sing the beautiful Christmas hymns with them.

Christmas break begins after school on Friday. We pray you all have a wonderful and safe Christmas break. Classes will resume on January 5.

Peace on Earth! Goodwill to men! Merry Christmas!

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](mailto:themarkmueller56@gmail.com).

*The Christ Lutheran High School Board of Directors*

# Trinity Lutheran Church & School

*Know Christ + Grow in Christ + Make Christ Known*



FOURTH SUNDAY  
IN ADVENT

**December 20 & 21, 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.

## 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

In order for offerings/donations to be credited to the 2025 calendar year, mailed offerings must be postmarked by December 31. Donations may also be dropped off in the church office Dec. 29-31 from 8 AM – 3 PM. Any offerings received during worship on Jan. 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. To learn more about how some of our donors give assets to increase their impact and lower their tax bill, scan 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 [rootej@trinitycr.org](mailto:rootej@trinitycr.org).

## Home Missionary | Thurs, Jan. 8 | 9 AM

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

## Youth Lock-In | January 16-17

Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca in Solon is hosting its first ever Youth Lock-In! All 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders are invited. Join us for games, broomball, sledding, pizza, hot chocolate, smores and more! Arrival: Friday, January 16 at 7:00 PM. Pick up: Saturday, January 17 at 11:00 AM. If interested in attending, contact Evan Root at [rootej@trinitycr.org](mailto:rootej@trinitycr.org).

## Egg Carton Collection

Thank you to everyone who has donated egg cartons. We truly appreciate it. If you have empty cartons in the future, please continue to drop them off in the west fellowship hall so they can be re-used. – *Bonnie Teggatz & Jan Basemann*

## A Life Thought in the Church Year

**December 21 – Advent 4:** The birth of the King of Glory (Psalm 24:7) is surrounded by the messiness of human sin and intrigue (Matthew 1:18-25). As we rejoice that our Lord has taken on our human likeness with all its sin and pain, being “descended from David according to the flesh” (Romans 1:3), we can also rejoice that Jesus has sanctified every human life, even those born in circumstances which are surrounded by sin and pain.

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

Those serving the Lord on Christmas Eve	
<b>Elder:</b>	Elders
<b>Comm. Assts:</b>	Elders
<b>Acolytes:</b>	4:00 PM – Makenzie Scranton & Amelia Horne 6:00 PM – Addison Kula
<b>Usher Leader:</b>	4:00 PM – Team 7: Bob Heyer 6:00 PM – Team 8: Rod Powell

Those serving the Lord on Christmas Day	
<b>Elder:</b>	Jeremy Burkett
<b>Comm. Assts:</b>	Elders
<b>Acolytes:</b>	9:00 AM – Benjamin Groth
<b>Usher Leader:</b>	9:00 AM – Team 1: Gary Widdel

Those serving the Lord on December 27-28	
<b>Elder:</b>	Chris Kistler
<b>Comm. Assts:</b>	9:00 AM – Carl Gloe, Steve Bruzek, Mark Freeze
<b>Acolytes:</b>	6:00 PM – Xuxa Zangerle 9:00 AM – Hunter Beyelia & Wyatt Manthe
<b>Usher Leader:</b>	6:00 PM – Team 4: Kay Lenaburg 9:00 AM – Team 8: Rod Powell
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Teri Burkett and Dennis & Sandy Bruns
<b>Fellowship Treats:</b> Last names beginning with W, X, Y, Z	