

# Blessings

Trinity Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

Jan.  
2017

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## Worship Times

### Sunday Morning

10:30 am—Traditional

\*Communion offered on the 1st & 3rd  
Sundays of the month

## Education

### Wednesday Morning

9:45 am—Bible Study

### Youth Sunday School

Jan. 8th—After Service

Includes a fellowship lunch.

\*Middle School thru High School

## Looking Forward

I am looking forward to 2017. I am not sure why. I think it has something to do with change. Every year we are given an opportunity to wipe the slate clean and start over. It is the best time to change. The problem is of course, that I don't like change. I mean, who does? Things were going just fine and then... change. Why did everything have to change? Why couldn't things stay

the same? No, I don't like change.

At the same time I have always lived my life with the understanding that the only thing that does not change is change itself. We cannot stop change from happening. So, with that in mind, I have always thought that if change was going to happen, intentional change would be better than accidental change. At the end of the day I like to live my



## Looking Forward continued from page 1

life on purpose, just as if I meant to. Sounds easy; some days it actually is easy. Other days it is hard if not close to impossible.

I don't like change. And at the same time, I know that it is coming. There is fear and anxiety. The unknown is always a little bit scary.

Yet, if truth be told, there is a little part of me that enjoys change. It is that part that likes to take risks; it is that part that likes the uncertainty of life; it is that part of me that realizes that I am not really in control of anything. It is that part of me that enjoys creation and enjoys the ambiguity of life. It is, after all, the surprises in our days that offer the most discussion at the supper table. It is in the unknown that the character of the day, the essence of life is lived. It is scary if you

think about it. Yet at the same time I confess a God whose love for me never changes and it is in that love that I face the day ahead. God's love is never-changing. And if that is indeed true, what is there to actually be afraid of? Nothing really, I suppose. Nothing at all.

So, I look forward to the days ahead, days full of change – not without a little anxiety, not without a little fear and not without a little hope. Happy New Year.

Peace,  
Pastor Jim

## Pastor Emmanuel Penumaka Visit continued on page 4

It was a ugly weekend, it was a beautiful weekend. I'm talking about the weekend of December 17-18th.

Saturday greeted us with ice and cold weather. People stranded on 465 overnight. 65 closed near Lafayette. Yet, God brought Pastor Emmanule, Brenda and their two boys safely from Chicago to Lebanon. A detour off of 65 near Lafayette but safely.

With the snow and bitter

cold Sunday morning, I did not know what to expect as far as attendance at church. I just prayed that those who came in could do it safely. Many did arrive early to meet Pastor Emmanuel and Brenda. Or was it the Titus donuts? In which case we may need to bring them in more often. I do believe it was to get to know Pastor and Brenda.

Pastor Emmanuel led the service and brought us our message of the day. Sev-

eral of you shared with me how his message touched you. I've heard many positive remarks.

For the Voters Assembly we had fifty voting members. Over twice what we needed for a quorum. The conversation was brief then there was a call for a vote as to whether we'd extend a call. Forty voted to extend the call which once again was more than required.

The papers have been

## Celebrations

### Birthdays

1/12	Julie Biddle	1/24	Jeff Thomas
1/14	Abigail Thomas	1/24	Sandy Voyak
1/14	Laura Wiberg	1/27	Robert Hatfield
1/15	Dorothy Chambers	1/28	David Wallace
1/22	Michael Aughe	1/30	Tina Stenberg

### Toy Donations

The back classroom is being transformed into a family room for young children during service. We are looking for gently used toys that are plastic or wooden without small parts to fill out the room. Also small child dress up items such as hats, vests or aprons. If you have any questions please contact Laura Wiberg.

### Annual Voters Assembly

Join us Sunday, January 22nd following the church service for our Annual Voters Assembly. This will be a review of Trinity Lutheran for 2016. A look at what turned out to be a very eventful year for us.

## Altar Flowers

Thank you to all of you who donate flowers for the altar in celebration of life events and for the glory of God.

1/1	In Celebration of Thanksgiving for Family — Fahrenbach
1/8	Robin Neuman's Birthday
1/15	Hope's 3rd Birthday—Tom & Jan Coulter
1/22	Chris Jensen's Birthday

## January

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## Pastor Emmanuel Penumaka Visit continued from page 2

signed and sent to the Bishop for his signature. Then they will be (have been) sent to Pastor Emmanuel which will make the process official. He will have thirty days to respond to the call.

As of this writing there has not been a response. I

have talked with Pastor Emmanuel and we have shared several text messages. All have been positive correspondence although nothing official. Please keep Pastor Emmanuel and Brenda in your prayers as they discern God's calling for

them.

Watch your e-mails. As soon as something comes in officially we will send the word out.

God's blessings as we celebrate our Saviors Birth,

Tim Peters

## A Letter From Pastor Emmanuel Penumaka

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I wish you all a blessed prosperous New Year! Trust you all had a blessed Christmas celebrations with family and friends!

I thank the Call committee and the Church Council for inviting me and my family to preach and administer Eucharist on December 18<sup>th</sup>.

It was such a joy to meet you all and experience the warm hospitality. I have seen God's guidance, your strong committed faith and visionary leadership of the church. I thank each and every one for accepting me to serve you and serve God through the Trinity church. Brenda, Chris and Steve also join

with me to thank you. We are eagerly waiting to see you soon, and I am ready to join the church once the Synod and Church decide the date. Meanwhile, there is some more paper work needed to be done. We are upholding Trinity family in our prayers.

God bless  
Emmanuel Penumaka



Week Of	12/4	12/11	12/18	12/25
Current Expenses	\$1,910.82	\$2,415.00	\$1,562.00	\$2,219.75
Restricted Funds	\$210.00	\$13.50	\$15.00	\$120.00
Special Projects	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
Sunday School	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Deposit	\$2,140.82	\$2,448.50	\$1,597.00	\$2,359.75
Weekly Goal	\$2,128 to meet expenses; \$2,581 to fully fund the budget			

# Giving Report

Ask about electronic giving.

## Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

As Trinity Lutheran Church moves into 2017, it is important to know what support we can depend on from our congregation members. By knowing what you are willing to commit financially, we are able to better plan for the future. Please

consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis.

To set up a recurring giving schedule, complete a paper authorization form



### ELECTRONIC GIVING

and return it to the Steve Thomas, Financial Secretary. The authorization forms can be found on the hallway bulletin board.



## Pastoral Care

Should you need Pastoral care contact a member of the Church Council. They will see that the proper person is contacted to take care of your needs.

## Church Council Members

Tammy Campbell

Frank Jensen

Steve Thomas

Joyce Wallace

Tom Coulter

Jeff Thomas

If you are interested in being on council please talk to a council member. Council positions will be determined at the January council meeting.

<b>Serving</b>	<b>1/1</b>	<b>1/8</b>	<b>1/15</b>	<b>1/22</b>	<b>1/29</b>
<b>Greeters</b>	J. Chambod	Jansing	Ottinger	Coulter	Mark Cline
<b>Acolyte</b>	Kylie O.	Autumn	Kobe O	Ian C.	Abby T.
<b>Lector</b>	Barb Belcher	L. Brehmer	G. Mezger	V. Bokash	R. Newman
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	G. Bokash	T. Parks	A. Thomas	X	J. Wallace
<b>Altar Guild</b>	T. Hatfield	Amy H.	H. Decker	T. Hatfield	J. Parks
<b>Music Specialist</b>	John R	John R	Charlie F	V. Coulter	Randy Gustavson
<b>Usher Team</b>	Tom C Gary P	Steve T. Brad C.	Dave W. Dorothy C.	Tom P. John P.	Bob B. Eric W.
<b>Counting Team</b>	Steve T Glenda H	Julie B Bob B	Rick H Dorothy C	Steve T Glenda H	Julie B Bob B

# January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30 am— Worship	2 5:00 pm— Weight Watch- ers	3 8:30 am— Weight Watch- ers	4 9:45 am—Adult Bible Study	5	6	7
8 10 am—Choir 10:30 am— Worship 12 pm—S.S. 5 pm—Confirm	9 5:00 pm— Weight Watch- ers	10 8:30 am— Weight Watch- ers	11 9:45 am—Adult Bible Study  7 pm—Church Council	12	13	14
15 10:30 am— Worship 12 pm—Youth 5 pm—Confirm	16 5:00 pm— Weight Watch- ers	17 8:30 am— Weight Watch- ers	18 9:45 am—Adult Bible Study	19	20	21
22 10:30 am— Worship 11:30 pm— Voters Assem- bly 5 pm—Confirm	23 5:00 pm— Weight Watch- ers	24 8:30 am— Weight Watch- ers	25 9:45 am—Adult Bible Study	26	27	28
29 10:30 am— Worship Ser- vice 5 pm—Confirm	30 5:00 pm— Weight Watch- ers	31 8:30 am— Weight Watch- ers				

## Key

S.S.—Youth Sunday School

Youth—Youth Group

Confirm—Confirmation Class

# Shop & Swipe Your Kroger Plus Card in 2017

Be sure to re-enroll your Kroger Plus card in 2017. All participants must re-enroll each year to continue earning rewards for their chosen organization at [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) . Once you've successfully enrolled and selected Trinity Lutheran as your organization of choice, we

will earn rewards on all eligible purchases you make using your Kroger Plus Card. You can earn rewards on almost anything, every time you shop. However, there are specific purchases that cannot be included. Alcohol, tobacco, government-assisted prescription purchase, post-

age stamps, Kroger gift cards, reloadable gift cards and debit cards, lottery and promotional tickets, fuel and sales tax are excluded from eligible purchases. Eligible Pharmacy purchases include out-of-pocket co-pays for non-government-assisted Pharmacy programs.

## Homebound Members

We are looking for a team of dedicated volunteers to deliver Holy Communion to our homebound members. Each month our homebound members are divided into geographic groups of no more than 2-3 visits. Our visitors call the folks on their list and arrange a visit time. Doesn't this sound like a great way to serve? Sign up today on the mission board.

### Homewood Healthcare Center

- Keith Burkholder
- Phyllis Mezger
- Jim Small

### Essex Healthcare:

- John Battcher, Jr.

### Homebound:

- Eileen Battcher
- Shirley Braaksma
- Phyllis Downey
- Jean Myers
- Sandy Neese

