



THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

DECEMBER 2024

*The Holy Trinity Herald is the official monthly publication
of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastor Lisa Nelson

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Marshall, Wisconsin 53559

Pastor office hours: Tu, 11:00am-2:00pm, Wed, 5:15pm-6:15pm

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Office manager Holly Davidson

Tu, Wed, Thur 10:30am-2:30pm

FROM THE PASTOR

From Pastor Lisa Nelson:

My week at Holy Trinity starts on Mondays when I begin studying the upcoming Sunday's assigned readings. These readings are called the Lectionary, which is 3 years' worth of readings from the Bible that are on a 3 year cycle. On Tuesdays, I go to text study, on zoom since the pandemic, where a group of us pastors talk about those readings for Sunday. This is a great help because our thoughts help create sermon possibilities.

After I write up my notes from text study, I head to Holy Trinity for office hours. This gives me and Holly, our secretary, a chance to look at bulletins and other important things. Holly is wonderful by the way! I also get to visit with anyone who stops by, lead the monthly WELCA Bible Study, and get ready for our monthly council meetings, among other things.

On Wednesday mornings, I write my sermon, which can take quite a while, as you can imagine. Later that day, I go back to Holy Trinity for my 5:15 office hour where I get ready for worship, spend some time with the confirmation students, preach and lead worship. We have had anywhere from 15 to 21 people worshipping on Wednesdays. And later during the week, I rework the sermon because it's not done until Sunday.

There are other things that need to be done during the week, such as visiting or calling people, including those unable to get out to church. I also come up with a children's message for Sunday, and of course, try to keep up with emails and synod activities. Finally, Sunday arrives! I take one last look at the sermon, and then I get to lead worship and preach for and with you all!

This "job" is about connecting with people and creating opportunities for people to connect—with each other and with Jesus. I also work 15 hours a week at St Mark's Lutheran Church in Madison and am a life coach. In addition to my own coaching clients, I coach for Awaken Dane, a non-profit that helps congregations connect with people beyond their church walls.)

I'm sure there are tasks I've forgotten to mention, but this covers a lot. I have really enjoyed getting to meet all of you and look forward to meeting more people as time goes by. If I haven't met you yet, please stop by during office hours or worship or arrange for another time with me. I'd love to meet you!

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The holidays are upon us. I would like to take this opportunity to say I hope you had a good Thanksgiving and were grateful for all of the blessings our Lord bestowed upon you and your family. I would also like to wish you and yours a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May we continue in the new year to help spread the good news of Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection.

Our annual meeting is January 26th after church service. We will be presenting the 2025 budget for your approval and also electing two new council members among other things.

The council is looking into more lighting in the parking lot and seeing why the light by the garage is not working.

I hope at Thanksgiving you thanked God for sending us Pastor Lisa, so we now have a regular pastor.

God bless you all. Yours in Christ,

Gary Waalkens, Council President

OFFICE MANAGER NEEDED *submitted by Holly Davidson*

It is bittersweet news that I will be leaving Holy Trinity. I enjoyed the people and the work immensely. My last day is Thursday December 5th. Please spread the word that a great position has opened at a wonderful facility with people who care!

WELCA MEETING-DECEMBER POTLUCK *submitted by Linda Baldrige*

WELCA members and guests will gather on Tues, December 10th at 12:30 PM at the church for the traditional Christmas potluck lunch. The business meeting will be suspended, but there will be Bible study time. Please join us as we share the Christmas spirit. All women of the Holy Trinity community are welcomed to attend our WELCA meetings.

OCTOBER & NOVEMBER COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS *submitted by Carolyn Madaus*

Meeting was called to order by Gary Waalkens at 6:00 PM.

Attendees: Gary Waalkens, Larry Legro, Carolyn Madaus, Kathy Schluter, Karen Browne, Pastor Nelson, Candy Lauby and Carol Woldt.

Opening Devotion by Gary.

Council Minutes from September, 2024 Were Reviewed Karen made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Carol. The minutes were approved.

President's Report- Gary brought up that there are not many children Sunday School. He asked what can we do? Pastor Lisa said it's been worse since the pandemic. For the pizza event Pastor reported there were 4 adults and 1 child.

Treasurer's Report-The September 2024 Financial Report was reviewed. Stained glass amount is corrected to \$12,604.50 and had been wrong on the report.

Candy made a motion to accept the report, second by Karen.

Pastors Report- Pastor feels like she is settling in. Eleven to fourteen have been attending Wednesday services. The 20 minutes after church has been good to connect with others.

New Business- The new girl scout troop 7076 wants a lock in at church in January. We should ask they don't go to certain areas of the church. Gary has the charter. They are requesting January 17th evening till 9 am Saturday, January 18th. It was suggested we could contribute something to them. Candy asked if we have a formal form that clubs complete? Does the troop have insurance? Follow up: Can they provide a certificate of insurance. Gary will follow up to confirm with the Girl Scouts.

Pastor installation service will be 10/27/24. Pastor Walter Baires will conduct the service. Pastor Walter and Pastor Lisa will work together on the service. One of our congregation members will present the call letter during the service.

WELCA is planning a reception for after the installation.

When pastor is gone in the evening service we will use a lay pastor.

Larry talked about the Marshall Youth Club. They take donations for sponsorships.

At 6:50 pm Larry made a motion to adjourn. Pastor Lisa 2nd the motion.

Carol Woldt has opening prayer in November.

The meeting ended with prayer.

On November 12, 2024 the Council met for its monthly meeting. The meeting began with an opening prayer.

Pastors Report: Pastor Lisa was happy with the installation. She is attending confirmation class for the first 15 minutes. Wednesday night services are increasing to around 20 attendees. She met with WELCA and had Bible Study. Pastor Lisa is getting to know many members of Holy Trinity.

The Council voted to allow the Scouts to have there Lock In at Holy Trinity.

Parking Lot lights were discussed and will be addressed.

The Blood Drive collected 21 units.

Candy and Larry volunteered to work with Owen on the budget.

Two council seats are open next term and the terms are 3 years. The Council will work to find candidates.

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 26th, right after church.

Candlelight Service will be 7pm on Christmas Eve.

A winter schedule was updated for Holly to adjust hours to 10:30am-2:30pm. If schools are closed, the church office will also be closed.

The meeting ended in prayer.

YOUR 2024-2025 CHURCH COUNCIL

Gary Waalkens, President*	608-655-4989	gwaalkkens1952@yahoo.com
Larry Legro, Vice President*	608-692-4177	LaLegro@charter.net
Carolyn Madaus, Secretary*	608-444-1220	zarolena@gmail.com
Carol Woldt	608-712-8947	bearcollector20@yahoo.com
Karen Browne		kbrowne_5@yahoo.com
Candy Lauby	608-235-3807	candyann258@gmail.com
Kathy Schluter	608-658-1796	schluterka49@hotmail.com
Student Representative	VACANT	
Owen Raisbeck, Treasurer:	608-225-3149	owenraisbeck@yahoo.com
Laurine Martin, Financial Secretary:	608-712-4069	laurinemartinbk1010@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL *submitted by Susy Pawl*

Our November Sunday School focus was showing our thanks and praise to God as we honed in on the story of the 10 Men Healed from Luke 17:11-19. Some highlights were making corn husk flowers to share at the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday and sharing some of our many blessings from God on the bulletin board in which members of the congregation were invited to add theirs to the list as well.

It's finally here! The Christmas pageant is scheduled for Sunday, Dec 15th at the 8:30 service. Actors and actresses should please arrive at 8:30 so we have time to get into costumes, grab props, and do any last minute rehearsing. Following service, there will be a cookie walk in the fellowship hall with proceeds benefiting the Sunday School and a special 'treat' from the Sunday School kids.

For kids participating in the pageant, practice and preparation times are on Sunday, Dec 8th from 8:30-10:30 and Saturday, Dec 14th from 10-12.

Please note that the Sunday School has reserved the fellowship hall for all of Saturday, Dec 14th as we will be setting up more after the kids leave and also will be leaving out supplies around the fellowship hall and church in preparation for the next day, thank you!

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE *submitted by Larry Legro*

The Budget Committee of Larry Legro and Candy Lauby, met with Church Treasurer Owen Raisbeck after worship on Sunday 11/17/24, and a budget was created for fiscal, calendar year 2025.

2024 budgeted for a total of \$100,380.00. In 2025, our anticipated expenses were increased to \$109,957.00, which is an increase of \$9957 over the 2024 budget. The biggest increase was for our property and liability insurances which now cost approximately \$19,000/year when in 2024 it was \$4800. We need to be aware of increased costs as the new year starts.

CONFIRMATION: EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY FROM 6 TO 7 P.M. (see calendar)

EVERY WEDNESDAY COMMUNION WORSHIP IS AT 6:30 PM UNLESS MARSHALL SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED OR THE TEMPERATURE IS 20 BELOW OR MORE.

OCTOBER FINANCIALS

<i>Income received in October</i>	\$ 5,567.83
<i>Obligations paid in October</i>	5,479.49
<i>Balance for October</i>	88.34
BALANCE ON HAND	\$12,461.81

POINTSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you wish to share a poinsettia for the Christmas Garden, please purchase your poinsettia, mark it with your name, and place it on the table in the narthex December 18-23. They will then be placed in the sanctuary before the holidays.

If you wish to share your poinsettia in memory of someone or to honor someone, please fill out one of the information sheets on the Welcome Desk. This information will then be mentioned in the bulletin and January newsletter.

If you have questions, please call the church office at 608-655-4246.

TOY DRIVE Girl Scouts who meet at Holy Trinity are once again sponsoring a toy drive. There is a box at the inside entrance to the church. The drive runs through December 15. If you can, please bring a new unwrapped toy and place it in the box. You can make a child's Christmas brighter!

MARSHALL-WATERLOO FOOD PANTRY 117 E. Madsion St. (Hwy 19), Waterloo

Two to three volunteers are needed to serve the 12:00 noon-1:00pm shift the first Wednesday of every month. Someone is needed on December 4. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY Second Harvest Food Bank has taken over operation of the Marshall mobile food bank. They have changed the food bank dates to the **SECOND MONDAY** of each month at 3:30 pm in the high school parking lot. Therefore, the next few distribution dates are:

Monday –December 9	3:30 pm	high school parking lot
Monday-January 13	3:30 pm	high school parking lot
Monday-February 10	3:30 pm	high school parking lot

RENTALS OF FELLOWSHIP HALL The fellowship hall is available to rent. The price for active members is a one-time event fee of \$25.00. The fee for all others is **\$50.00 per hour**. If you are thinking you may be interested in renting the hall, please contact the church office by calling 608-655-4246 or sending an email to htcstaff@holyltrinity-marshall.com, to check on scheduling and details. **REMINDER: No beer, wine, or alcohol of any kind is allowed in the building or anywhere on the church property.**

JOB OPENINGS AT HOLY TRINITY

Volunteer Coordinator to work with our Council and leadership teams to help recruit ushers, readers, communion servers, and other volunteers as needed. A wonderful way to get to know people. *Please contact a Council member or the church office if you are interested.*

PLANNED GIVING TO HOLY TRINITY

One way to ensure a bright future for our church is to make a planned gift that names HOLY TRINITY in your will. A bequest is a meaningful way to support the church’s ministry without affecting your cash flow during your lifetime. Your attorney can include it when you prepare or revise your will, or you can add a codicil at any time.

Gifts that do not restrict their use, or **unrestricted gifts**, allow Holy Trinity to use these resources where they are most needed. Of course, we are also grateful for gifts that are designated for a specific purpose that advances our mission, **restricted gifts**, such as support to a specific initiative or program. Or you could make a gift to the church’s Endowment Fund. At a time when secular non-profits are realizing the need to build their endowments, churches are still asking for operating support only. An **endowment gift** helps move us into a more sustainable position.

You could also choose to designate a portion of the proceeds of your IRA to Holy Trinity each year. We have been grateful to members who have chosen this option as a way to make a sizeable annual gift.

You may now use our online giving, through holyltrinitymarshall.com to make a gift directly to our Endowment Fund.

Another way to help Holy Trinity is to name the church as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy. This could convey assets in larger amounts without disrupting your current cash flow.

The Endowment Committee recently met and Dan Timpel will be joining the Committee. He will replace Jack Erb. If anyone has questions or wants to make a donation to this fund or the memorial fund they should contact Dan Timpel, Todd Madaus, or Owen Raisbeck.

HEADS UP! WAY UP!!!

If you wish to submit an announcement for a bulletin, you **MUST** submit it to the office (htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com) by the Wednesday prior, as bulletins are printed on Thursdays.

For articles to be included in the newsletter for the following month, they **MUST** be received in the office by the 22nd or they will not be included! Waiting for late articles puts more stress on office staff and newsletter helpers. Getting your newsletter information in on time is a courtesy to others involved in the process. Your cooperation is needed and appreciated.

CHURCH NEWS

****New Office Administration Hours: Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday from 10:30 am -2:30 pm****

Wed Dec 4	Marshall-Waterloo Food Pantry, 12:00-1:00 pm
Thurs Dec 5	Blood Drive 12:00-5:00
Mon Dec 9	Second Harvest in HS parking lot, 3:30 pm
Tue Dec 10	WELCA Christmas Potluck 12:30 pm/Council meets, 6:00 pm
Sat Dec 14	Sunday School Program Rehearsal & Party 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sun Dec 15	Sunday School Christmas program during worship and Cookie Walk following worship. Girl Scout toy drive ends.
Tues Dec 17	Quilt Tying 12:30 pm
Tues Dec 24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship at 7:00 pm

Quilts for LWR As quilt-making continues here at Holy Trinity, we always have an ongoing need for the supplies that go into making the quilts. Thank you to all our members and friends who keep an eye out for fabric that family members are disposing of and fabric that is available at garage sales and estate sales. We continue to request new bed sheets, used bed sheets, tablecloths, large pieces of fabric, etc. Even well-worn sheets are useful as the middle layer of a quilt. We welcome anyone who wants to get involved in making quilts either by meeting at church, by sewing at home or by cutting fabric squares at home.

One of our quilt groups meets at church 12:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to sort donations, prepare donations for use in a quilt, and tie the layers of a quilt together. Our other quilt group comes to church on the 3rd Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 am. Sewing machines will be provided.

Please join in various quilt tasks on our quilt days for whatever amount of time you have to contribute. We are grateful for all the support we receive from our Holy Trinity family that allows us to donate quilts to the Lutheran World Relief mission of providing quilts to people in need in the US and around the world. ****Please continue to provide new fabric that can be cut into squares for making quilts. It's then possible for someone to take the next step and cut 11-inch squares of fabric and donate them. ****

ELCA MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS. Per Constitution and bylaws of the ELCA, a person must give a monetary gift and receive Holy Communion at least once every calendar year to be a member. Holy Trinity is required to keep records of both giving and communion. (If you put cash in the collection

plate, that is not a contribution of record. We need to know your contribution came from you. (There are extra contribution envelopes on the Welcome Desk.) Please fill out a communion card at least once a year and on the day that you commune. That way we can make a record of it. Place your last name and first name of each person taking Communion on the card along with the date. You may place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. You may also request a visit from the Pastor on this card.

Electronic newsletter to save paper, you may prefer to receive this newsletter electronically if you do not already. Just e-mail htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com and let us know that.

Our website, holytrinitymarshall.com, is regularly updated. With all the latest news and information that you might need. And share the link to our online services with family and friends!

Our thanks and gratitude to those who continue to give so much for the sake of this body of Christ such as our organists, office secretary, treasurer, custodian, ushers, readers, communion assistants, WELCA, Altar Guild, those who lead Sunday School, and worship leaders.



Thank you also goes out to those who serve on our Church Council, Call Committee, and the Event Planning Committee. Thank you to our quilters, volunteers who continue to work the Second Harvest mobile food bank, and volunteers on the Wednesday noon shift the first of each month at the Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry, as well as those who volunteered for Wednesday night and Saturday morning shifts. Special thank you to all the volunteers who worked the food pantry during the month of November. Thank you to the person who cares for our grounds. We also appreciate the helpers who assemble the newsletter for mailing and everyone so willingly donating time and materials to maintain the church. Apologies if anyone was missed. Thank you all.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Marshall-Waterloo Food Pantry The Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry is on the lower level at 117 E. Madison Street (Hwy. 19) in Waterloo. (Please use the door in the alley.) People may visit the food pantry once each month. If you or someone you know needs help, make use of this resource.

The hours are Wednesdays from noon-1:00 pm and again Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm. Saturday hours are from 9:00-10:00 am.

There is a Red Cross blood drive on Thursday December 5 from 12:00-5:00. Go to the Red Cross website to register. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry is Monday –November 11 at 3:30 in the HS parking lot.

Did you know that Staples will take several electronic items in-store for recycling? Call your local Staples store with questions or check their website.

Foodshare Helpline 877-366-3635 If you are in need, or know someone who is, contact this agency to see if they can help.

Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Program at 1-866-432-8947 or 608-267-8601 is available if you need help with your utility bills. Give them a call to find out if you qualify.



Christmas

WORD SEARCH

F F Y V I N Q S D Q K C V B V
 Y A S T W Q D I H P A N V O K
 C Y I K I N S L V E O S X N M
 I M F T T M T E Y R P I G U K
 V N G R H O A N J B H H Q J R
 O R A Z O R R T Y H D M E D Q
 B J E T C A R N E V K I I R Q
 A D T J I A N I C B O R S D D
 B Y E P O V Z G F I B A D E V
 Y X I T Y I I H E P M C A W Z
 J C P A H L C T W L L L S R P
 E E V D B Q R E Y L S E F W B
 S S A V I O R V N G O L D X U
 U T H R E E K I N G S V V U Y
 S Y B V O G M D Q R Q G I I P

Silent Night
 Miracle
 Savior
 Three Kings

Gold
 Nativity
 Angels
 Star

Rejoice
 Faith
 Baby Jesus
 Shepherd

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!