



Dear Brothers and sisters in Christ,

As I write for the December newsletter I need to do a little bit of ranting.

It is just a few weeks after Halloween, but I noticed a shift this year. Halloween had not happened yet and I began to see Black Friday sales already. I logged on to the CPH (Concordia Publishing House) website, and I saw a big Black Friday ad for merchandise.

What is happening? At one time we had Halloween, then Thanksgiving and then Christmas. We have now seemed to go from major holiday to major holiday and nothing in between.

I know this newsletter is supposed to focus on Christmas, but Christmas has just seemed to evolve into a major holiday for stores to sell merchandise.

I am happy to see that stores remained closed on Christmas, and many have now begun to stay closed on Thanksgiving also, but what does that say about our culture? Are we so consumer driven that we can't take time to sit back and say thanks for all that God has done?

It has not been a problem here but I have known some churches where they shortened Sunday morning worship so they could get out in time to go to their favorite restaurant or see their favorite Football team on Sunday afternoon.

In the Old Testament they had several religious holidays. We are familiar with one of them, Passover.

However, they have a number of other holidays that are not just one day. Chanukah is a celebration of lights. It is not just one day it is eight. Shavuot our Pentecost celebration is three days. Rosh Hashanah the Jewish New Year is three days.

Why do I highlight these Jewish festivals? Because they are not just one day. They take time out to celebrate what God has done.

Back in October I gave the message at the Fall LWML Rally worship service. It happened to fall on the weekend of Canadian Thanksgiving. When I was in Canada it was kind of refreshing to celebrate it in October as it did not coincide with the beginning of the Christmas Shopping season (At least back then).

Okay so what am I driving at? I think we have forgotten what we are celebrating when Christmas comes. We have become so caught up in consumerism and all the other isms out there we forget to take time out to celebrate the Christ Child who came into our midst.

God stepped into our reality with his Son to make a difference in our lives. That is what Christmas is all about. God showed us his love for us by sending us his Son. What could be better than that?

All I ask is that we take the time to celebrate and give thanks for all that God has done. Let us keep ourselves focused on why we celebrate these holidays. May God help us focus on how we have been blessed by Him all the time.

Yours in Christ

Pastor Marshall

OTHER NEWS



Birthdays for the month of December

10 Joyce Anne Green
12 Ainsley Riederer
12 Betty Rice
13 Dorothy Herrod
18 Megan Raddle
20 Adam Shorts
21 Andrew Raddle
31 Carole Michael

If we forgot you, we apologize, it means we most likely don't have it. Please see that the office receives it. Thanks



Baptismal Anniversaries for the month of December

Rachel Clinton
Isla Burrus
Bettye Johnson
Bran Burrus

Church Maintenance

On the bulletin board in the hallway is a list of maintenance items that need to be done and how much each costs. Help us get these done.

Just a note to let everyone know that Our Flower Prices for Sunday mornings will be going up to \$40.00 in 2026

Perfect Attendance!

Sunday School Attendance for the month of November

Children:

Kaleigh Frye
Brennick Riederer
Ainsley Riederer
Baleigh Crook
Mannix Reiderer
Kingston Riederer
Cormick Riederer

Adults:

Tricia & Harold Jacobs
Pat Baughman
Sharon Calabretta
Karen & Bill Witt
Phyllis Dunger
Waymond Meins
Donna & Pastor Marshall
Susan Marshall
Danelle Riederer
Erin Foster
Lynne Russell
Cathy Webb
Amanda & Phillip Dunger



Remember our staff this Christmas by placing a donation in the box designated for staff.

Thank you



Sunday Average Attendance for last Sunday of October & first half of November— 58

Sunday Average Attendance online for last Sunday of October & first half of November— 14

Last Sunday of October & first half of November Offerings – \$16,880.51

RIEDERER ROLLERS "WE WILL ROLL IN, HELP, AND ROLL OUT!"

The Riederer family, as part of their homeschool studies, have a "helping business." As Ecclesiastes 4:9 states, "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor."

We have SIX (plus a parent).

We have experience in yard work, cleaning and organizing, painting, light power washing, etc.

Payment is negotiable based on time and job requirements.

Contact the "Riederer Rollers" for help! Flyers are available in the church Narthex with more information.

Call or text Danelle at 262-227-0660 or email at driederer1@me.com to schedule your helpers.

LWML NEWS

MARY GUILD



Mary Guild held its monthly meeting on November 6, 2025. Julie Shorts presented the

opening devotion entitled, "Be a Friend to Yourself and Others," based on John 15. The officers gave their reports and the meeting moved on to the election of officers. All of the previous year's officers agreed to continue to serve for another year.

The members reviewed mission projects for the coming year. There was an update on the Tucker Prison mission for Christmas. So far 840 packages of cheese or peanut butter crackers have been collected. The members will supply the additional 210 packages at the December meeting. Phyllis and J.P. Dunger volunteered to take the crackers to the prison.

Birthday celebrants for November were Pastor Marshall, Kaye Meins, Millie Kroll. We also sang to Gene Forrest whose birthday was in October and she was unable to attend then. Karen Witt was hostess and Phyllis Dunger presented a topic on the Lutheran presence in Haiti. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Their religion is voodoo. Gangs run rampant and prey upon the poor and weak. The LCMS has developed programs to bring Christianity to the island. They also feed thousands of children every day.

The December meeting is the annual Christmas party. There will be a potluck, games and prizes. Phyllis Dunger will give the opening devotion. All members are hostesses. The mission project for December is gifts for senior members.

Closed with the League Pledge.

Submitted by Kaye Meins



Esther Guild Mailbox Member Group

For November Esther Guild ladies were encouraged to ponder the blessings they have experienced in the last year. Some of the things to think about are milestones for family members, friends who have supported you in rough times, the beauty of nature, and always the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A bible study can be found on the LWML website called "Total Praise" which can help a person meditate on their blessings. There were also provided note cards and bookmarks from the LWML website to color.

These could be given away or used personally.

The LWML South Arkansas Zone Rally was held in November at St. Lukes in DeWitt, AR. There were several of us from our congregation that went to the rally. We had a great communion service, a productive business meeting, and delicious food. A good collection for the ingathering was taken. It was for ARM 180, which is a drug recovery organization in Dewitt. One of the leaders of that organization was the speaker during our meal.

We are encouraged to remember Neighbor to Neighbor this holiday season by providing cans of fruit along with nonperishable food items. There are 100 cans of fruit needed for the Christmas celebration.

Esther Guild is an online LWML group that receives an email once a month with devotions, ideas to serve, news, and bible studies. If you would like to be included in receiving this email, please let Erin know by sending an email to emboggan@gmail.com.

Submitted by
Erin Foster

women
IN
missions

And this good news of the kingdom
will be proclaimed throughout the world,
as a testimony to all the nations...

MATTHEW 24:14, NRSV

YOUTH EVENTS



Youth raised on paper order forms

Total sales = \$368.00 | Total profit = \$147.20

We still have the online ordering open for the next year .

Youth are working on the Christmas program.

Our next youth Fundraiser will be Super Bowl subs .We will have paper order forms starting January 4th and run through February 1st .All orders are due February 1st after church. Subs will be available for pick up after the 8th Sunday service.

GREAT JUNK HUNT SALE

The Youth participated in the “Great South Arkansas Junk Hunt.” THANK YOU to everyone who gave donations for the event! Thursday, October 23 and Friday, October 24 we had buyers ready at or before our opening time at 7am! Through the three days of sales, we were able to make over \$1.600! We will be participating again next year, so save the dates for September 24-26, 2026. More details will come on when we will be accepting donations for that event. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event a success!

SEES CANDIES

Our profit was \$169.10! The order has been placed. It should arrive next Friday, to be distributed on Sunday, November 23.

(If it doesn't I will make delivered if needed!)

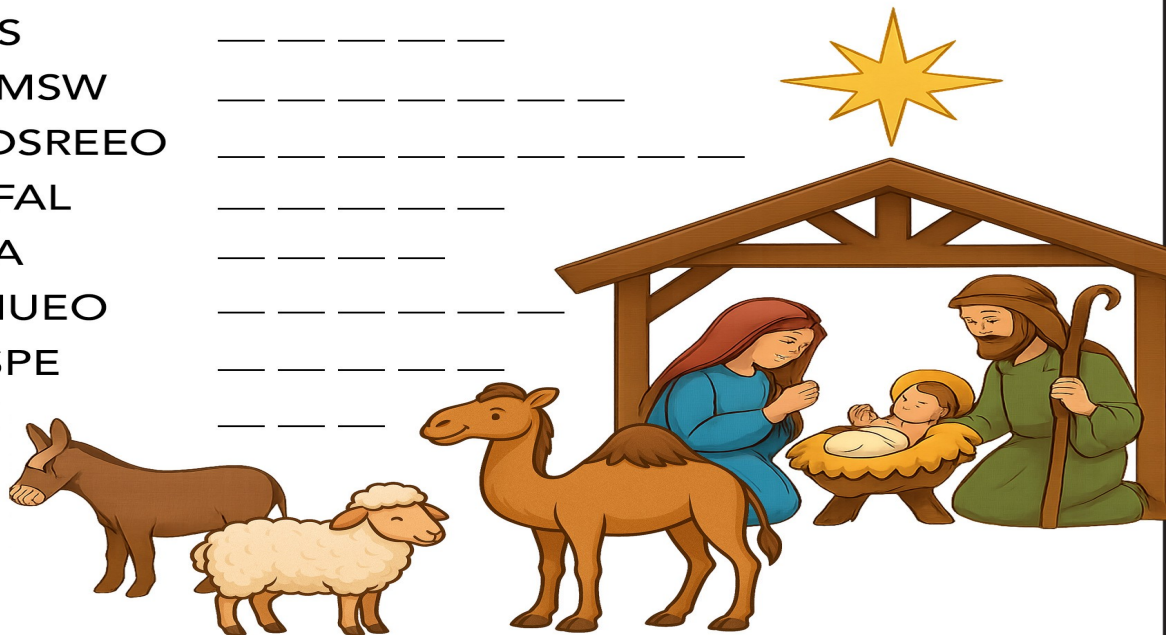
Our two fall fundraisers made \$1,784.10 for Youth Activities.

Puzzle!

The Christmas Story

Unscramble each set of letters to form a word from the Christmas story. One letter in each set doesn't belong. Write each extra letter below, on the line above the correct number. Then answer the question: What did we all receive at Christmas?

- (1) TGLBEHHEME _ _ _ _ _
- (2) NEAGLO _ _ _ _ _
- (3) NRMEDAG _ _ _ _ _
- (4) ODEKSNY _ _ _ _ _
- (5) AMGYR _ _ _ _ _
- (6) OHESJIP _ _ _ _ _
- (7) EFJSUS _ _ _ _ _
- (8) ITEENMSW _ _ _ _ _
- (9) SPHHDSREEO _ _ _ _ _
- (10) EMCFAL _ _ _ _ _
- (11) TLSRA _ _ _ _ _
- (12) CSSNUEO _ _ _ _ _
- (13) HEVSPE _ _ _ _ _
- (14) ENIN _ _ _ _ _



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12 13 14

Answers: Bethlehem (G), Angel (O), Manger (D), Donkey (S), Mary (G), Joseph (I), Jesus (F), Wise men (T), Shepherds (O), Camel (F), Star (L), Census (O), Sheep (V), Inn (E), God's gift of love

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 6:30 Mid-Week Advent Service	4 10:00 Thursday morning bible Study 12:00 Mary Guild Christmas Party	5	6 1:00 Craft Day in the Fellowship Hall
7 9:30 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion 12:00 Elders Meeting 2nd Sunday in Advent	8	9 8:30 Pastor's circuit meeting at Grace LR	10 6:30 Mid-Week Advent Service	11 10:00 Thursday Morning Bible Study	12	13
14 9:30 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion Congregational voter's meeting 3rd Sunday in Advent	15	16	17 6:30 Mid-Week Advent Service	18 10:00 Thursday Morning Bible Study	19	20 Parsley Family Gathering in the Fellowship Hall
21 Start of Winter (Winter Solstice) 9:30 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion/Childrens Program 4th Sunday in Advent	22	23	24 6:30 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	25 Christmas 10:00 Christmas Day Worship	26	27
28 9:30 Sunday School/Bible Study 10:45 Worship w/Communion 1st Sunday after Christmas	29	30	31			

December 2025

	Elder	Ushers	Acolyte	Lector	Flowers by...	Counters
SUN 7	Phillip Dunger Bill Witt	Andrew Raddle Dan Riederer	Espen Riederer	Erin Foster	Lynne Russell "In memory of her mom Claudette Russell "	Judy Clinton Julie Shorts Sharon Calabretta
SUN 14	Steve Lochmann Phillip Dunger	Steve Shorts Harold Jacobs	Kaleigh Frye	Steve Shorts	Pete Smykla "In memory of Sylvia"	Phillip & Amanda Dunger
SUN 21	Steve Shorts Steve Lochmann	Bill Witt Robert Floyd	Ainsley Reiderer	Robert Floyd	Christmas Poinsettias"	Tricia Jacobs Cherrie Bradley Lynne Russell
SUN 28	Bill Witt Steve Shorts	Phillip Dunger Andrew Raddle	Brennick Reiderer	Cherrie Bradley	Phyllis & JP Dunger "Blessings through the year"	Joyce Anne Green Charleen Weathers

Trinity Lutheran Church Worship Service Attendants

Altar Care: Kaye Meins & Phyllis Dunger

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Tel. No. (870) 534-4316

Return Service Requested

Recipient's Name
Street Address
City State 95555

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pine Bluff, Arkansas



youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurch8885



www.facebook.com/trinityowr