

Trinity United

237 N. Water Ave
Idaho Falls, ID 83402
208-522-7921

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IDAHO FALLS

IDAHO

December 2015



Christmas Eve Worship Opportunities.

4:30pm: Kids (of all ages) Christmas Program.

Using biblical narration and song, we will participate in the story of Jesus birth and adoration.

Shepherds, angels, royal people, sheep, camels, donkeys and brightly shining stars of all ages and genders needed. You may come already costumed — or we have plenty to go around!

No previous experience as any of these characters is required! Just show up at 4pm on Christmas Eve ready to pick how you would like to participate either as cast or audience. Potluck to follow!

7pm: Keeping Christmas in our Hearts

Come enjoy the voices of an expanded Trinity choir as they help us to remember the story of old...in the coming of a new born babe. Celebrate Christmas with a lighting of candles and the singing of Silent Night.

11pm: From the Eve to Christmas.

Welcome Christmas at this intimate feeling worship featuring music, Communion and candles.

Trinity United Methodist Church

Pastor's Perspective

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:1-14, NRSV

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, We are people of the Book!... and we follow the Christ who is "the Word became flesh." So as we begin the Christian year on the 1st Sunday of

Advent (November 29) I am delighted to reveal my preaching and teaching focus for the next 12 months. It is... (drum roll please) "God's faithful Word leading us to faithful action"

These are the words that we will be concentrating on during the four weeks of Advent:

- week 1 - Words of hope,
- week 2 - words of insight,
- week 3 - words of wisdom,
- week 4 - Words of Joy,

Christmas - "And the Word became flesh."

Blessings, Rev. Ruth

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Sunday, December 6th the United Methodist Women will be having a Holiday Treat Sale. There will be sweet items as well as soups and small casseroles. Purchases may be made after each service. This is a good time to save yourself time in the kitchen while assisting the United Methodist Women support the missions around the world for women and children.

Thursday, December 10th at 1:00 is the unit meeting to which everyone is invited to bring and/or wear an apron. Judy Gailey will be presenting a program on aprons that will be very enjoyable. At the meeting there will also be installation of officers for 2016, a time to pass the budget for UMW and presentation of a special recognition to one of the women.

HELPING OTHERS DEAL WITH WINTER

During December, an appeal is being made for gloves, hats, scarves, mittens and underwear that can be given to people in Idaho Falls who may have needs to keep warm this winter. There will be a tree in the sanctuary to put the items on. They will then be taken to various organizations that will have people needing to keep warm.

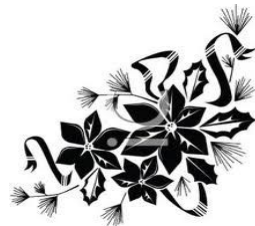
POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

It is time to order plants to prepare our sanctuary for the Christmas season. This year poinsettias are **\$8.00** each. Use this order form to indicate if the flowers are in memory or honor of someone and return the form and payment to the church office by Tuesday, **December 15, 2015**. Indicate **POINSETTIA** in the memo portion of your check. Please note that the earliest that plants can be taken home is after the 11:00 PM service Christmas Eve.

Your Name _____

Name In Memory _____

Honor _____



East Idaho Emmaus Gathering

Sunday, December 6, 2015

3:00 – 5:00 P.M.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

17th & St. Clair – Idaho Falls

Fellowship – Food – Music

Please bring a favorite holiday treat to share!

Open to ALL Walk to Emmaus Pilgrims and Friends
(whether or not they've attended a Walk weekend)

Questions??

Call Joyce Miles @ 521-9937 or

Linda Demmer @ 529-5610

December Birthdays

Barbara Brooks	12/02	Ellen Schuman	12/17
Dylan Empey	12/02	Kathy Smith	12/23
Jules Clemens	12/05	John Mullin	12/25
Clara Grimes	12/06	Jo Ann Rose	12/25
Margret Jobe	12/08	Rhys McClure	12/27
Gwen Weaver	12/11	Joanne McCray	12/29
Nancy Bergman	12/12	Jason Jakovac	12/30
Alyce Gonzalez	12/12		
Elaine Flatland	12/14		
Walt Weaver	12/14		
Kamiko Norris	12/15		
Davis Taylor	12/16		





Christmas at Trinity

Trinity United Methodist Church
237 N. Water Ave. Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

ALL CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FRIENDS are invited to join us in sharing a gift in song and words to our family and friends at Trinity UMC during the Christmas Season 2015.

We will present a program called “**Christmas Traditions Everywhere**”
Sunday, December 20, at 10:30 a.m.

There will be carols and stories of traditions, customs and symbols used from many cultures as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

We need **SINGERS, SPEAKERS, MUSIC INSTRUMENT PLAYERS AND ARTISTS**

More details will be provided for those interested.

Rehearsal Times: (after Sunday School) in the Chapel (snacks provided)

Sunday, December 6, -- 11: 30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 13, -- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, Dec 19 – To be determined


Sunday, December 20 – 9:30 – a.m. (no Sunday School this day)

Info will be provided for the participants to take home to practice too.

Small group or individual practices may be held if needed – TBD

Please contact: Betty Anderson – 208-523-8272 (h) or
cell 208-521-3039, e-mail: bettyellenba@gmail.com
Rev/ Ruth Marsh – church office – 208-522-7921 or
cell 208-419-7870, e-mail: pastor@tumcif.org
Terry Robinson – 208-360-1941(cell),
e-mail:robiterri@msn.com

You can also just show up on **December 6 at 11:30 a.m.** We may contact some of you sooner to invite you to share your talents with us too.



REGIONAL COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Committee Reports:

FISH - 25 client families were assisted in October; school supplies have been provided to 792 students this school year. An anonymous \$1,000 gift was received for the purchase of newborn car seats. **Greatest need: size 5 and 6 diapers.**

Community Food Basket - 941 families (3657 people) were assisted in October. Subway sandwich shops are doing a fundraiser, requesting customers to 'round up' to the next dollar.

Greatest needs:

assistance on Wednesday and/or Saturday mornings to unload food trucks (from 7 till 11 AM); also, canned goods, particularly cream soups, chili, and tuna.

Little Church in the Pines - a reminder to member churches that the Little Church is available for meetings, retreats, etc.

Other information:

Homeless Stand-Down - this annual event will be held on January 30; it provides homeless census information that is used to determine federal dollars that flow to each state. In Idaho Falls, a hot breakfast will be served; clothing and sleeping bags will

be available as well as hygiene items, 'take-away' single serve food items and a variety of medical services and vouchers. **Greatest need: white tube socks.**

Soup Kitchen - **Greatest need: canned cream soups (large cans preferred, please).**

Alternative Giving Fair - this annual November event at the Elks Club generated over \$27,000 in donations to nearly 30 local non-profit agencies.

Holiday announcements:

The annual Cantata will be presented at First Lutheran Church on Dec. 6 (8:15 and 10:15), Dec. 12 (11 AM), Dec. 13 (4 and 7 PM). Offering proceeds will be shared by the Soup Kitchen and Community Food Basket.

Old Fashioned Christmas and Winter Festivals at the Museum of Idaho, Dec. 11 thru January 2; closed on Mondays and Christmas Day; no admission charge. **Greatest need: volunteers to monitor displays on December 22** (2, 3, or 4 hours shifts available); contact Trinity member Bev Kemp to volunteer.



*The
Wesley Handbell Choir
presents*



“A Christmas Tapestry”

The 30th Annual Ring in the Season Concert

Saturday, December 5, 3:30 pm

Sunday, December 6, 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm

Trinity United Methodist Church

237 North Water Avenue

Idaho Falls, Idaho

TrinityBellsIF@gmail.com *for more information*

Free Admission

Child Care Available



Once you’ve finished, pray that God would give you the courage to reach out to those sources throughout the Advent season to fill your needs.

Prayer for the Week:

O God, you are our deliverer and our salvation. We give thanks this day that you are not deterred from coming to our aid by our indifference or our lack of trust in you. Restore to us the joy of our salvation. Help us, O God, to turn to you in times of need and in times of thanksgiving. Amen.

Advent Action Week 4!

This week’s challenge:

Write down the lyrics of your favorite holiday song (or maybe just your favorite lyric), and carry it with you throughout the week. Whenever you are feeling overwhelmed, sad, anxious, or frustrated...look at the lyric...think about it...maybe even sing it. And remember that the God of the universe loves you so much God was willing to come to this earth so you wouldn’t have to go through this life without knowing it!

Prayer for the Week:

Holy child, born of a singing

mother,
Forgive us our monotone lives,
for seeing darkness rather than light,
for hearing bad news rather than magnificent music,
for living with dread rather than delight.
Redeem us, enliven us. Give us hope in our hearts and a song on our lips. Amen.

Four fleece quilts have been made and given to the Foster Children program by the Missions Task Force! These give comfort and warmth to children who for some reason are not in their own homes and environment.

In case you didn’t see the notice in the Regional Council notes... there is an ongoing need at the Soup Kitchen for creamed soups to use as a base for other dishes!

Some Advent Activities To Enliven the Journey

Advent Action Week 1!

This week's challenge:

Find a news story each day (could be from the radio, tv, internet, print media, etc.) in which someone's life has been dramatically affected. It could be the story of an individual, or a community. Print it off, cut it out, or make a reminder to carry with you throughout the day of those involved. Each time you catch yourself recognizing the news story, pray for those affected, and pray that God would make you aware of what gifts you have that may have been, or could be of service to the situation. While you may not be able to help with that particular incident, it will make you better aware of your capability if a time should ever arise that your help is needed.

Prayer for the Week

We are watching, Redeeming God. In all times, in all places, we watch for a sign that your Redeeming One is drawing near. We wait. We watch. We wonder. Amen.

Advent Action Week 2!

This week's challenge:

At some point during the week, find a friend, a family member, or maybe even

a stranger, and take the opportunity to announce their entrance to the room (Example: "Hear ye, hear ye peasants dining at the tables of this establishment! May I announce to you the Burger King!")

For added fun, don't warn the person that you are going to do it. If you're too shy to try this, you can always just pray this prayer:

"God amidst the noise and excitement of the season...help me be aware of your presence, and know that the true king of kings is always with me."

Advent Action Week 3!

This week's challenge:

Take a piece of paper and draw a line, or fold it down the middle. On one half, write at the top "Thanks", and on the other half at the top write "Needs." First, fill up the half under "Thanks" with all the things you are thankful for. Feel free to use another piece of paper. Then, once you've exhausted that list move on to a list of your needs. When we take the time to catalog what we're thankful for, it helps us to focus on what we really need. Then, beside your needs, write a person or a place that might be able to help fill that need.

Christmas Eve at Trinity United Methodist Church

237 Water Ave.

4:30pm: Kids (of all ages) Christmas Program

Using biblical narration and song,

we will participate in the story of Jesus birth and adoration.

Just show up at **4pm** on Christmas Eve ready to pick how you would like to participate either as cast or audience. No previous experience as any of these characters is required!

- **Gabriel** (*the chief angel*)
- **Angels** (*of all ages and sizes*)
- **Zechariah** (*a priest*)
- **Caesar Augustus** (*a way to use that toga from the party?*)
- **Elizabeth** (*pregnant*)
- **Mary** (*pregnant*)
- **Joseph** (*before the birth of Jesus*)
- **Joseph** (*after the birth of Jesus*)
- **Mary with baby Jesus** (*Mary needs to come equipped with a baby Jesus*)
- **Shepherds** (*bring sheep if you've got 'em*)
- **Animals that might be found in a stable** (*sheep, goats, horses, donkeys, camels, cows, chickens, doves...*)
- **Stars** (*let your light shine*)
- **King Herod** (*another toga opportunity*)
- **Wise Persons** (*royal attire*)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT		1 6:30pm Finance meeting 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:30 Trustees Committee	2 9:00 Breakfast @ O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 1:30 NAMI 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	3 9:30 UMW Exec. Meeting 6:00 Missions Meeting 7:00 Choir 7:00 Girl Scouts	4 Church Office Closed 7:00 NA	5 12:00 Bells Rehearsal 3:30 Wesley Bells Concert 7:00 AA
6 UMW Holiday Treat Sale after both services 9:00 Praise & Rejoice 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Traditional Worship 4:30 Wesley Bells Concert 7:30 Wesley Bells Concert	7 6:30 Praise Rehearsal 7:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 NA	8 7:00 Cub Scouts 7:00 Daisy/Brownie Scouts	9 9:00 Breakfast @ O'Brady's 10:00 Prayer Shawl 11:00 Upper Room 1:30 NAMI 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	10 1:00 UMW Unit Meeting 7:00 Choir 7:00 Girl Scouts	11 Church Office Closed 7:00 NA	12 7:00 AA
13 9:00 Praise & Rejoice 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Traditional Worship	14 10:00 FISH 6:30 Praise Rehearsal 7:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 NA	15 1:00 RCCM 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Daisy/Brownie Scouts 7:30 Administrative Council	16 9:00 Breakfast @ O'Brady's 10:00 Prayer Shawl 11:00 Upper Room 1:30 NAMI 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	17 1:00 Ethel Clark 7:00 Choir 7:00 Girl Scouts	18 Church Office Closed 7:00 NA	19 7:00 AA
20 9:00 Praise & Rejoice 9:30 kids choir practice 10:30 kids program 11:30 Traditional Worship	21 6:30 Praise Rehearsal 7:00 NA	22	23 9:00 Breakfast @ O'Brady's 10:00 Prayer Shawl 11:00 Upper Room 1:30 NAMI 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	24 Christmas Eve <u>Christmas Eve Services</u> 4:30 Family Service 6:00 Potluck 7:00 Choir Service 11:00 Candlelight Service	25 Church Office Closed 7:00 NA	26 7:00 AA
27 Venture Crew Brunch after both services 9:00 Praise & Rejoice 10:15 Sunday School 11:30 Traditional Worship	28 *Church Office Closed 6:30 Praise Rehearsal 7:00 Bell Rehearsal 7:00 NA	29 *Church Office Closed	30 *Church Office Closed 9:00 Breakfast @ O'Brady's 10:00 Prayer Shawl 11:00 Upper Room 1:30 NAMI 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	31 New Years Eve *Church Office Closed 7:00 Girl Scouts	1 January New Years Day Church Office Closed 7:00 NA	2 January 7:00 AA

DECEMBER

Please have your articles for the January newsletter submitted no later than Monday December 14th, so we can get the newsletter out in time, with the holiday rush. Thank you!