

Trinity United Methodist Church  
237 N Water Ave.  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402  
Phone 208-522-7921  
TrinityUMCIdahoFalls@gmail.co

Return Service Requested



***Sunday Schedule Beginning on Rally Day!:***

***9:00 am Sunday School for all Ages***

***10:15 am Worship for Everyone & Kids Church***

***11:30 am Soup, Brunch, or Potluck***

**December Highlights:**

- 7<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm – Handbell Concert - See poster inside
- 8<sup>th</sup> @ 4pm & 7pm – Handbell Concerts - See poster inside
- 8<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 to Noon - United Methodist Women’s Holiday Treat Sale
- 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm - Snake River Radio Players performance “Twas”
- 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm & 7:30pm - Snake River Radio Players performance “Twas”
- 15<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 - Scout Brunch after worship
- 15<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00pm – Flute Choir Concert
- 19<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm – Idaho Falls Youth Arts Concert
- 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 11:30 – Potluck after Church
- 24<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm & 11:30pm – Christmas Eve Services

December 2019



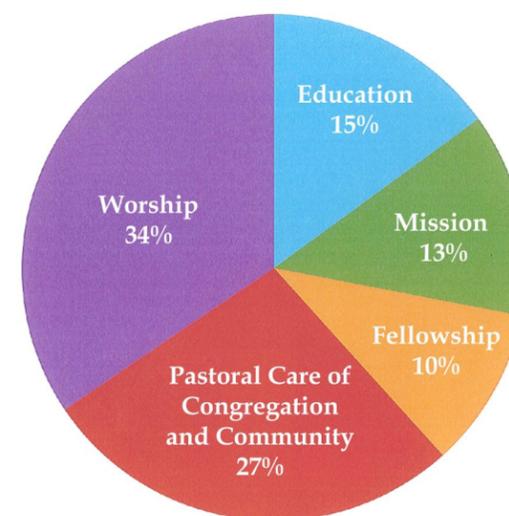
*“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”*

**Pastor’s Perspective**

*Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.*

*Malachi 3:10 (NRSV)*

The numbers are in! Trinity’s finance committee has calculated the church budget for 2020 and the Church Administrative Council has approved the amount of \$181,082. I have provided a pie chart to show how Trinity’s total expenses are spread over five basic “ministry areas” that represent how you are making a difference in the lives of church congregants and the community of Idaho Falls.



Please let me share some of the ways that your financial gifts were used during 2019 so you can envision how they might be implemented into ministry throughout the upcoming year.

The renovations and restoration work that we did at Trinity has expanded the ways our building can be used for education and mission. About 130 people each week attend some kind of “Anonymous” recovery group here. Roughly a half dozen folks stop by each week to shower. Meals that we share before or after worship (which are sometimes the only meal our homeless guests get that day) are much easier to prepare, serve and clean up. Your dollars made that possible.

A few of the ways that the pastor’s compassionate care fund got used included: a month of program and lodging at local drug rehab shelter, purchasing bus tickets to wherever home was, getting tires or engines fixed for people who found themselves stranded in Idaho Falls without any financial resources and purchasing clothing items for individuals. Your dollars made that possible.

Vacation Bible school taught approximately 20 children about the love of Christ in this glorious universe, and provided leadership and faith-sharing opportunities for a dozen of Trinity’s youth and several of our fabulous adult leaders. Your dollars made that possible.

Now that I’ve shared some of the awesome outcomes that your generosity made possible, I need to share some of the stark realities concerning finances at Trinity.

It is important that you understand how the budget committee arrived at the numbers

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH – IDAHO FALLS

for 2020. During the past 3 years, while we were raising capital funds for restoration, Trinity has not taken in enough money to cover our general budget; a couple of those years, our income didn't even cover our operating expenses, let alone pay our Annual Conference Apportionments.

Apportionments are Trinity's fair share of the cost to provide support structures at the Annual Conference (regional level) and the General Church (worldwide level) so we don't have to administrate pensions, health insurance, accredited seminaries, or run UMCOR at the local church level.

As one of 186 churches in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, Trinity's share of the Annual Conference budget is 0.007990% so our apportionment amount for 2020 is \$27,411.

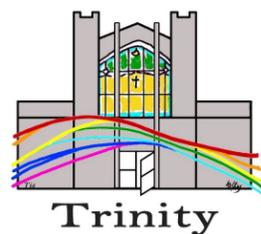
Since Trinity has been running a deficit and we

have paid very little of our apportionments this year, the Finance Committee chose to only include 33% of that amount, or \$9,137, in the budget for 2020. When District Superintendent Karen Hernandez gave me a stern talking to at Charge Conference about not paying our fair share of Apportionments, I replied that paying 33% in 2020, 66% in 2021 and then 100% in 2022 would be appropriate and realistic goals for Trinity; she agreed. This church has a long history of paying our fair share, and I look forward to a time in the near future when we can resume doing so.

Because of your hard work and financial support, Trinity is a bright spot in our community. Keep up the good work! It is an honor to be in ministry with you.

Blessings,

Reverend Ruth



## 2020 Pledge Form!

This form is to help you remember the amount that you and God have agreed upon as your financial support towards ministry at Trinity in 2020. You can return this form to the church office to be recorded with our financial secretary who can help you keep track of your progress, or you can keep the pledge card at home to remind you of your commitment to participating in ministry at Trinity.

### Trinity United Methodist Church - Pledge sheet for 2020

With the financial resources that God entrusts to this household, I/we desire to join with my/our siblings in Christ at Trinity UMC to be a blessing to this world that hungers for God's grace by sharing the following resources:

(1) Offering \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month/year (circle one).

OR

(2) Offering \_\_\_\_\_% of my/our income, which currently equals about \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month/year (circle one).

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

If at any time you wish to increase, decrease, or cancel your estimate of financial support, please notify our church's Financial Secretary at 208-522-7921. Contributions may be by cash, check, credit card, PayPal, or online BillPay from your bank.

## United Methodist Women - Mary Nagel

The November unit meeting was a special program on Spiritual Growth given by Kelly Carney and Kay Pottorff.

Important items to remember are:

- The bake sale is December 8th in the Parlor.
- Susannah Circle will not meet in December.
- Ethel Clark Circle will meet December 19th at 1:00pm in the Parlor.
- The December Unit Meeting is Dec. 12th at 1:00pm. The program for December is "Show and Share". Please bring a special ornament, decoration or share a Christmas memory. Guests are always welcome.
- Remember the bake sale is our only UMW money making project. Please buy and enjoy these delicious goodies!!!

**Merry Christmas to all!!!**

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**  
**"Holiday Treat Sale"**

Come and Enjoy the Large Selection of Cookies, Candies, Pies, Cakes, Breads, Soups, Casseroles and Other Goodies.

**This Sale Supports the UMW Missions.**  
Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 to Noon  
Trinity United Methodist Church

## The Grocery Cart Wish List for November! - Linda Milam

During December, the grocery cart parked near the sanctuary doors could especially use the following items:



Macaroni noodles, canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon, Spam), peanut butter, and diapers (size 4). As always, if you see other suitable items on sale, feel free to add those to the cart

as well! Please, no glass containers, home canned foods or items from bulk food bins!

All items will be delivered to Regional Council for Christian Ministry for our missions: The Community Food Basket and the Soup Kitchen, and FISH. Thank you for sharing your good fortune.

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Ruth & Mike Oar	12/01	Davis Taylor	12/16	For additions to or corrections on birthdays please contact Pam in the church office 208-522-7921.
Dylan Empey	12/02	John Mullin	12/25	
Vanessa Stewart	12/08	Jo Ann Rose	12/25	
Pam Traugher	12/09	Aaliyah Poulter	12/26	
Nancy Bergman	12/12	Jennifer Traugher	12/28	
Elaine Flatland	12/14	Joanne McCray	12/29	



I'm currently turning my attention to the Welbelos "Building a Better World" adventure. One of the requirements is to have a Community Leader speak with the scouts. The general idea is to find a "good leader" to speak on the topic of good governance. In scouts we hold up Akela from the book and movies "The Jungle Book" as the example of a good leader. As you recall, Akela confronts Shere Khan's rhetoric that Mowgli should be killed as a boy to avoid a future enemy to the animal world once he becomes a man. Akela had more faith in Mowgli, thus disagreeing with Khan. No matter the early attempts at diplomacy, ultimately a conflict ensued where Akela is killed by Khan. As we all know Mowgli escapes and goes on his own adventure before ultimately confronting his aggressor. Mowgli is victorious via his weaponization of fire. Ironically, the change in the status quo power balance caused by "Man's Great Fire" was Khan's original premise. However, the story correctly portrays Khan's behavior as villainous. It is a

mistake to view Khan's conflict with Akela as unacceptable. However, his violent behavior to secure his position is incorrect. Thus, I hope to find a leader that can discuss confronting conflict, not inflicting confrontation. All of us have had these experiences. If you are an Akela in our community, please give me a call 208-520-8883.

This month Pack 6 filled dozens of palettes for Scouting for Food, had a really fun Halloween Party, joined Troop 6 in a trip to Green Canyon Hot Springs, and had a mini-Day Camp where they had a Campfire program among many other fun things.



## Youth Activities - Betty Anderson

There are plenty of opportunities for children and youth to participate each Sunday in Advent and also on Christmas Eve.

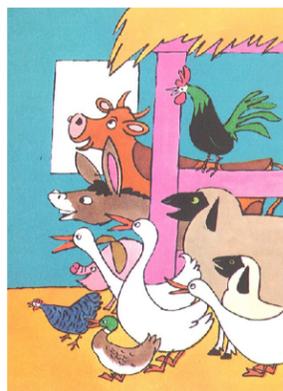
**Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22** are the Advent Sundays with worship at 10:15 a.m. We need 3 or more volunteers each Sunday to assist with reading and lighting candles.

**Christmas Eve, Dec. 24** at 6:30 pm – A pageant titled "**Friendly Beasts' Christmas**" will be presented. The kids will share a Christmas story told by "Clip, Clop" the Donkey, "Timmy" the Mouse and their animal friends as they travel with the Holy Family to Bethlehem. We need all ages of people to help tell the story. Musicians, instrumentalists, readers and others are essential. *We have a place for everyone!*

**Practice Time** - We will prepare for Christmas Eve during "Kids Times" each Sunday morning (beginning Dec. 1) with some practice following Worship for a short time as needed.

A "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party will be held following the Christmas Eve program.

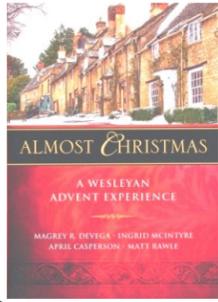
Please volunteer to participate soon. Call Betty Anderson, 208-521-3039 or Rev. Ruth Marsh, 208-522-7921, or 208-419-7870.



Look what the Trustees are doing!

- **Electronic Sign** – We now have an Electronic Sign at the front doors to keep us up to date on the events at the church and what room they are held in. It also scrolls posters of upcoming events and general church information. Right now the information is updated weekly but we are looking for a better way to update it.
- **Rear Video Display** – We started working on the installation of a video display at the back of the Sanctuary. This will allow the choir, band, lay leader and minister to see what is on the main display screens. The most notable effect is that Ruth will not have to stand by her laptop during the service to change slides for the hymns.
- **Handicap Entrance**. The handicap entrance foyer has repaired walls, fresh paint and new carpeting. Thank you, Robert Nesler, for painting the entire hall. Robert did a great job for us.

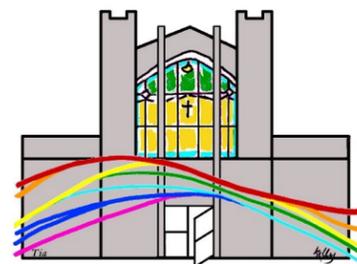
- **Parking Lot Sign Upgrade:** Rob installed metal sign posts at the entrance to our parking lots. They will hold changeable signs to control sharing of the north parking lot with the museum staff, and parking during large events at trinity.
- Completion of the annual Trustees report for Charge Conference on November 2
- Planting of donated tulip bulbs in the flower bed next to the parking lot entrance
- Repainting of the parking railroad ties near the big pine tree



### Advent Study

This year's Advent study in both adult Sunday school classes will be based on the book "Almost Christmas." This is an opportunity to return to our Wesleyan roots as we anticipate Christmas.

## Around the Church



### We Do Meals!!

- **December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> are Soup Sundays:**

Three crockpots of soup are ideal. Please sign up at the back of the sanctuary to bring your specialty!

- **December 15<sup>th</sup> is Scout Brunch:** The scouts will be preparing brunch for us after church. Remember that donations from the brunch support the scout activities.
- **December 22<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Pot Luck Lunch:** The Pot Luck Lunches are back until next spring.

### Gather at the Table

On December 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm we will have a delicious dinner and short devotional. Come and get together with your church community.

### Memorials

Nancy Nickerson passed away on November 16, 2019. An avid gardener, she loved growing whatever she could. Graveside services were held at Ririe-Shelton Cemetery.

### Flute Concert

June Cannon's flute students will present their skills and talents at a concert held on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm in the sanctuary.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 Advent 1</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship/Kids Church 11:30 Soup on Sunday 12:00 Reconciling Group  4:00 Youth Group  7:30 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>2</b>  6:00 Beginning Bronze 7:00 Wesley Handbells 7:00 Theology On Tap at Snow Eagle Brewing 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>3</b>  6:30 Girl Scout Troop 112 7:00 Cub Scout Den Meeting 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>4</b> 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's  11:00 Upper Room meeting  7:30 Boy Scout Troop 6	<b>5</b> 9:30 UMW Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 GS Troops 713 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:00 ThunderRidge Choir 7:15 Praise Band 8:00 Serenity Seekers	<b>6</b> Church Office Closed 9:00 Community Partners  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>7</b>  4:00 Handbell Concert  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous
<b>8 Advent 2</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship/Kids Church 11:30 Soup on Sunday 11:30 UMW Treat Sale 4:00 Handbell Concert 5:00 Youth Group 7:00 Handbell Concert 7:30 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>9</b> 10:00 F.I.S.H. 6:00 Beginning Bronze 7:00 Wesley Handbells 7:00 Theology On Tap at Snow Eagle Brewing 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>10</b> 9:30 UMW Program Committee Meeting  6:30 Girl Scout Troop 112 7:00 Cub Scout Den Meeting 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>11</b> 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's  11:00 Upper Room meeting  7:00 Pack Committee Mtg. 7:30 Boy Scout Troop 6	<b>12</b> 1:00 UMW Unit Meeting  6:30 GS Troops 713 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:15 Praise Band 7:30 Snake River Radio Players - 'TWAS 8:00 Serenity Seekers	<b>13</b> Church Office Closed  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 Snake River Radio Players - 'TWAS	<b>14</b>  2:00 Snake River Radio Players - 'TWAS  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 Snake River Radio Players - 'TWAS
<b>15 Advent 3</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship/Kids Church 11:30 Scout Brunch <u>Newsletter Articles Due</u> 4:00 Youth Group 6:00 Flute Concert 7:30 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>16</b> 11:00 Soup Kitchen Mission  6:30 Girl Scout Leaders Gp 7:00 Theology On Tap at Snow Eagle Brewing 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>17</b>  6:30 Girl Scout Troop 112 6:30 Cub Scout Pack Meeting 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>18</b> 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's  11:00 Upper Room meeting  <u>6:30 Gather at the Table</u> 7:30 Boy Scout Troop 6	<b>19</b> 1:00 Ethel Clark Circle 6:30 GS Troops 713 6:30 Chancel Choir 6:30 Idaho Falls Youth Art Concert 7:15 Praise Band 8:00 Serenity Seekers	<b>20</b> Church Office Closed  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>21</b>  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous
<b>22 Advent 4</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship/Kids Church 11:30 Potluck Sunday  4:00 Youth Group  7:30 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>23</b>  7:00 Theology On Tap at Snow Eagle Brewing 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> No Wesley House Meal  <u>6:30 Family Christmas Eve            Worship</u> 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous  <u>11:30 Candlelight Christmas            Eve Worship</u>	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> Church Office Closed  9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room  7:30 Boy Scout Troop 6	<b>26</b> <u>Church Office Closed</u>  6:30 Girl Scout Troop 713 6:30 Chancel Choir 7:15 Praise Band 8:00 Serenity Seekers  Ruth out of office	<b>27</b> <u>Church Office Closed</u>  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>28</b>  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous
<b>29</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship/Kids Church 11:30 Soup Sunday 4:00 Youth Group 7:30 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>30</b> 7:00 Theology On Tap at Snow Eagle Brewing 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 Troop 6 Committee  Ruth out of office	<b>31 New Years Eve</b>  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>1 New Years Day</b> Church Office Closed 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room  7:30 Boy Scout Troop 6	<b>2</b> <u>Church Office Closed</u>  8:00 Serenity Seekers	<b>3</b> <u>Church Office Closed</u>  7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	<b>4</b>  7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous

# DECEMBER

Please have your articles for the December newsletter submitted to: [donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com) no later than Sunday, December 15th, so we can get the January newsletter out in a timely manner. Thank you! Don Rohde-Editor [donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com)



## Ring in the Season with The Wesley Handbell Choir



**December 7, 2019, 4:00 pm**  
**December 8, 2019, 4:00 & 7:00 pm**  
**Trinity United Methodist Church**  
**237 North Water Avenue, Idaho Falls**  
**Free Admission, Donations Accepted**

### Regional Council for Christian Ministry - Linda Milam

- FISH: The major activity for the month was the annual Homeless Stand-Down on November 2. Many services were given or vouchers distributed for necessary things like flu shots, foot checks, haircuts, warm clothing and sleeping bags. School supplies have been provided for more than 700 this school year.
- Community Food Basket/Soup Kitchen: For the third year in a row, numbers served at the Food Basket will exceed the previous year (slightly more than 1000 per month this year). Most use the service only once or twice during the year.
- The Boy Scout Food Drive generated 60,000 lbs. of food this year, down about 25% from previous years.
- The capital campaign to purchase the warehouse has raised more than \$100,000 to date.
- The Urban Farm is making good progress, with work by volunteers, the City of Idaho Falls, and HK Contractors. A variety of grants are being applied for over the winter.

#### Recycle Plastic Film Project

Clean, dry, empty plastic bags & plastic film packaging may be left in the hallway across from Pam's office. We need to collect 500 lbs. to be recycled into a bench for RCCM's Urban Farm in Idaho Falls.

#### Christmas Eve Worship

6:30 Family worship  
11:30 Candlelight Worship



## POINSETTIA ORDER FORM



It is time to order plants to prepare our sanctuary for the Christmas season. This year poinsettias are \$10.00 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 Friday, December 20, 2019. Indicate POINSETTIA in the memo portion of your check. Please note that the earliest that plants may be taken home is after the 11:30pm service Christmas Eve.

Your Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Name In Memory: \_\_\_\_\_

Or Name In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_



## Girl Scout Troop 713 News - Nancy Stewart

November activities for the Girl Scouts included a trip to the Festival of Trees for crafts, attending Idaho Falls City Council Meeting, adventure at the Corn Maze and Thanksgiving basket donations for Girl Scout needy families.

December activities will include: a tour of Eastern Idaho Community Action Partnership and a Christmas party.

### Christmas Mitten Tree

It's that time of year again to collect mittens, gloves, scarves, socks (men, women, children), and underwear (men, women, children). The tree will be located in the back of the sanctuary beginning the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st. Items will be donated to local shelters like Promise Ridge Family Shelter and The Haven, with other supplies to be given out as needed.



### Snake River Radio Players Presents "TWAS"

We are happy to welcome back the Snake River Radio Players who have established a new tradition of retelling classic Christmas stories in the format of a 1940's era radio show. Everyone is invited to their fourth annual production, an original Christmas variety show "Twas!" Come watch and listen as they present a collection of traditional stories and songs of the season. Donations, of course, are always appreciated, however, admission is free so you can bring the whole family! Come laugh, cry, and join us as we welcome the most wonderful time of the year.

Snake River Radio Players Present:

# Twas

An Original Variety Show  
in the style of a 40s radio program

Dec. 12th, 13th, & 14th • 7:30 p.m.  
2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, Dec. 14th

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

Family Friendly Show • Free to the Public  
Donations are welcome to  
Shelley Supporters of the Arts @ Trinity UMC

For Questions or More Information, Contact SnakeRiverRadio.Theater@gmail.com



## Scouting Troop 6 News - Robin Stewart

Troop 6 had a great trip to Green Canyon, our annual beginning of winter/swimming activity. Two other troops (St. Paul's Troop 382 and the Elks Troop 387) were there also, so it was like a mini-camporee. Pack 6 joined us for Saturday, and we took them on a hike around the compound, exploring the wilds of Green Canyon.

We attended the annual council holiday auction, where Trinity scouters sponsor a table. Walker and Austin provided flag ceremony duty, and assisted with the auction, showing off the items as they were sold. We all had a great time, and I found a new leader for the troop, Steve - a Zombie target that quickly sported a troop 6 hat and shirt and came on a service project the following day.

Austin and Walker finished off service hours with Steve, cleaning up several rouge campsites and hauling a pickup load of garbage from the area. This completes the 50 miler award for Austin, who hiked 60 miles in the White Cloud area, and Walker finished his service requirement for the Life Rank. Good job, scouts!

The recent chocolate sales went well, increasing the scout accounts so they can spend some time outdoors. Between the Monthly Brunch, and our spring cleanup, our scouts can be self sufficient, which is the scouting way.

We received a notice that the national fees for the scouts will go from \$33 per year to \$65 per year. That is the national fee, which does not include units dues, which is what the scouts actually use for outings. While Troop and Pack 6 should be able to handle this additional cost (we actively fund raise), I fear that it will discourage new scouts or our LDS scouting brothers, who have had their fees paid by their church.

Our council is also being affected by the LDS Church leaving scouting, but I've advised our scouters and church members to focus on the scouts and to let all our LDS scouting friends know that there is a place they can continue scouting, either here at Trinity, or at one of the other great traditional troops in the area. Please pray for scouting, for strength for the upcoming changes that are going to affect us, and for the families we serve.

Upcoming events for the scouts include a (hopeful) ski trip to Granite Hot Springs (a nine mile ski followed a great hot soak), the annual Winteree (a Klondike Derby), our snow caving trip to Pine Creek Pass, and a great new adventure to Coyote Gulch in the Escalante Desert. It should be a great trip to escape the cold winter here in Idaho.

Scouting is healthy at Trinity (although we could always use more scouts and even more adults to lead their great adventures). *Thanks for all that you do for our Trinity Scouts!*

### Trinity Youth Group - Nancy Stewart

In November the Trinity Youth Group worked to develop the perfect corn dog. We ended the month by cooking a Pre Thanksgiving turkey feast for the congregation after church on November 24.

We will continue to meet most Sunday afternoons from 4 to 5:30. Call Rev. Ruth for information at 208-419-7870.

On December 8 the Youth Group will be serving the Bell Ringers dinner in-between the 4 pm and 7 pm concerts. That day we will meet at 5pm.

We are looking forward to youth participation in planning future activities such as a Youth Group lock in, a Mission Trip and various outings sure to please our Youth in Grades 6 -12.