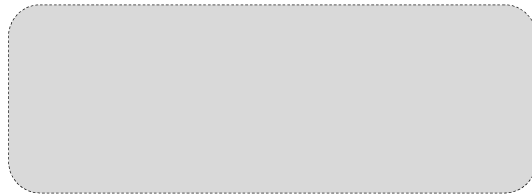


Trinity United Methodist Church
237 N. Water Ave
Idaho Falls, ID 83402-4003
208-522-7921
office@tumcif.org

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Return Service Requested



You are welcome each Sunday at:
9:00 am Sunday School for all ages
10:15 am Worship for Everyone



Building a Future in Christ

Trinity United Methodist Church

Pastor's Perspective

For which of you, wanting to build a tower, doesn't first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, after he has laid the foundation and cannot finish it, all the onlookers will begin to make fun of him, saying, 'This man started to build and wasn't able to finish.'

Luke 14:28-30

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,
In last month's Trinity Times I mentioned a figure that represented the church budget for 2017: \$209,304. Copies of the budget are available in the office.

This month, let me show you how your generosity will be at work through the actions of Trinity United Methodist Church this year. The pie chart on the following page spreads our expenses across five different ministry areas. That way it's easier to visualize what we DO with the money rather than just focusing on how much particular things cost. For instance, the total of all building costs add up to over \$30,000, which seems like a lot, but when you spread that cost over all of the areas that the congregation and the community benefit from, you can see what a good deal we get. We are not just pouring our money into a

January 2017

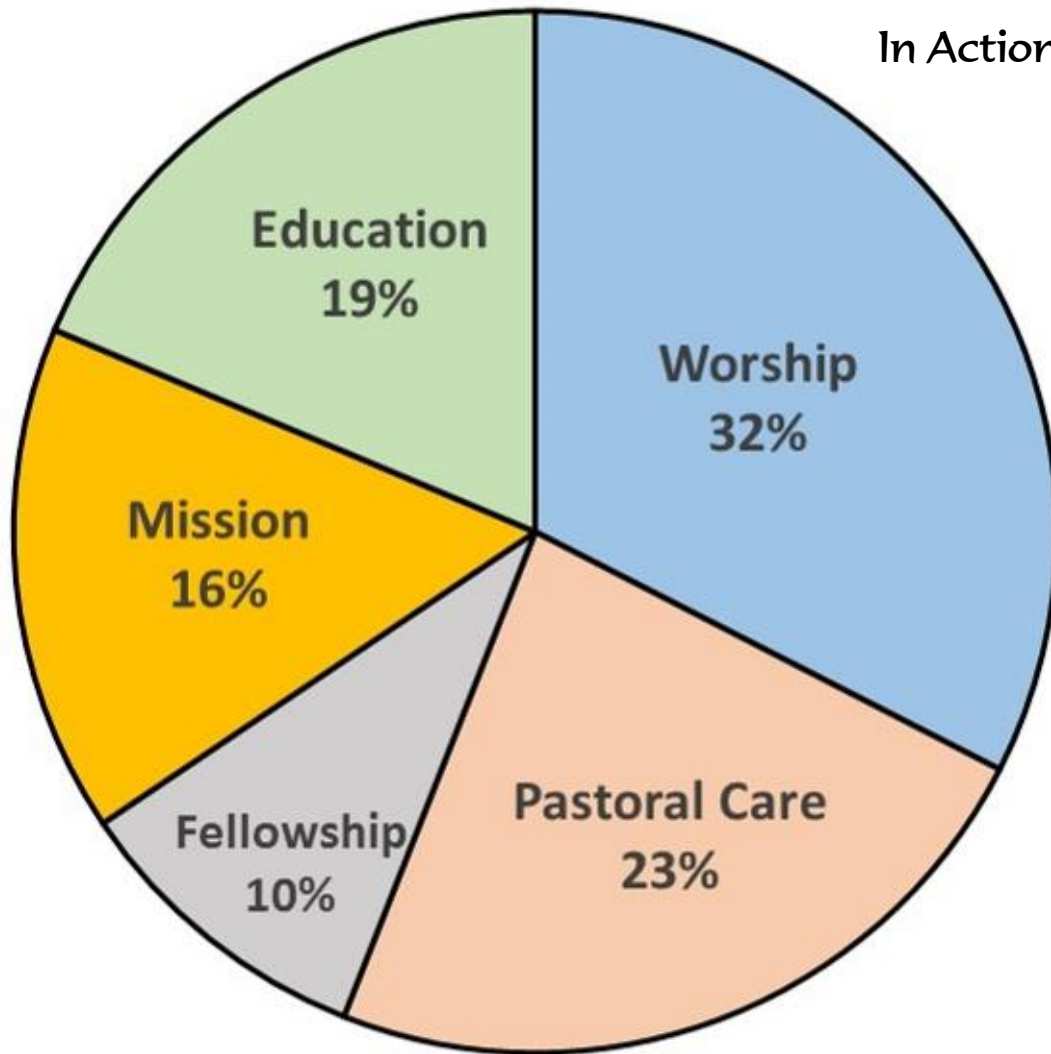


building that needs to be fixed, but making a difference in Idaho Falls. The term for this kind of description is called forming a “narrative budget”.

Once again, this newsletter contains a “pledge” form. Use it in any way that is helpful to you. That might mean filling it out and then returning it to the church office, or it may mean having it at home as a reminder of your personal financial commitment to this worshipping community.

--Blessings, Reverend Ruth

Your Money In Action!



Trinity United Methodist Church - Pledge sheet for 2017

With the financial resources that God entrusts to me/us, I/we desire to join with my/our fellow sisters and brothers in Christ at Trinity UMC to be a blessing to this world that hungers for God’s grace.

I/we would like to share these resources by:

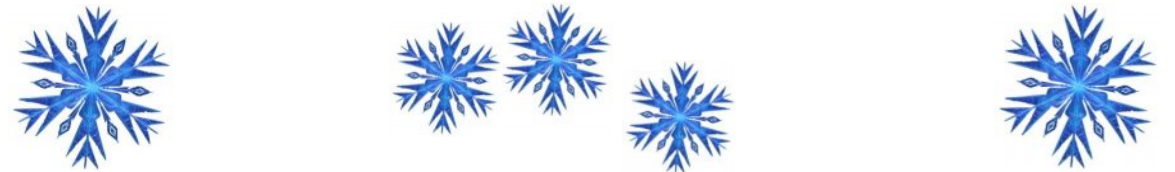
(1) Offering \$_____ per week/month (circle one).

OR

(2) Offering ____% of my/our income, which currently equals about \$_____ per week/month (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 in the church office at 522-7921.)



Welcoming Statement Project

We are beginning the 6 part and multi-month welcoming statement process that was detailed in the December newsletter.

Starting January 1st there will be 10 large posters displaying welcoming statements from other Methodist churches in the rear of the sanctuary and parlor. These will be available throughout Epiphany so that all the members of the congregation can read and compare them to get familiar with

the concept of a welcoming statement. There will be Post-It notes and pens will be available so members of the congregation can write comments about a particular section of the welcoming statements.

A welcoming statement must come from the hearts of the members of the congregation, so please take the time to read the example statements, discuss them, and make Post-It note comments.

United Methodist Women by Marilyn Taylor

At the December Unit meeting of the United Methodist Women, officers were installed for the coming year by Oregon Idaho Conference Secretary Lynda Montgomery. She has graciously installed the officers for several years and it is always great to have her as part of the local unit.

The elected officers installed were:

- **President:** Marilyn Taylor
 - **Vice President:** Mary Nagel
 - **Secretary:** Joy Christian
 - **Treasurer:** Joni Pace
 - **Social Action:** Cordy Koelsch
 - **Education and Interpretation:** Mary Nagel
 - **Spiritual Growth:** Kelly Carney
 - **Membership Nurture and Outreach:** Kathy Gaskill and Lorraine Driskell
 - **Program Resources:** Lorraine Driskell
- Others installed were:
- **Bake Sale:** Bev Kemp and Joanne McCray
 - **Holiday Treat Sale:** Lorraine Driskell,
 - **Sunshine:** Bev Kemp
 - **Yearbook:** Joy Christian, Lorraine Driskell and Sara Jensen
 - **Scrapbook:** Pam Hawker
 - **Susannah Circle:** Joni Pace
 - **Ethel Clark Circle:** Marilyn Taylor

For the program, Marilyn Taylor shared interesting facts about many Christmas customs all around the world, with some information that wasn't generally known. Kelly Carney conducted a memorial service which gave an opportunity for the women to share their memories of the women who had passed away during the year.

Thanks to many who donated and purchased items for the Holiday Treat Sale. The event was a huge success. The budget for the year was met and many people had special treats to eat and enjoy.

The United Methodist Women supports women, youth, and children all over the world. Donations were made locally to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), The Haven GED program, Hospice of Eastern Idaho, the Community Food Basket, the Soup Kitchen and F.I.S.H., all of which help local children, youth and women. Our United Methodist Women participate in all of these organizations.

There will not be a unit meeting in January, however, the United Methodist Women will assist in the worship service on January 29.

Trinity in Local Mission

By Marilyn Taylor

During December, gloves, hats, mittens, scarves, socks and underwear were donated and placed on the tree in sanctuary. The Missions Task force will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 5th, to sort and prepare to distribute the items to various places in Idaho Falls where they may be utilized.

Don't forget that diapers, wipes and pull-ups are always needed and can be placed in the basket in the parlor.



Trustees Corner

A trustee's job is to take care of the church building, not only in the long term restoration but in the day to day upkeep as well. This month:

- ◆ Nancy Vinnola of Glass Garden repaired the stained glass in the Children's Chapel.
- ◆ A semi-annual carpet cleaning was done on December 16 to be ready for Christmas services.
- ◆ The Vulcan oven had two thermostats quit working and parts have been ordered to fix the oven.
- ◆ The upstairs men's bathroom urinal was found to be leaking on 12/8 and a plumber was called to fix it the next day. We really looking forward to our new bathrooms.



- ◆ We are working with Electrical Equipment Co. personnel to upgrade the lighting in the last few rows of the sanctuary using the Farkus and Whitmill fund.

We would like to thank Paul Robinson and Mike Bean for their excellent service during the last three years as Trinity Trustees. They made a difference for our congregation. We welcome Linda Milam and Don Rohde as our newest Trustees.

Yours in Christ,
Nancy Stewart

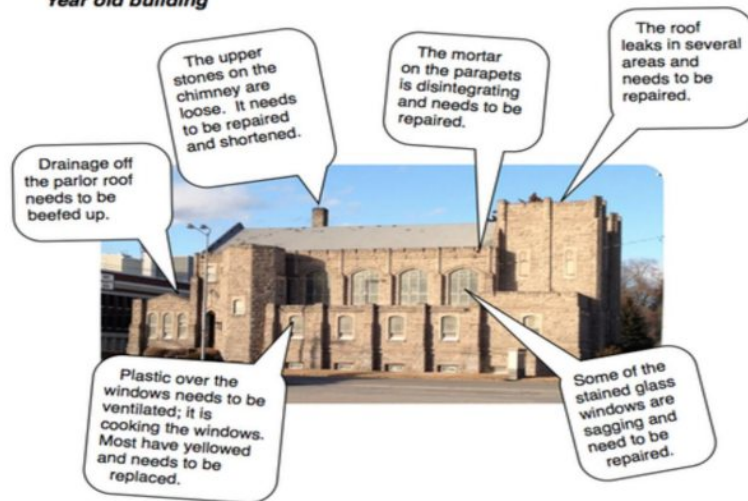
Building Preservation - Board of Trustees

Your trustees are working to implement the grant from that The National Fund for Sacred Places (NFSP) has awarded Trinity. Their grant process includes support and training to develop the plan, and training for a successful capital funds campaign.

Accomplishments in December:

- ⇒ The free-will offering from The Snake River Radio Player's presentation of Miracle on 34th Street totaled \$1,047 and was applied to our matching grant.
- ⇒ An agreement has been signed with Myers-Anderson, an architectural firm, to complete the detailed condition assessment of our building which will allow donors to see our vision and be assured

Caring for a 100 Year old building



that there is a clear path of priorities.

Activities for January will include:

- ⇒ Submission of the form for the \$5,000 Planning Grant from National Fund for Sacred Places. This will help pay for the assessment.
- ⇒ Attending a training in Fort Worth, TX, about strategies for fundraising will be will be Rev. Ruth, Nancy Stewart, and Mike Bean who will spearhead the Capital Campaign.

Trinity will be 100 years old in 2017. The Trinity restoration is a prayerful and purposeful effort to restore the masonry, roof, and bathrooms to 21st century needs. Our founders believed in our ability to care for the beautiful building they completed 100 years ago. We are eager to follow in our founder's footsteps with the Lord as our guide.

Yours in Christ,
Nancy Stewart





TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

To celebrate the last 100 years, we are raising \$150,000 to be matched by Partners for Sacred Places for:

- **New mortar to secure the upper stonework**
- **A new roof over the sanctuary**
- **Additional modern bathrooms**

Thank you for helping us preserve this beautiful building for future generations in Idaho Falls!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1 New Years Day 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship	2 11:00 Soup Kitchen Mission 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	3 7:00 Cub Scout Den Meeting 7:00 Daisy / Brownie 7:00 PM P.E.O. 7:00 Trustee Meeting – 108	4 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 6:30 Venture Crew 7:00 David Adler Lecture 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	5 9:30 UMW Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 Missions Task Force 6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice	6 Church Office Closed 9:00 Community Partners 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	7 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	
8 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:15 AM SPR meeting with Gwen 12:00 Lunch – Mission outlook with Gwen	9 10:00 F.I.S.H. 6:00 Beginning Handbells 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Wesley Handbells 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	10 1:00 Prayer Group 4:30 RCCM Meeting 6:30 Finance Committee 7:00 Cub Scout Den Meeting 7:00 Daisy / Brownie	11 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 6:30 Venture Crew 7:00 David Adler Lecture 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	12 6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice	13 Church Office Closed 9:00 Handcrafters 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	14 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 4:00 "For the Bible Tells Me So" class News Letter Articles Due	16 11:00 Soup Kitchen Mission 6:00 Beginning Handbells 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Wesley Handbells 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	17 7:00 Daisy / Brownie 7:00 Cub Scout Dens 7:30 Admin Council Meeting	18 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 6:30 Venture Crew 7:00 David Adler Lecture 7:30 Marnie Circle 7:30 Boy Scouts	19 6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice 7:30 Cub Scout Parent/Comm. Meeting	20 Church Office Closed INAUGURATION DAY  6:00 Candlelight Vigil on Broadway Bridge 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	21 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:30 Potluck Lunch 4:00 "For the Bible Tells Me So" class	23 6:00 Beginning Handbells 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Wesley Handbells 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	24 1:00 Prayer Group 6:30 ADAH - Aging, Dementia, Alzheimer's, Help 7:00 Cub Scout Dens 7:00 Daisy / Brownie	25 9:00 Breakft. O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 6:00 Susannah Circle-Garcia's 6:30 Venture Crew 7:00 David Adler Lecture 7:30 Boy Scouts	26 10:00 Newsletter Crew 1:00 Ethel Clark Circle 6:45 Girl Scouts 7:00 Choir Practice	27 Church Office Closed 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	28 9:00 Pinewood Derby at Temple View school 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	
REV. RUTH IN TEXAS—CAPITAL FUND RAISING CLASS							
29 UMW Sunday 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 4:00 "For the Bible Tells Me So" class	30 11:00 Soup Kitchen Mission 6:00 Beginning Handbells 6:30 Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00 Wesley Handbells 7:00 Narcotics Anonymous	31 6:30 Cub Scout Pack 7:00 Cub Scout Dens 7:00 Daisy / Brownie	1 9:00 Breakfast - O'Brady's 11:00 Upper Room 6:30 Venture Crew 7:00 David Adler Lecture 7:30 Boy Scouts 7:30 Marnie Circle	 <i>"January opens the box of the year and brings out days that are bright and clear." ~Leland B. Jacobs</i>			

JANUARY

Please have your articles for the February newsletter submitted to: office@tuncif.org no later than Sunday, January 15th, so we can get the newsletter out in a timely manner. Thank you!
Don Rohde - Editor-donrohde@aol.com

Regional Council for Christian Ministry

The Regional Council for Christian Ministry held its final meeting of the year on December 13th.

Committee reports:

F.I.S.H. has delivered school supplies to 873 students this year; 33 client families were served in November.

Community Food Basket served 4203 people in November (1,040 households – 2,147 adults, 1776 children, 280 seniors). A \$1,500 grant was received from the INL, and several food drives are on-going. The organization is finalizing the move to a new warehouse.

Little Church in the Pines will have a Christmas Eve service at 7 PM, December 24th.

Other Business:

Thanksgiving Eve Service received an offering of \$280 which will be given to the Hospice youth grief support group.

Community Food Basket The Community Food Basket and RCCM have prepared a letter explaining the plans for transitioning to an independent non-profit organization. It will be distributed to volunteers, board members and member churches. Bud Langerak has been hired to serve as interim director during the transition.

2017 Lenten series: member churches are asked to provide speakers or serve as host churches during the Lenten series, March 10 through April 7th.

Community News:

Soup Kitchen served 3,187 adults and 235 children during November. The year-to-date total is 33,845 adults and 2,832 children served.

Race to Feed the Hungry generated \$5,600 for the Community Food Basket.

Homeless Stand Down, an event to provide information about the number of homeless in our community, will be on January 28th. A hot breakfast, warm clothing and sleeping bags, some medical services, and a variety of 'take-away' foods will be provided. In addition, services are provided to homeless veterans at the event.

GREATEST NEED: WHITE TUBE SOCKS - Please deliver to Regional Council office, downstairs at Trinity, or call Bev Kemp.

Help would be appreciated on Friday, January 27th, 1 till 5 PM to set up for the Homeless Stand Down event. For information please call RCCM office at 208-403-2959

By Linda Milam

"For the Bible Tells Me So" Series

Over the span of 5 weeks, beginning January 15th, at 4 pm, we will delve into why so many people use the Bible to support attitudes of homophobia. "For the Bible Tells Me So" is a movie that focuses on how conservative Christians' interpretation of the Bible is commonly used as a way to deny homosexuals equal rights.

Following five families with an openly gay son or daughter, director Daniel G. Karslake offers a firsthand look at how those in the Christian community with an "out" child are affected by the homophobic fervor.

Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families -- including those of former

House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson -- we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child. Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, "For the Bible Tells Me So" offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.

Reverend Ruth will help us examine, with scholarly rigor, the 8 scriptures (and yes, that's how many there are in the whole Bible) that are commonly thought to refer to homosexuality.

4th Sunday Potluck

Don't you hate going out in the storm? Delay that for an hour or so after worship on Jan. 22nd by staying for pot

luck lunch! Hot food, warm room, and fabulous fellowship is waiting for you! See you there...

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Mike Bean	1/1	Kevin Carney	1/19	Trudy Denning	1/26
Sharon Kennedy	1/6	Donna Bailey	1/20	Laura Schaffer	1/28
Charlene Danvers	1/11	Keenan Bryan	1/20	Betty French	1/29
Gary & Jo Ann Rose	1/11	Irene Brown	1/23	Theo French	1/29
Kathy Harder	1/12	Mary Nagel	1/23		
Angel Cole	1/14	Deborah & Mike Bean		For additions or corrections in birthdays please	
Dean Mandiloff	1/14		1/25	contact Pam in the church	
Jane Simmons	1/16	Ruth Marsh	1/25	office. 522-7921	
Jeannine Beckman	1/18	Jeff Denning	1/26		

UMW Legislative Advocacy Event

United Methodist Women are sponsoring a Legislative Advocacy Event in Boise, February 26 and 27. This is a great way to understand how our state legislature works and to personally meet our state legislators. We will meet at Boise First United Methodist Church Sunday afternoon and evening to focus on the legislative process,

budget process, and an overview of legislative issues related to funding for social services. Monday morning we will visit the Capitol to attend committee meetings and sessions of the House and Senate. Monday noon we eat lunch with our legislators at the nearby First Presbyterian Church. Following lunch are options of a Capitol tour, House and Senate Committee meetings, and/or House and Senate sessions.

Cordy Koelsch, Social Action Chair of Trinity's UMW unit, has more information and registration forms which must be sent to Boise by Feb. 15. To save expenses we will carpool and share local housing if available.

Cordy Koelsch – pck853@live.com



Reverend Gwen Drake to Visit

Sage District Superintendent Rev. Gwen Drake will be visiting Trinity on January 8th. After worship she will meet with the SPR committee. That will be followed at noon by a working lunch catered by our own Crew 6. The congregation is invited to attend lunch, to meet Gwen, and to share our vision of ministry and mission in Idaho Falls. We need you to help describe how Trinity can become a more useful neighbor in the community.



Opportunity to Serve:

Hello, I'm Rob Erikson, a member of Trinity for a number of years. I am looking for volunteers from church to cook and serve dinner one night a week at City of Refuge, no cleanup involved.

The Idaho Falls Rescue Mission serves an evening meal at 6:00 pm every night to hungry residents and needy folks from the area. We plan for about 80 servings. Many guests have poor teeth and cannot eat food items like raw vegetables that are difficult to chew. Desert is not essential. Spaghetti, meat-

loaf, chili, well cooked pot roast, sandwiches, tuna casserole, potatoes and toppings, baked fish, baked chicken, and stews are some of the regular dishes. Food can be prepared and brought to the shelter, or prepared in the shelter kitchen. Volunteers are encouraged to serve the meal and eat with the residents. Cleanup is part of the C.O.R. residents routine chores.

It all starts with you making a difference! Please contact me at 227-6431 and feel free to leave a voicemail. Blessings from me to you.

Bridal Fair January 6th and 7th

TMUC will have a booth at the Bridal Fair January 6th and 7th at the Shiloh Inn in Idaho Falls to publicize the availability of our lovely church for weddings. This will increase our visibility in the community and help us touch more lives. Trinity has many attractive features for couples planning a wedding:

- Stunningly beautiful sanctuary providing an opportunity to be bathed in the light of the same stained glass windows that have witnessed the marriages of couples for last 100 years
- Historic pipe organ and grand piano to provide music

- Methodist polity allows for Rev. Ruth to marry people that are not currently members of the church as long as she provides premarital counselling for couples
- Historic landmark in Idaho Falls which is picturesque inside and out with castle-like design for photographs
- On-site reception hall with commercial kitchen
- Convenient location
- Reasonably priced

Rev. Ruth is looking for volunteers to assist her at the booth to share information about Trinity as a venue.

Scouting News

Girl Scout Troop 60 /62



We had a great time in November and December attending the Festival of Trees, participating in a Christmas party and gift exchange, ice fishing at Henry's Lake and staying in the Idaho Fish and Game cabin, and finally, attending the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony at the Museum of Idaho.

January plans include the kickoff of cookie presales, Morgan French and Angel Cole are available to take Trinity pre-orders. Our big event is to travel to Harriman for the annual cross country skiing weekend event 1/20 - 1/22.



Handcrafters

Handcrafters will meet once more, on January 13th. There is need for prayer shawls and that is a great time to work on them. Bring some other project, or just drop in for conversation.

Boy Scout Troop 6



Troop 6 had a great trip to a warming hut above Kelly Canyon Ski Resort. The boys constructed sleds for use during the trip. They are working on outdoor skills needed for the upcoming Winteree, the highlight of the winter camping season.

Venture Crew 6



Thank you to everyone for the response at the December Breakfast Buffet. We learned a lot about how much we should be ready for, and apologize for running out of food toward the end of the buffet. We will adjust our expectation for January. This will kick start the scouts' fund raising for their next big adventure, camping the Olympic Peninsula, which they are planning for next year.

Church Directories

All of the information and pictures are now in the hands of the publishing company. Do not hold your breath, but we should have the books by the beginning of March.

Sunday Evening Advent Series

The Sunday Evening Advent series on our earth's climate, and how to move forward, has come to a close. It was a fantastic series that explored the definition of climate change, the cause and effects, and how we as a worshipping community can make changes within our building and in our secular lives.

Some ideas that came about were to change to LED light bulbs, begin composting (there are non-smelly ways to do so and you can donate the compost to a community garden or local grower), and collect rain water or snow to use it to water gardens.

There is a very affordable option for curbside recycling. If you would like

more information on this service please feel free to contact Western Recycling at (208) 529-9908.

Also, as we move forward to be Earth-thinking people, please be mindful of using reusable items instead of disposable. For instance, you can use a travel mug and hydration bottles. If you are curious about the importance reducing plastic waste, please feel free to check out "The Story of Bottled Water" on YouTube.

— Tia Durrant



Aging, Dementia, Alzheimer's, Help (ADAH)

ADAH is Trinity's support group that identifies resources, and brings information on aging and help to the community. In January there are 3 support groups available in Idaho Falls that you could attend:

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support:

Jan 10th – Morningstar Senior Living

4000 S. 25th E
2nd Thursday, 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Contact Jana at 208-529-0800

Jan 19th – Foothills Therapy

3715 Woodking Drive
3rd Thursday, 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Contact Lisa at 208-521-3253

January 24th – Trinity ADAH

ADAH will present a discussion on funeral planning, prepaid funerals expenses, alternatives and how to be prepared as a caregiver. The meeting will be Tuesday Jan. 24 at 6:30 pm in the Parlor. To get on the email list contact Don Rohde at: donrohde@aol.com (860) 810-3227