

Trinity Tidings

ADVENT

December 2024
trinityvictorville.org

THE WORD MADE FLESH



WED NOV 27

WED DEC 4

WED DEC 11

WED DEC 18



WEEK 1:
Bread of Life

WEEK 2:
*Salt of
the Earth*

WEEK 3:
Rock of Ages

WEEK 4:
*Light of
the World*

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Staff

Office Administrator Jessica Santiago
jsantiago@trinityvictorville.org

Director of Music Leslie Gullett
lesliegullett88@gmail.com

Bell Choir Director/Tech Administrator
Michèle Sharik
michele.sharik@gmail.com

Bookkeeper Melanie Hendrickson
office@trinityvictorville.org

Nursery Attendant Debra Negrete
office@trinityvictorville.org

Custodian Jessica Santiago
jsantiago@trinityvictorville.org

Leadership

Executive Council

Congregation President Dan Cox
danandlisacox@gmail.com

Vice President Vicki Hall
huebird@mac.com

Treasurer Eric Amundson
ericamundson@hotmail.com

Secretary Allison Baughman
amlbaughman@gmail.com

Council Members at Large

(With ministry team assignments)

Michèle Sharik *Worship*

Allison Baughman *Christian Ed.*

Barbara Dresser *Fellowship*

Debbie Lewis *Service*

Blake Danser *at-large*

Trinity Church Council members can be identified by their blue name tags. These individuals, along with ushers, are good people to consult with if an issue arises on a Sunday morning.



In Need of Prayer

Help us keep the prayer list up-to-date...

If the need for prayer that put you on the list is no longer pressing or ongoing, please let the office know. Thank you!

Please continue to pray for:

God's continued direction in selecting a new pastor. For the lives, health, and healing of Isaiah Baughman, Shayna Bruker, Larry Dunn, Ulla Edwards, David Harris, Carol Kruse, Cathianne Lang, John Rude, Joy Ryce, Sally VanDenBerg, Julia Wadagnolo, Bob Warner, Steve Wendlandt, for those who are shut-ins or lonely, those who are grieving, those who are in danger around the world, and for all those serving in the military.

Please note: *The full prayer chain and updates are distributed by email or phone. Prayer is available to anyone. Please contact the church office to add prayers for you or your loved one.*

If you would like to receive prayer updates by email, please contact the office.

SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you would no longer like to receive special offering envelopes (there's a fee), email jsantiago@trinityvictorville.org or call the office.



Financial Summary

End of October 2024	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Year-to-date</u>
Actual Income:	\$ 14,390.23	\$ 170,631.24
Budgeted Expenses:	\$ 20,772.80	\$ 207,728.00

THE INTERIM PASTOR'S MISSION MEMO – DECEMBER 2024

Christmas is a special time of year, when we celebrate the birth of our Savior. In the early centuries, the church had an annual observance of the death of Christ. Before the fourth century, Christians, observed “Epiphany”, the manifestation of God to the world, celebrating Christ’s baptism, His birth, and the visit of the Magi. (Churches in the East—Egypt, Asia Minor, and Antioch continued this celebration until today)



During the fourth century, controversies raged over the nature of Christ. The Council of Nicaea (325 AD) met to deal with a heresy which taught that Jesus was not truly God but only a good human teacher and led to an increased emphasis on the **doctrine of the incarnation, the affirmation that “the Word was made flesh” (John 1:14)**. It is likely that the urgency to proclaim the incarnation was an important factor in the spread of the celebration of Christmas.

No evidence remains about the exact date of the birth of Christ. The December 25 date was chosen as much for practical reasons as for theological ones. Throughout the Roman Empire, various festivals were held in conjunction with the winter solstice. In Rome, the Feast of the Unconquerable Sun celebrated the beginning of the **return of the sun. The winter solstice seemed an appropriate time to celebrate Christ’s birth.** Thus, in the Western Church the festival of the sun became a festival of **THE SON, the Light of the world. Christmas, the name, a contraction of the term “Christ’s mass,” did not come into use until the Middle Ages.**

Christmas is a time to pause and give thanks for the love, hope, and joy found in Jesus. Some say that Christmas is a celebration of God's imagination. Popular traditions include: Exchanging gifts, Decorating Christmas trees, Attending church, Sharing meals with family and friends, and Waiting for Santa Claus.

We celebrate Immanuel, which means “God with us” (Matthew 1:23), is another name for Jesus. His birth and life is a message of good news. It doesn’t matter how hard or hopeless our situation may appear to be, God is there for us. We don’t have to journey through our challenges and struggles alone. He understands them. He walks them alongside us. As we exchange gifts with loved ones, it is out of remembrance of the gift God gave us in Jesus. The gift that we are loved, are never alone and can have hope for the future.

Merry Christ-Mass,
Rev. Milo Ken Anderson

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Ken". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

I have had great conversations with multiple congregants regarding the survey that we just completed for Project Pacifica. One suggestion that really stood out to me was the desire for more transparency around what happens in council meetings. In case you are unaware, council meetings are open to anyone who would like to join! Our meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of most months at 5pm in the conference room. If you are interested in zooming in- shoot me an email at amlbaughman@gmail.com and I can send you the link. In order to better inform the congregation as to what is happening at council, I will be starting a new newsletter column called "From the Secretary's Desk."

This month the major topic of conversation was all about the 2025 budget. As you should be aware, our next congregational meeting is Sunday, December 22 right after church. During that meeting, we, the congregation, will be reviewing the proposed budget and voting to determine if it will be approved. I would like to thank our treasurer, Eric Amundson, for the huge amount of work that it takes to prepare this each year. Both the executive team and council at large have spent the last couple of months reviewing this line by line in the hopes of being the best stewards of our resources. Additionally, we are preparing our end of the year reports from each ministry team. We are excited for you to see what amazing things our ministry teams have been doing.

Something that really stuck with me was a comment from Pastor Ken. He wanted to make sure that we knew that we "were worthy" as a congregation to receive a new full time pastor. We so appreciate the encouragement and love that both pastor Ken and Rosie have poured into our church family in this season of transition. We are indeed worthy and I hope that you continue to pray for both them as well as the call team as we wait for the pastor who will answer this call.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – HOLIDAY FUN!

Craffle – *Sunday, December 8*



Our annual Craffle, (aka craft raffle) will be held on Sunday, December 8th, in the Fellowship Hall. This project allows us to raise money for a "Good Cause", which changes every year. The Craffle is always so much fun! We have had home-designed jewelry for sale, paintings and photographs, lovely wooden crafts, and so much more. There are always many theme bas-

kets, such as Cats, Harry Potter, Dr. Seuss, Legos, ect. This is a perfect opportunity for you to do some Christmas shopping. Who knows what this year's surprise item will be?? We hope to provide pizza and salad for lunch. Get creative and see what you can make! Food items are always a hit. Questions? Call Judy Johnson at 760-985-0193.

Christmas Cookie Extravaganza – *Sunday, December 15*

On December 15, the Fellowship Committee would like to host a Christmas Cookie Extravaganza!! If you have a favorite Christmas cookie, we would love to have you share it with others as we enjoy coffee after church on that Sunday. If you could bring a plate of cookies, drop it off in the fellowship hall before you go to service on the 15th. **And then come back to savor all the goodies. Maybe baking or buying isn't** in your schedule that week-no worries! Still come to relish the cookies, the coffee or tea, and most of all, the fellowship with our Trinity Family.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Date	Lectors	Ushers	Communion	Acolytes
Dec 1 9:30	Blake Danser	Teresa Nava/ Marilyn Gonzalez	Blake Danser/ Beva Heath/ Debbi Lewis	Aundrea Gonzalez
Dec 8 9:30	Connie Johnson	Barb Dresser/ Lynn Heinz	Connie Johnson/ Allison Baughman/ Anita Holmes	Eden Weygandt
Dec 15 9:30	Marilyn Gonzalez	Beva Heath/ Ray Wolf	Marilyn Gonzalez/ Teresa Nava/ Blake Danser	Sawyer Weygandt
Dec 22 9:30	Eric Amundson	Larry Andersen/ Elias Barson	Eric Amundson/ Ray Wolf/ Debbi Lewis	Paxton Baughman
Dec 29 9:30	Allison Baughman	Teresa Nava/ Lynn Heinz	Allison Baughman/ Sue Tyler/ Connie Johnson	Crystal Piccoli

Are you interested in serving at Trinity as an acolyte (child), reader, communion assistant, or usher? We would love to put you on the schedule! Contact the office or email Allison Baughman: amlbaughman@gmail.com





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:30 Worship 10:40 Bible Study 12:30 Mt. Moriah 4:00 Casa De Adoracion	2 9:30 Dorcas Quilting	3 9:30-11:30 Pastor Ken Office Hours 11:30 Lunch & the Word Bible Study 6:00 Executive Team	4 12:00 Advent Service (followed by lunch)	5 10:00 California Retired Teachers 6:30 Bell Choir	6 6:00 Casa De Oracion	7 9:30 Widows & Widowers Meeting
8 CRAFFLE 9:30 Worship 10:40 Bible Study 12:30 Mt. Moriah 4:00 Casa De Adoracion	9	10 9:30-11:30 Pastor Ken Office Hours 11:30 Lunch & the Word Bible Study 1:30 Worship Team 6:30 Property Team	11 12:00 Advent Service (followed by lunch)	12 6:30 Bell Choir	13 6:00 Casa De Oracion	14 9:30 Widows & Widowers Meeting
15 9:30 Worship 10:40 Bible Study 12:30 Mt. Moriah 4:00 Casa De Adoracion	16 9:30 Dorcas Quilting	17 9:30-11:30 Pastor Ken Office Hours 11:30 Lunch & the Word Bible Study 5:00 Council	18 12:00 Advent Service (followed by lunch)	19 6:30 Bell Choir	20 6:00 Casa De Oracion	21
22 9:30 Worship 10:40 Congregation Meeting 12:30 Mt. Moriah 4:00 Casa De Adoracion	23 <i>Office Closed</i>	24 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30-11:30 Pastor Ken Office Hours 11:30 Lunch & the Word Bible Study	25 <i>Office Closed</i> <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26 <i>Office Closed</i> 10:00 Gather Bible Study 6:30 Bell Choir	27 6:00 Casa De Oracion	28 9:30 Widows & Widowers Meeting
29 9:30 Worship 10:40 Bible Study 12:30 Mt. Moriah 4:00 Casa De Adoracion	30	31 <i>Office Closed</i> 9:30-11:30 Pastor Ken Office Hours 11:30 Lunch & the Word Bible Study				
	<u>Note:</u> <i>Bolded= Trinity</i> <i>Non-bolded= Outside Group</i>	<p>The Newsletter submission deadline for the January issue is December 11 @ 8:30am. Please submit articles to: jsantiago@trinityvictorville.org</p>			<p>Pastor Ken's Office Hours Tuesdays 9:30-11:30</p>	

2024 ADVENT SERVICE AND LUNCH – Wednesdays at noon beginning November 27

Please join us for “The Word Made Flesh,” a series of special services for Advent led by Michèle Sharik. In this worship series, we are reminded that Jesus came to us in the flesh and revealed his divine nature to us through the description of physical substances we experience on earth.

Week 1 (Nov 27) Bread of Life: Jesus is born in Bethlehem, the House of Bread, to nourish and strengthen us in our faith and feed us with his Word of truth to fill our lives.

Week 2 (Dec 4) Salt of the Earth: Jesus calls us to flavor the earth and to savor the good things that come from him through his birth.

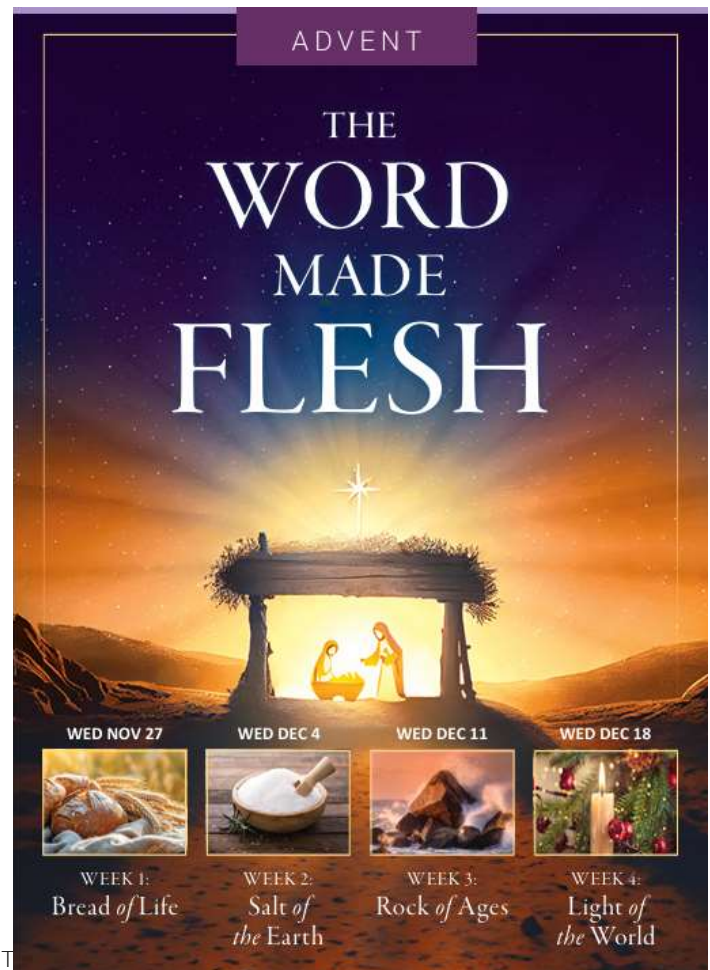
Week 3 (Dec 11) Rock of Ages: Jesus is our rock, a solid foundation on which to build a life of joy.

Week 4 (Dec 18) Light of the World: Jesus brightens our lives through his birth, dispelling the darkness of sin to bring forgiveness to light.

We will begin with the service in the Sanctuary and then share a light lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the service.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Please sign up to bring soup, salad, bread, a beverage, or a light side dish for the Advent lunches. A sign-up form will be in the Narthex beginning November 3. Plates, cups, napkins, and serving utensils will be provided.



The Trinity Ringers present **A Celebration of the Nativity**

Sunday, December 22, 2024 9:30 am



The Trinity Ringers present a special service of music, liturgy, and prayer in celebration of the impending arrival of Emmanuel — God *with* us. As Elizabeth's baby leaps in joy within her womb at the sound of Mary's greeting, so our own hearts leap with joy as we sing and ring praise to God for salvation. The Almighty has done great things for us and holy is his name!

PASTOR'S GIFT

Shhh! DO NOT DISCUSS THIS AROUND PASTOR KEN OR ROSIE

Where did the year go? It's already November and it's time to start thinking about Christmas presents! Trinity's tradition is to present the Pastor with a monetary gift. This is a way to show our gratitude for all Pastor Ken has done for us.

Please put whatever is on your heart to give in an envelope **marked "Pastor's Gift"** and mail it to 12127 Mall Blvd., Suite A #164, Victorville, CA 92392

OR place it in the offering plate on Sunday

OR choose "Pastor's Gift" when giving through our website at www.trinityvictorville.org/online-giving/

We are accepting your gift to Pastor Ken **now through December 15**. After that, we will add it up and have his check ready to present to him at our Christmas service.





TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

16138 Molino Drive
Victorville, CA 92395

Worship with Us
9:30 Sunday Morning

Phone: 760-245-3225

Fax: 760-951-8605

Office hours: M-TH 9am-1pm
email: office@trinityvictorville.org
www.trinityvictorville.org

Correspondence and packages send to:
12127 Mall Blvd., Ste. A, Box 164
Victorville, CA 92392

*Marked with the Cross of Christ,
We Love, Celebrate, & Serve each
other and our community!*

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DECEMBER 22, 9:30 WORSHIP
FOLLOWED BY:

CONGREGATION
MEETING



TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

trinityvictorville.org