

*The unity of the church is another reflection  
of God's glory!*



Third Sunday after Epiphany  
January 25-26, 2025





Trinity Lutheran Church  
213 North Pennsylvania Ave. | Mason City, Iowa 50401 | 641-423-0536 | trinity-mc.org

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*

January 25, 2025 - 5:00 p.m.

January 26, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

Livestream Worship Service/KCMR 97.9

*God's word is our guide and our hope. This weekend, as we gather for Trinity's Annual Meeting (Sunday at Noon - Fellowship Hall), we look at how scripture reveals God's glory and shapes us. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.*

**Welcome to Trinity!** We are glad you're here. If you are new to Trinity Lutheran, please complete an informational card which can be found in the pews.

**We love having small children in worship!** Those needing a space to change or feed little ones are welcome to use the **Child Care Room** located next to the nursery. A **unstaffed nursery** is available during the **9:00 and 10:30 services**, located on the 2nd floor just outside the north sanctuary door (door under the stained glass window door).

**Toddler Sunday School:**

*Every 1st and 3rd Sunday from 9:15-10:15am parents are invited to join their 0-2 year old for a time of free play, activities, and Bible stories in the nursery.*

**Seating for People with Limited Mobility** is reserved in the pew located in front of the Technical booth.

**Large print bulletins and listening devices** are available from the ushers.

**Activity Bags** are available for children during worship.

They are located in the narthex and at the front of the church. Please return them at the end of services.

**Serving in Worship This Weekend**

**Pastor** Pastor Dan Gerriets  
Pastor Daniel Hanson  
Pastor Beverly Butler

**Organist** Teresa Jacobson

**Cantor** Alli Day

**Greeters** Harlan and Marge Baack

**Coffee Fellowship**  
Kevin Hendrikson  
Kathy Pitcher  
Craig Remmen

**Scripture Readers**  
5:00 p.m. Sally Becker  
9:00 a.m. Kathy Dobrzynski

**Acolytes**  
Cash Edwards, Isaac Peters

**Technical Support**  
9:00 a.m. Sophia Fitzgerald  
Carter Rockwell  
Addison Koob

**Worship Transportation**  
9:00 a.m. Travis Hesley

**Ushers**  
5:00 p.m. Daryl and Krystal Erickson  
9:00 a.m. Mike Dutcher, Ryan Marquardt  
Gene and Becky Ott

**Building Host**  
David Stine

# GATHERING

## Prelude

## Welcome

## Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
our creator,  
our protector,  
our wellspring of life.

**C Amen.**

P Trusting that God receives our words  
and the meditations of our hearts,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Merciful God,

**C you speak blessing  
and compassion into the world.  
Forgive us for the ways we act  
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.  
We ignore the needs of our neighbors;  
we resist your call to oppose injustice;  
we give in to scarcity and fear;  
we assume the worst about one another.  
Cleanse us from our faults  
and release us from their grasp.  
Show us your lovingkindness.  
Restore our hearts and repair your world,  
that we may live in Christ's ways.  
Amen.**

P God proclaims these words of assurance:  
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you.  
I have called you by name. You are mine.”  
In † Christ, you are forgiven.  
In the Spirit, you are made free.  
Refreshed by the waters of mercy,  
live anew as beloved children of God.

**C Amen.**

**\*Greeting**

P The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world!  
God be with you.

C And also with you.

**\*Kyrie**

Marty Haugen

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

**Refrain**

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have  
mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O  
God. A - men.

*Congregation:*

# \*Thanks Be To You

Marty Haugen

*Congregation:*



1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your  
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov-e-nant of  
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O  
God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for  
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

**P** Blessed Lord God,  
you have caused the holy scriptures to be written  
for the nourishment of your people.  
Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn,  
and inwardly digest them, that,  
comforted by your promises,  
we may embrace and forever hold fast  
to the hope of eternal life,  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**Children's Sermon**(9:00 a.m.)

**Pastor Dan Gerriets**

## **First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

**L** <sup>1</sup> All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. <sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. <sup>9</sup> And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

L <sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members, yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

<sup>27</sup> Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. <sup>28</sup> And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. <sup>29</sup> Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? <sup>30</sup> Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? <sup>31a</sup> But strive for the greater gifts.

L The word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**



## \*Gospel Acclamation

Marty Haugen

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the fourth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

## \*Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

P <sup>14</sup> Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day

*Christ, Be Our Light*

ELW 715

**\*Apostles' Creed**

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**\*Prayers of Intercession**

**P** God of Grace.

**C** Hear our prayer.

**\*Peace**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

*During this cold and flu season please greet one another in the name of the Lord with a wave and a smile.*

# THANKSGIVING

## Announcements

### Offering

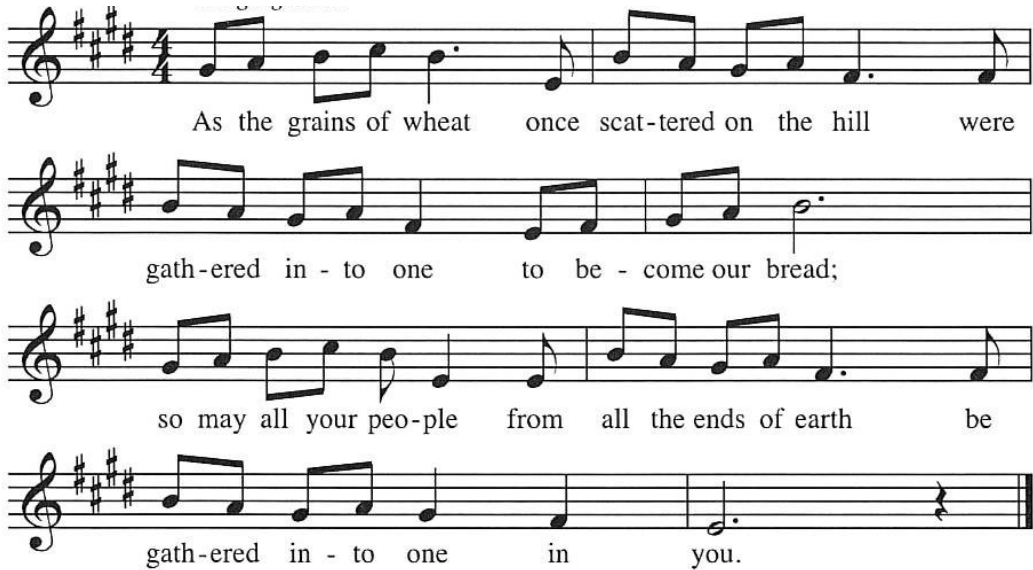
Text to Give is available at Trinity!  
Simply text the amount you wish to give to 833-412-0093.  
Or scan the QR code with your smartphone.  
Please note where your gifts should be directed towards.



### \*Offertory

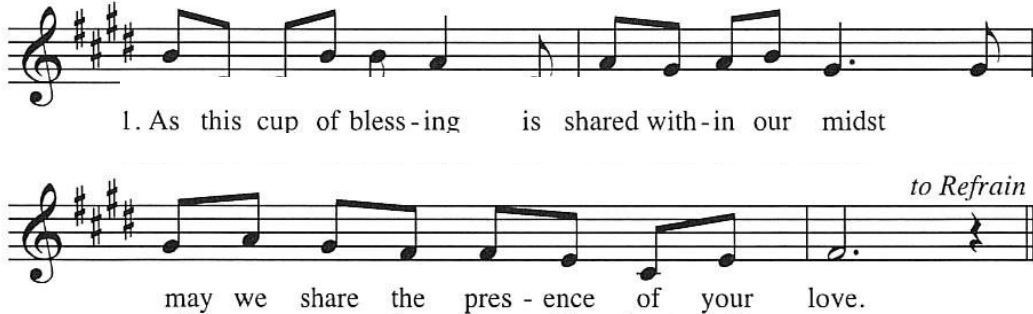
### *As the Grains of Wheat*

Marty Haugen



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;  
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be  
gath-ered in - to one in you.

### Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.

*to Refrain*

### **\*Offering Prayer**

P God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,  
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.  
Bless what we offer to your service:  
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.  
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,  
now and always.

**C Amen.**

### **\*Lord's Prayer**

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power,  
and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

### **\*Blessing**

P The Spirit of the triune God  
✠ bless you with joy,  
anoint you with compassion,  
and send you in love.

**C Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn**

*We Are Marching in the Light*

ELW 866

**\*Sending**

P Go in peace. Live in hope.

C **Thanks be to God!**

**Postlude**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **cover art for the bulletin** is in honor of the **Russ Brown's 90th birthday** which is on January 30th.

The **altar flowers** are in honor of **Nancy Rockman's birthday** which was on January 19th.

## Annual Meeting

Trinity's Annual Congregational Meeting will be **Sunday, January 26 at noon** in the Fellowship Hall. Agenda will include reports from staff and leadership, approval of this year's mission plan (budget) and a presentation on TLC's strategic initiatives for 2025. A free-will offering lunch will be served at 11:30 AM. *Menu is: Baked Spaghetti, Cranberry Fluff, Roll and Pie!*

## California Fire Relief

Multiple wildfires have broken out across Los Angeles County in California destroying property, taking lives, and forcing tens of thousands of people to evacuate. Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Southwest California Synod, Pacifica Synod and other partners to provide for immediate needs and recovery. LDR will accompany recovering communities for months and years to come. Please pray for those affected by the fires. To support LDR's work in California, write "U.S. Fires" on your check or envelope or go to the Give tab on our website. 100% of these gifts will be used to assist those in need.

## Camp Scholarship Drive

Trinity's camp scholarship program has been instrumental in creating such experiences. A week at Riverside Bible Camp is \$535/youth. For years, we have offset this cost by up to \$300/youth, enabling far more kids to attend than would otherwise go.

To ensure this can continue, ***we are launching a special drive to raise \$15,000 for camp scholarships by Easter Sunday 2025.*** Added to current funds, this should provide enough to cover the next three years of scholarships. Thanks to a generous lead donor, we have already raised over \$7K toward the \$15K goal! **To make a gift, simply write "Camp Scholarships" on your check or envelope.** Thanks for helping camps continue to be sacred spaces for God's holy work!

## **Kitchen Gadgets Galore—Waffle Iron | Monday, January 27 | 1-3:00 PM**

***Think beyond waffles when you consider the humble waffle iron!*** This workshop offers hands-on participation with every step of the process- preparing, and eating. Supply fee is \$5.00. Space is limited so sign up by the church office or call 641-423-0536.

## Child Car Seats for Families in Need

Cerro Gordo Public Health, the Mason City Community School District and the State of Iowa are working together to provide proper car seat use training to Mason City's growing Micronesian community. Donations for car seats are also needed to ensure each family has proper equipment to protect their little ones. Trinity is looking to provide 10 car seats (\$90 each) toward these hands-on training sessions. To make a gift, simply write "Car Seats" on your check or envelope. Thanks for helping us serve our neighbors in need!

**Trinity's Pastoral Care Staff** makes regular visits to Mercy One North Iowa hospital. But not everyone who is hospitalized appears on the clergy list. If you are hospitalized and wish to be visited, please contact the church office.

# Wednesday Night **ALIVE**

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 29**

**Meal / 6:00 PM**

**Menu:** Turkey & Gravy, Biscuits, Mixed Vegetables,  
& Dessert (*free will offering*)

**Programming / 6:30 PM**

- **Around the World in Eight Weeks** will be held in the Gathering Space. Explore the world through the lens and stories of Trinity members and friends. Each Wednesday world travelers will share their adventures to faraway lands. Photos of their trips will be highlighted in the Rotating Art Gallery.  
*Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>- Kenya & Tanzania- Nancy Sweetman*
- **Discovering Bonhoeffer**— Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor, neo-orthodox theologian and anti-Nazi dissident who was a key founding member of the Confessing Church. His writings on Christianity's role in the secular world have become widely influential. Learn more as you study Bonhoeffer with Pastor Dan Gerriets in January.
- **KINDERGARTEN - GRADE 6** Students will come to the 2nd floor and learn new things from talented Trinity adults with new activities each week.
- **CHOIR**—WILL START UP ON FEBRUARY 5!
- **CONFIRMATION GRADES 7-8**  
Confirmation students will gather 6:30–7:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall and experience small group and large group learning as they study for their Confirmation.
- **FLAME GRADES 9-12** High School Youth Group meets 6:30-7:45 PM in the Youth Room.
- **NURSERY** The Nursery is **UNSTAFFED** but open to preschoolers and their parents.

**Trinity Bronze Bell Choir and Clappers & Coffee Bell Choir** will resume this week under the direction of Marta Eenhuis. Bronze Bell Choir will meet on Monday, January 27th at 6:00 p.m. and Clappers & Coffee will meet on Thursday, January 30 at 10:30 a.m.

**Caregiver Support Group** | **Tues., January 28—9:30 a.m.** | Room 300 & on Zoom

Individuals providing care for loved ones in any capacity whether it is at home, in a care facility, or from a distance are welcome to attend to receive support and information. If you are interested in attending via Zoom call Trinity's office at 641-423-0536 for log-in information.

**Living Waters Conference Assembly**

The Living Waters Conference, comprised of ELCA congregations from North Iowa, will gather for their annual assembly at Good Shepherd on **Thursday, Feb. 13**. Our time will include worship with Good Shepherd residents, an informational session with Good Shepherd's chaplain and CEO, a brief business meeting and a lunch. Interested in attending? **Sign-up on the board near the office by Feb. 3.**

**Scholarship Applications**

Attention High School seniors and current college students: Scholarship applications and re-applications for the 2024-2025 school year are available to pick up outside the church office. Forms are available on Trinity's website. Applications must be turned in to the church office by **March 1, 2025.**

**Bulls Game for Families** (*of 5-12th Graders*)

**Saturday, February 8 | 7:10 p.m. | MC Arena**

All Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers are welcome to attend the North Iowa Bulls game on Saturday, February 8. Family members may also attend due to the generous contribution of Dr. Rich and Deidra Rattay. Those interested in tickets, please contact Carol Dettmer at [carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org](mailto:carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org).

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Monday, January 27

- 9:00 a.m. Lectio Divina (Rm. 322)  
9:00 a.m. Quilt Workshop (Fellowship Hall)  
1:00 p.m. Kitchen Gadgets Galore/Waffle Iron (Kitchen)  
6:00 p.m. Trinity Bronze Bell Choir (Sanctuary)  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scouts (Fellowship Hall)

### Tuesday, January 28

- 8-9:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)  
9:30 a.m. Caregiver Support Group (Rm. 300)  
Noon Staff Meeting  
4:15 p.m. NordKor Rehearsal (Choir Rm.)

### Wednesday, January 29

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study  
6:00 p.m. WNA Meal  
6:30 p.m. WNA Programming

### Thursday, January 30

- 8:00 a.m. BASES Exercise (Gathering Space)  
10:30 a.m. Clapper Bell Choir (Sanctuary)  
7:00 p.m. Una Vocis Rehearsal

### Saturday, February 1

- 5:00 p.m. **Worship Service**

### Sunday, February 2

- 9:00 a.m. **Worship Service**  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. **Worship Service**

## The 2025 Flower Calendar and Bulletin

Calendar have been posted. If you'd like to honor a loved one, remember a birthday and/or an anniversary while enhancing Trinity's sanctuary for the celebration of worship, please consider donating altar flowers or colored bulletins for a weekend. Both calendars are located on the bulletin board next to the church office. Altar Flowers are \$45 and Bulletins are \$25.

## John Adams Backpack Winter Food Drive

The John Adams Middle School (JAMS) backpack food drive will begin **February 8 and end on February 23**. There will be two drop sites, one by the office and one by the stairway to the sanctuary. Lists of foods that are needed will be located in the front of the box.

If you would prefer, you can make out a check, put JAMS in the memo line, and drop it off at the office or in the collection plate.

Thanks in advance to all those who donate to this wonderful program.

## Team Spirit Weekend

Have a favorite sports team or organization? Wear your jersey or other team clothing to worship on **February 8-9** as we celebrate **Team Spirit Weekend!** Look for the Superbowl Offering Challenge that weekend where you can "vote" for who you think will win the big game. **All proceeds will go to the Camp Scholarship Drive.**

**Our Mission** *We are called to share God's healing love through Christ's forgiveness and our personal servanthood.*

## Trinity's WEATHER Cancellation Policy

(due to inclement weather) is as follows:

- If Mason City School District has a **2-hour late start**, all morning activities are canceled.
- If Mason City School District has an **early dismissal**, all afternoon and evening activities are canceled.
- If Mason City School District is **closed for the day**, all day and evening activities are canceled.

Any cancellations made by Trinity Lutheran Church will be communicated via the following media outlets: **KIMT, KCMR 97.9 FM**, our **Facebook page**, and on our **website**, [trinity-mc.org/announcements/](http://trinity-mc.org/announcements/)