

December  
2018

# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church



## Committed Wise Men Worship Their King

Matthew 2:2, 11 – *“Where is the one who has been born **king** of the Jews? We saw **his star** in the east and have come to **worship** him ... On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and **worshiped** him. Then they opened their **treasures** and presented him with gifts of **gold** and of **incense** and of **myrrh**.”*

I’ve always been kind of **intrigued** by the wise men. Who **were** they? What were their **names**? Where did they **come** from? The Bible doesn’t give us any specific answers to those questions. The scholars who put together the NIV Bible have translated the word **literally**, and have labeled those individuals “**Magi**,” but they are still known throughout the world as the **wise men**. How flattering!

The fact is that the wise men were probably **astronomers** or **astrologers** who spent the majority of their time observing and studying the **stars**. This special, **miraculous** star in the east had gotten their **attention**. So, they **followed** the star, which led them to **Jerusalem**, where they expected to find the **king** of the Jews. They referred to the star as “**his star**,” and they said, “**We’ve come to worship him**,” showing that they were **wise men** indeed.

Wisdom is **measured** in many different ways. Certainly these Magi were **respected** by their peers as **wise** individuals in their field of study. But what **really** made them wise men was their **commitment** to find their **Lord** and **King**, to **worship** Him, and to give Him their **best**.

How wise are **we**? Have we dropped **everything** to seek our Savior? Is He the **main object** of all our Christmas thoughts, or does Jesus tend to get **lost** in the hustle and bustle of the season? Have we brought Him the **best** of what we have to offer - the best of our **time** and **talents** and **treasure** - or more often than not, does Jesus get whatever is **left over**? Is it our main objective to **worship** our Lord with all our heart, and soul, and strength; or do we sometimes find ourselves giving Him meaningless **lip service**?

If you’re like **me**, you’ll have to admit that there are times when you’ve been **less** than **wise** about **worshipping** our King, and giving Him our **best**. There’s always room for **improvement**. So, as we prepare our hearts once again this Advent Season for the coming of the Savior, let’s strive to **worship** our Lord at **every** opportunity. Let’s truly give Him our **best**, because He’s given us every **reason** to do so. By His suffering, death, and resurrection Jesus has **forgiven** all our sins, and has given us the gift of **life** with Him **forever** in heaven.

Those gifts provide us with tremendous **motivation** to be truly **wise** men - men, women, and children who **follow** the path that leads to the Lord - people who have every reason to sing the **praises** of the Babe of Bethlehem, **worshipping** Him with our lives, and **giving** Him our very best. Jesus, the Savior, was **born** to bring us **salvation**. So, let’s always be **ready** and **eager** to respond like the **wise men** of old. Committed wise men **worship** their King. Let’s be among them.

In Christ,  
Pastor Rosenow

## Mission of the Month December 2018

Our Mission for the Month of December this year is **Friends of China - USA**. Friends of China (FoC) is a non-profit organization that recruits, trains, sends, and supports WELS teachers in mainland China.

The mission of Friends of China is to build relationships through educational exchange in mainland China. In 2001, FoC sent its first four English teachers to Beijing. The organization grew rapidly, and to date FoC has sent over 270 teachers to ten different cities in the mainland.

Their teachers work in dozens of classroom settings, both public and private. They also operate a few independent training schools for specialized instruction. Teachers in China have opportunities to develop meaningful relationships built on trust and cultural awareness.

Friends of China continues to recruit, train, send and support dozens of teachers every year to further this mission.

## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

300 Seminole Ave  
Osceola, WI 54020  
Phone & Fax—715/294-2828

Email: telc@centurytel.net

Pastor David Rosenow, Pastor  
Carol Jensen and Gretchen Lindau,  
Church Secretaries  
Rachel Rixmann, Altar Guild

### 2018 Trinity Church Council Members:

Will Stob, President  
Jake Hoverman, Vice President  
Kevin Rogers, Treasurer  
Bob Jensen, Secretary  
Earl Plattner, Evangelism  
Todd Jaspersen, Stewardship  
John Schannach, Trustees  
Randy Getschel, Christian Education  
Chris Riba, Elders

### 2018 Board of Elders:

Chris Riba, Wayne Riba, Dale Thurber,  
Tim Stob, Eddie Johnson



On November 11th we gathered with 4 participants and studied the lesson *Peter Disowns Jesus*. There are people with disabilities in our communities who need to hear about Jesus’ love for them. JCM is all about telling them about the God who loved them so much that he sent his Son to fulfill the law perfectly and die innocently for them. We are striving to carry out Christ’s Great Commission by teaching His Word to these people. Come join us for our next gathering to be a blessing to others and reflect the love of Christ. Our next meeting will be held on December 8th, where we will share the lesson Jesus Before Pilate.



## December Worship Schedule

**Sunday Service. 9 am.**

If you are unable to attend Trinity’s Wednesday or Sunday services, note the following opportunity:

**Thursday worship, 4:30 pm. at Zion Lutheran, East Farmington.**

### Special Worship Notes

**Wednesday Advent Services** at 7 pm.  
Dec. 5, 12 & 19. A meal will be served at 5:30 pm.

**Christmas Eve Service**, Monday, December 24, 7 pm Candlelight Service (following the service— fellowship in the Fellowship Hall)

**Christmas Day Service**, Tuesday, December 25, 9 am. The Day our Lord was Born as Everlasting King.

**New Year’s Eve**, Monday, December 31 at 7 pm with fellowship following.

### Christian Education



- **Women’s Bible Study**  
Tuesday, 7 pm - **Will not meet in December. Will resume January 8th at 7 pm.**
- **Thursday Morning Women’s Bible Study**  
Thursday, 10 am. **We will meet on Dec. 20th- Study and Christmas Party. Will Not meet on Dec. 27th.**
- **Sunday Adult Bible Class**, 10:30 am. We will continue with “Book of Luke”
- **Sunday School PreK-8th Grade and High School “Inner Court”**- Sundays, 10:15 am. We will meet on Dec. 23 and 30.
- **Catechism Class** for 7th/8th Graders, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. Catechism Class will meet December 5, 12, 19th. **Will not meet December 26th**
- **Men’s Bible Study:** December 15th at 8 am at Trinity Lutheran Church.

## Blessing Baskets

All gifts and monies for the Blessing Baskets are due December 9th. Please return them by this date or call Rosanne at 715-294-1755 if there is a problem.



Another way to bring good tidings of great joy to our neighbors is through Christmas caroling that is scheduled for **Sunday, December 16 at 3 pm**. In addition to singing to senior members of Trinity we also sing to residents of The Christian Community Home and Royal Oaks Apartments. We will return to Church for refreshments.

## Midweek Advent Worship 2018

This year the theme for our Midweek Advent worship services will be based on messages from John the Baptist—the special prophet who was sent to prepare the way for the Savior.

### “John the Baptist Proclaims ...”

December 5	The Savior as the Lamb
December 12	The Savior as the Baptizer
December 19	The Savior as the Reaper

Also, this year the offerings received in our special Advent envelopes will benefit WELS Special Ministries. This important area of the synod’s work includes ministry for: Mental Health Needs, Health and Wellness, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Military Services, Mission to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Mission for the Visually Impaired, and Prison Ministry.

**Advent Suppers-5:30 pm:** Hosting the suppers will be Fellowship on Dec. 5th (chicken soup and sandwiches, Ladies Aid on Dec. 12th (lasagna and salad), and Council on Dec. 19th (tacos). If you are able the congregation is asked to bring desserts. There is a sign-up sheet on the narthex table.



Remember to focus on Christ as we gather to celebrate Christmas. After all there are thousands of people who have heard the Christmas story but who have not begun to worship Christ. Let’s all pray that these people will open their hearts to hear and become true worshipers of Christ Jesus. God is pursuing us with love, long before we pursue him. He knows us, knows our thoughts and actions. He doesn’t care where we came from, no matter what is going on in our lives. God gives us the greatest gift of all, and we get salvation through Jesus Christ. We ponder and prepare through the season and services of Advent, focusing on the promises of the Lord to come. We rejoice to hear the accounts of angels’ visits and manger cribs because Jesus’ birth is a very happy thing. Let us eagerly come together in worship and fellowship!

## Community Events

**Love Lights:** The Partners of Osceola Medical Center will be sponsoring the annual “Love Lights.” The lighting ceremony will be held on **Sunday, December 2nd at 4 pm**. Refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

**Christmas Celebration for Children:** Saturday, Dec. 8th. At Zion Lutheran Church for ages 4 through 4th grade. Christmas crafts, songs and the story of our Savior’s birth. The day will begin at 10 am and end at 12:30 pm. Lunch will be served to the children.





**Thank you for serving** A special thanks to all who have brought food served or cleaned up afterwards during 2018. It takes every one using their time, talents and treasures to do the work that the Lord wants us to do.

**Thank you from Ladies Aid:** The Ladies Aid wishes to thank all those that signed up as additional workers and cake bakers for the funerals held at our church. We have decided to continue with 3 committees.

**“Thank You” to all who contributed to the Ladies Aid drive for Winter Clothing for Northside Ministries**

On October 24, our daughter Elaine took back to Milwaukee three large bags of quilts and two large bags of clothing for Northside Ministries. Then on November 6, the remainder of the clothing was taken to Tomah where I met Elaine and transferred the remainder of the collection. She delivered them to Northside Ministries the next day. We had seven large black garbage bags, four smaller white kitchen plastic bags, four paper grocery bags, a large cardboard box and 6 smaller plastic bags containing bath towels, winter coats, sweat shirts & pants, socks, shoes, newly knitted items (hats, mittens, scarfs) and a small bag of personnel hygiene items.

Thanks you all for your continued generosity...Jean Brown




**Ladies Aid Christmas Party!**  
Thursday, December 20, at Noon

Everyone in the congregation is invited to attend. It begins with a lunch followed by Bingo. Please bring a small gift for a bingo prize, \$5 maximum.

**Christmas Eve Service:** The Christmas Eve Candlelight service will be at 7:00 pm. If you are able to bring Christmas cookies for fellowship following the service, please sign up on the sheet on the narthex table. Thanks!

**New Year's Eve Worship:** New Year's Eve Worship with Holy Communion at 7:00 pm. If you are able to bring crackers/cheese, snacks or dessert for fellowship following the service, please sign-up on the sheet on the narthex table.

**Serving Jesus with our Gifts & Talents**

Income and expenditure information for October and the fiscal year.

**BUDGET UPDATE**

	<u>Last Month</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
Income :	\$17,840	\$74,380
Expenses:	\$19,010	\$69,755

**End of Year Giving**

For tax purposes, please have all gifts turned in by **December 31** for inclusion in 2018. Thank you!

**Key People for December**

**Birthdays for December**



**DECEMBER  
BIRTHDAYS**

**Fellowship:**

- Dec. 2- Tim & Leanne Stob
- Dec. 9- John & Deb Schannach, Tracy Adamson
- Dec. 16-Randy & Trudy Getschel
- Dec. 23-Chuck & Doris Martinson
- Dec. 30-Earl & Carole Plattner

Fellowship Coordinator-Pat Kytola, Marsha Guggisberg

**Greeters:**

- Dec. 2-Will & Rachel Stob
- Dec. 5-Barb Hoverman & Betty Thompson (**Advent**)
- Dec. 9-Barb Hoverman & Betty Thompson
- Dec. 12-Dick & MaryLou Durand (**Advent**)
- Dec. 16-Lester & Pat Mortenson
- Dec. 19 -Ethel Richter (**Advent**)
- Dec. 23-Mike & Leann Johnson
- Dec. 24-Roger Howard (**Christmas Eve**)
- Dec. 25-Lyle & Marsha Guggisberg (**Christmas Day**)
- Dec. 30-Doug & Sandy Wellumsen
- Dec. 31-Ron & Jo Jaspersen (**New Year's Eve**)

- |                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Helen Swanson       | Dec. 1  |
| Dale Thurber        | Dec. 4  |
| Katie Bantz         | Dec. 5  |
| Arvin Larson        | Dec. 7  |
| Kevin Rogers        | Dec. 8  |
| Betty Wilker        | Dec. 8  |
| Claire Johnson      | Dec. 10 |
| Amber Pliscott      | Dec. 11 |
| Laura Pliscott      | Dec. 11 |
| Will Stob           | Dec. 11 |
| Wendy Steinbruckner | Dec. 13 |
| Joyce Gustafson     | Dec. 13 |
| Krystal Wehrmeister | Dec. 14 |
| Aaron Wrixton       | Dec. 16 |
| Donna Cottor        | Dec. 17 |
| Laura Jensen        | Dec. 18 |
| Corinne Rogers      | Dec. 19 |
| Ashley Gustafson    | Dec. 21 |
| Ashley Pool         | Dec. 23 |
| Diane Schmidt       | Dec. 27 |
| Tracy Riba          | Dec. 30 |

**Ushers: Team #4**

- |                |                               |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Jeff Rydeen    | <b>Advent: Dec. 5-Team 1</b>  |
| Eric Martinson | <b>Advent: Dec. 12-Team 2</b> |
| Will Stob      | <b>Advent: Dec. 19-Team 3</b> |
| Jake Lombard   |                               |
|                | <b>Christmas Eve-Team 4</b>   |
|                | <b>Christmas Day-Team 1</b>   |

- Communion:** Dec. 2- Betty Thompson & Rachel Rixmann  
 Dec. 16-Tom & Laura Jensen  
 New Year's Eve: Harold & Jean Brown

**December Counters:** Wayne Riba

**Anniversaries in December**

- |                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| Chris & Tracy Riba         | Dec. 4  |
| Earl & Carole Plattner Sr. | Dec. 6  |
| Arvin & Becky Larson       | Dec. 8  |
| Larry & Diane Schmidt      | Dec.15  |
| Steve & Joyce Gustafson    | Dec. 29 |



**Please Note:** If we have missed your name for a birthday or anniversary, we apologize. Please call the church office at 715/294-2828 and we will make the correction. Thank you!

