

Remembering November Events

Ada Ensemble



Foraged Ink Class



Trivia



Transfer Pizzeria Outing



The Scribblers "Thanksgiving Thoughts"



TRINITY WOODS

A Life Engaged December 2025



In this issue...

- Activities to sign up for.....2
- Spiritual Offerings.....2
- Recurring events3
- Special Events.....4
- Bus Trips / Shopping.....5
- Movies.....6
- Birthdays / Library News.....7
- Musical Performances....Insert

December at Trinity Woods is perhaps the busiest month of the year, with plenty of special holiday events, Christmas concerts to enjoy, and festive outings to attend! Yet, in the midst of all this fun hustle and bustle, don't forget to pause to take in the peace, hope, and joy of Advent. We have plenty of spiritual offerings this month, like our Spirit Series, that will allow you to contemplate the true meaning of Christmas and prepare yourselves for the coming of Jesus, both long ago and in our hearts today. 🌲

December Highlights

Christmas Lights Tour

Monday, December 15th | Depart at 7:00pm

Join us as we admire the beautiful Christmas lights displays in Wauwatosa and downtown Milwaukee! Highlights will include the Miller Valley light show, Cathedral Square park, Red Arrow Park, and more. We will take two buses on this outing to make sure that there's a seat for everyone who wants to go. Sign up in the binder.



Photos with Mr. & Mrs. Claus | Complementary Gift Wrapping

Friday, December 19th | 1:30-3:30pm | Library & Club Trio



Santa Claus is coming to town! Don't miss your opportunity to take a photo with the man in the red suit and his Mrs. Family members are welcome to join us. After your photo, bring your unwrapped holiday gifts to Trio, where resident Donna McElwee and her team of elves will wrap your presents for you, free of charge. Enjoy coffee and cookies while you wait.

Please note that dates, times and rooms for all Life Engagement programs are subject to change and in a worst-case scenario, canceled. Daily updates can be viewed on the TV information screen in the lobby or on your television on channel 965. Please reach out at ext. 6005 with any questions. If you have an event that you want highlighted in the January newsletter, the submission deadline is Friday, December 19th. Send all information to lbarker@trinityseniorservices.org.

Activities to Sign Up For

2

Please sign up for any or all of these activities in the binder located on the counter near the first floor mailboxes. One name per line please - for married couples, please sign up on separate lines. If your schedule changes and you are unable to attend, please cross your name off the list or call ext. 6005 so that your spot can be opened up for another resident. **Please note:** If you cancel an outing that requires tickets you may still be charged for the event.

Wellness Clinic: Thursdays, December 4th & 18th | 9:30am - 10:30am | Exam Rooms | Ground Floor

The nurses are happy to check your blood pressure, weight, and answer your general health questions.

Book Nook: Thursdays, December 4th & 18th | 9:30am | Lower Lobby

Book Nook is a fun opportunity to read aloud to one of the daycare children. Both the readers and the children enjoy this special time. If you have questions, please reach out to S. Mary Alyce at ext. 5202.

Art as Therapy: Fridays, December 12th (with Becky) and 19th (with Jodi) | 1:30pm | Art Room

This December, residents are invited to join the art as therapy group designed to spark creativity, connection, and curiosity. No art experience is needed, just an openness to explore and enjoy.

Creative Crafting: Saturday, December 20th | 1:30pm | Art Room

Create a handmade scented sachet using natural materials for the winter holidays. This craft class offers simple, guided instruction to help you assemble an aromatic sachet and a small note card with seasonal tidings. Participants may keep their sachet to enjoy the lingering scents of the season or give it as a thoughtful holiday gift. Suitable for all skill levels and designed as a relaxing, sensory-focused break during a busy time of year.

Sandwich Making: Monday, December 29th | 10:00am | Main Dining Room

We need 16 sandwich-making volunteers to make 100 PB&J sandwiches for StreetLife Communities, a local organization that provides food, hygiene supplies, medical care, and kindness to the homeless. Sign up for this service opportunity to help those in need.

Spiritual Offerings

Penance Service: Monday, December 1st | 4:00pm | Chapel

Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and experience Christ's love and mercy during this service.

Peace Prayer: Saturday, December 6th | 10:30am | Chapel

Your prayers will join with others around the province as you intercede for peace in our community, country, and world. *Note the time change.*

Monthly Reflection: Sunday, December 7th | 10:00am | Chapel

Enjoy a reflection given by S. Joan Penzenstadler entitled "Caught Up in Christ's Unconditional Love".

Sunday Spirit Series: Sunday, December 7th | 6:00pm | Chapel | Happy Hour to follow in Club Trio

Jon Metz, the Vice President of Mission Integration at Trinity Senior Services as well as professor of Theology at Marquette University, will lead us in an Advent reflection entitled "Waiting for Hope".

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Mass: Monday, December 8th | 4:00pm | Chapel

Join for a special Mass on this Holy Day of Obligation, celebrating the Immaculate Conception of Mary.

Candlelight Christmas Novena: Daily, December 16th - 24th | 3:15pm | Chapel

Everyone is invited to join in making the nine days before Christmas a time of prayer, peace, and reflection. Each day of the novena consists of a candlelight procession, songs, scripture, and reflection, lasting about 20 minutes in total. Please come (and feel free to bring guests) for just one day or all nine.

Christmas Day Mass: Thursday, December 25th | 10:00am | Chapel

Celebrate the joy of Christmas with us at this special Mass. Note that there will be no 4pm Mass this day.

Resident Birthdays

7



12/1 - S. Pat Caswell

12/2 - S. Bernita Marie Bittner

12/2 - S. Mary Ann Kuttner

12/5 - Joy Grossman

12/6 - Geri Kiltinen

12/15 - Margie Robers

12/17 - Ruth Burgdorf

12/24 - Arturo Remondini

12/25 - Raymond Martel

12/28 - S. Roger Marie Postl

12/29 - S. Fran Buschell

12/30 - S. Carla Huebner

12/30 - Susanne Holsen

Library News & Notes

New Books for December:

The Wager: A Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder by David Grann, bestselling author of *Killers of the Flower Moon* (RP): This nonfiction account of the 1741 shipwreck of the British war vessel "Wager" tells the thrilling story of the conflicting survival stories of Wager's crew. After wrecking on a desolate island off the coast of Patagonia, the survivors endure starvation, mutiny, murder, and betrayal. Two separate groups of survivors eventually make their way home and accuse each other of treason, leading to a high-stakes courtroom drama that Grann reconstructs through the survivors' accounts.

Never Say Never by Danielle Steel (RP): Oona Kelly Webster's life is upended when her husband leaves her for a younger man just as they are supposed to travel to France to celebrate their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary. Deciding to go on the trip regardless, the pandemic hits while Oona is there, stranding her in a foreign country and leading to another devastating blow when her job is eliminated. However, she begins to heal through her new surroundings and finds a second chance at love with her neighbor, a famous actor.

A Promised Land by Barack Obama (RP): The first of a two-volume presidential memoir by former President Barack Obama, covering his life from early political aspirations through the first two and a half years of his presidency, culminating with the operation that resulted in the death of Osama bin Laden in May 2011.

He Loved Us (Dilexit Nos) by Pope Francis (RP): In this final encyclical of his papacy, Francis invites us to reflect on the heart of Christ and His love for us. When we are devoted to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, He can open our hearts to loving God and our neighbor in a new, deeper way.

The Language of Loss by Natalie Kathryn Sanchez (RP): A collection of stories about the overwhelming heartache of grief and the way we grow through pain. Sanchez uses her own experiences as well as other stories of loss to help the reader who is in a similar position. Natalie Sanchez is 2017 graduate of Divine Savior Holy Angels High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The History of Wauwatosa by the Wauwatosa Historical Society has been donated to the Library.

Sundays | 2:00pm | Chapel

Holiday Features



Mondays | 6:30pm | Theater

Resident Requests

Sunday, December 7th: *One Special Night* (1999)
Documentary 1hr 32m Not Rated
Starring: James Garner, Julie Andrews
Two strangers, a construction contractor and a pediatric cardiologist, take refuge in a small, abandoned cabin during a stormy winter night and, despite their many differences, become undeniably drawn to one another.

Sunday, December 14th: *The Santa Clause* (1994)
Comedy / Fantasy 1hr 37m Rated PG
Starring: Tim Allen, Judge Reinhold
A regular dad's life flips upside down when Santa falls off his roof on Christmas Eve. Now, with no choice but to fill the big red suit, he finds himself delivering presents, flying reindeer, and discovering the true magic of Christmas.

Sunday, December 21st: *The Preacher's Wife* (2017)
Drama 1hr 53m Rated PG
Starring: Denzel Washington, Whitney Houston
An overworked preacher's Christmas prayer to save his church and marriage is answered by the arrival of Dudley, an angel who finds himself drawn to the reverend's neglected songbird wife.

Sunday, December 28th: *The Family Man* (2011)
Drama 2hr 6m Rated PG-13
Starring: Nicholas Cage, Tea Leone, Don Cheadle
On Christmas Eve, a man unexpectedly finds himself transported to an alternate reality where he's made different life choices. He discovers a suburban life with his college sweetheart and two children, a stark contrast to his high-powered career. As he experiences this new reality, he confronts the life he left behind and must ultimately decide which path truly leads to happiness and fulfillment.

Monday, December 1st: *Uncle Buck* (1989)
Comedy 1hr 40m Rated PG
Starring: John Candy, Amy Madigan
A jobless, happy-go-lucky slob of an uncle is asked to babysit his niece and nephew at short notice. His hidden flair for childcare soon emerges, even as his relationship with his girlfriend takes a turn for the worse.

Monday, December 8th: *Christmas with the Kranks* (2004)
Comedy 1hr 38m Rated PG
Starring: Tim Allen, Jamie Lee Curtis
Fed up with the commercial aspects of Christmas, and alone for the holiday for the first time in decades, Luther Krank and his wife, Nora, decide to skip Christmas this year and forgo the gifts, the tree, the decorations, the cards, the parties and to spend the dollars saved on a 10-day Caribbean cruise.

Monday, December 15th: *The Holdovers* (2023)
Drama 2hr 10m Rated R
Starring: Paul Giamatti, DaVine Joy Randolph
The Holdovers follows a curmudgeonly instructor at a New England prep school who is forced to remain on campus during Christmas break to babysit the handful of students with nowhere else to go. (Depicts smoking, drinking, swearing, some drug use and sexual material.)

Monday, December 22nd: *Christmas Shoes* (2002)
Drama 1hr 33m Not Rated
Starring: Rob Lowe, Kimberly Williams
In this heartwarming holiday drama, a workaholic attorney crosses paths with a young boy on Christmas Eve and rediscovers the true meaning of love, life and the holiday season.

Monday, December 29th: *When Harry Met Sally* (2006)
Romantic Comedy 1hr 36m Rated R
Starring: Billy Crystal, Meg Ryan, Carrie Fisher
From the time they meet in Chicago and share a drive to New York City through twelve years of chance encounters in New York, this iconic film addresses the question, "Can men and women ever just be friends?"

No signup is required for any of these activities

Book Club: Thursday, December 4th | 2:00pm | Club Trio

Join in for this gathering of avid readers. Discuss this month's read and enjoy some coffee and cookies. Discussions are always lively and full of personal insight. Note: no new read will be handed out for December, so there will be no Book Club in January.

Packers Watch Parties: Sundays, December 7th & 14th | 3:25pm | Club Trio

Whether you're a lifelong fan or new to Wisconsin, you are welcome to watch the games with your neighbors. Some snacks and beverages will be provided, but feel free to bring something to share.

Independent Living Resident Meeting: Tuesday, December 9th | 2:30pm | Chapel

Hear important updates from the different departments here at Trinity Woods. You will have an opportunity to ask questions of your administration as well.

The Sharing Salon: Saturday, December 13th | 9:30am | Club Trio

Inspired by the tradition of the French "salon", this is an intimate gathering for exchanging ideas and personal reflections. You will take turns sharing a meaningful object or memory, creating connection through honoring stories, history, and traditions. Led by Madonna resident Jodi Brown.

NEW: Vigorous Exercise: Mondays & Wednesdays in December | 9:35 am | Chapel

This additional exercise class will challenge you with more difficult movements that may involve standing rather than seated exercise, the use of weights, and a faster pace. Feel free to stay for the video at 10 am for a full hour of movement.

Mexican Train Dominoes: Wednesdays & Sundays in December | 7:00pm | Art Room

Join in playing a popular domino game that combines tile-matching, strategy, and competition. All are welcome, even if you have never played before.

Chat & Stitch: Thursdays, December 4th, 11th, & 18th | 1:00pm | Art Room

Bring along your knitting, crochet, embroidery or any other stitchery project and enjoy good conversation while you work on your projects together.

Note that there will be no Ladies' Tea, Men's Breakfast, Writers' Group, Green Writing Advocates, or Sister to Sister in December.

Gift Shop Updates

Come and shop at our Trinity Woods gift shop! In the month of December, you'll find a number of handmade items to help check the boxes on your Christmas gift list. The "elves" will continue to add new items throughout the month. Check it out!



Did you know? Greenhouse gases are atmospheric gases that trap heat and warm the earth's surface and lower atmosphere. Greenhouse gases are emitted from many sources, including decomposing food trapped in a landfill. — **The Shalom Catalysts**

Special Events



Holiday Giving Tree

NOW through Friday, December 12th

The Trinity Woods Friendly Faces Committee invites you to bless one of our Madonna residents by participating in the Holiday Giving Tree. Simply pick up a gift tag located on the oval counter near the mailboxes, then purchase and wrap that gift and return it to the front desk no later than Friday, December 12th.



Advent Food Drive

Monday, December 1st through Tuesday, December 23rd

While you are out shopping this month, buy an extra item or two for the less fortunate in our community. We will be collecting non-perishable food for the Mayfair Road Food Pantry which serves hungry families in our area. There will be a collection bin located in the first-floor lobby. We will be placing an emphasis on collecting certain foods each week:

- **December 1st-7th:** Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- **December 8th-14th:** Grains (Pasta, Rice, Cereal)
- **December 15th-23rd:** Proteins (Tuna, Soup, Nuts)

Door Decorating Contest

Judging will take place on Monday, December 15th

Show off your Christmas spirit! Decorate the door to your apartment (or office) anytime before Monday, December 15th. We'll award prizes for the most festive and most creative door decorations. We invite everyone to participate, including assisted living residents, independent living residents, and staff members.



Holiday Nutrition Class

Friday, December 5th | 6:30pm | Club Trio

Join us for a festive and informative evening where a Mount Mary University student dietitian will be making a delicious holiday-themed cider and discussing its nutritional benefits! Feel free to embrace the holiday spirit and wear your favorite Christmas sweater to this event. No sign up required.

Christmas BINGO

Tuesday, December 23rd | 1:30pm | Club Trio

We're making the last BINGO game before Christmas extra-special. In addition to Christmas-themed BINGO cards, we'll have festive prizes and special treats while you play. Don't forget to come to Club Trio, not the Art Room!



Bus Outings

MSO Hometown Holiday Pops

Saturday, December 21st | Depart at 1:15pm | \$20 cost

Enjoy a trip to the Bradley Symphony Center to hear an incredible holiday performance featuring the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus and Milwaukee Handbell Ensemble. The concert will end with a fun sing-along with the symphony and chorus. Sign up in the binder.

(Photo courtesy of mso.org)



Lunch Bunch to Story Hill BKC

Tuesday, December 30th | Depart at 11:00am

Voted one of Milwaukee's top 25 restaurants for 2025, Story Hill BKC (Bottle, Kitchen, Cocktail) features incredible dishes inspired by local foods as well as a curated selection of wines, spirits, and craft beers. Join us on this fun outing to sample their brunch or lunch menu.

Sign up in the binder. *(Photo courtesy of fabulouswisconsin.com)*

Shopping Trips



Wednesday, December 3rd: Walmart | 1:30pm
15205 W Greenfield Ave, New Berlin

Wednesday, December 10th: Aldi & Dollar Tree | 1:30pm
12114 W Burleigh St, Wauwatosa

Wednesday, December 17th: Kohl's & Pick 'n Save | 1:30pm
2601 S 108th St, West Allis

Tuesday, December 23rd: Piggly Wiggly* & Target | 1:30pm
10282 W National Ave, West Allis | ***10% senior discount!**

Please sign up for all shopping outings in the binder!

Save the Date...

Save the dates for these upcoming January events!

- **New Year's Karaoke | Monday, January 5th | 3:00pm | Club Trio**
- **Tim Crane Presents: The United States and the Cold War, 1945-1972**
Thursdays, January 8th - February 12th | 6:30 pm | Chapel
- **Neal Bardele & Friends | Monday, January 12th | 1:30pm | Chapel**