

THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)



“May you be led deeper into a relationship with God through
WORSHIP, PRAYER, SCRIPTURE AND SERVICE. May God Bless you as we continue our journey as faithful people of God.”

It was with these words that I ended my January newsletter article. Let’s explore these a little deeper. I would like to offer some comments on these four elements of daily/weekly spiritual practices that disciples of Christ, like yourselves “practice” in order to keep the “light of Christ” or the “jars of wine” open to growth in your relationship with Jesus.

WORSHIP: We worship for several reasons, but two of them are: you worship with others in the faith community in order to receive, together, the Word of God through communal prayer, Holy Communion, singing, hearing the Word preached/shared, and for the sheer sake of being together. A “new thing” is being able to worship online. I am grateful that Trinity Lutheran has the capacity to share with those who can not attend, those who on certain weeks cannot attend and for those living a distance that makes it impossible for them to worship in person—this is a type of community as well. The second, but probably most important, is that God wants and needs you to worship. It is reminder that in worship we are receiving, yes, but we are also giving back. Giving back to God because God has giving SO much to us.

PRAYER: This is about communication and listening. We pray communally in worship. It is “intercessory” prayer which is on behalf of others. Personal prayer has

SO many forms. You can pray with head bowed, hands folded, eyes closed. You can also pray standing, sitting or laying down. You can pray while you walk, noticing the created world around you...stopping to observe and notice and listen and be grateful. You can pray with scripture, around a labyrinth (ask me if you don’t know what this is!), you can pray doing simple art...the list really goes on. One of my favorite prayers is that of silent, relaxing, listening after reading some scripture and maybe have some quiet music playing. This is a way to really dig in deep with your relationship with God.

A simple prayer model: **A.C.T.S.**

A is Adoration for all that God

has done. C: Confessing things you may have done or left undone; T: Giving Thanks and S: Supplication- asking specific requests for yourself, For others, and God centered prayer.

SCRIPTURE: Reading scripture is a personal devotional tool as well as a communal tool. The Bible/Scripture is meant to be read together with other people/disciples. You get different enlightening or challenging interpretations, insight and views. Adult education opportunities are important to participate in. Personal devotion is important as well. You can journal responses to the text you read, pray the text and ponder it’s message to you.

You can also pray standing, sitting or laying down. You can pray while you walk, noticing the created world around you...

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COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Nikki Smith
Vice President: Dan Klassen
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening
Financial Admin: Nikki Smith
Christian Ed: Ashley Parrish
Ch Properties: Mark Durkee
Stewardship: Margaret Durkee
Lay Ministry: Sylvia Balk
Worship: Yvonne Noorlun
Youth: Caitlyn Carlson



Trinity Lutheran Church
Council Meeting 7:00
Wednesday- January 8, 2025
7:10PM

Members Present: Kathy Wilkening Dan Klassen Josh Tonkin Cathy Sorenson Nikki Smith Ashley Parrish Mark Durkee Margaret Durkee. Call committee Dave Sorenson and Yvonne Noorlun, Pastor Carol

Secretary Report Kathy Wilkening— was accepted as read.

Treasures Report- Nikki Smith- The annual income for 2024 was \$91,398 and the expenses was \$95,041 which leaves a loss of \$3,643. The congregation gave more than pledged by \$6488. Cathy motioned to accept as presented and Mark second.

Stewardship- Maragret Durkee Received one more pledge.

Lay Ministry-Evangelism-None

Church Properties- Mark Durkee Replaced a new electric water heater.

Christian Ed-GIFT- Ashley Parrish The GIFT kids went caroling at the Truman Assisted Living. Also had the GIFT Christmas Program with supper after.

Youth Ashley Parrish-The Youth Group went shopping and delivered gifts to the residents at the Truman Assisted Living then played games, did crafts, and ate pizza.

The council decided to start an organ fund for future purchase of a new organ.

Worship-Cathy Sorenson- Adult bible study before church at 9 on the first and third Sundays. All are welcome. Annual meeting is January 19 with discussion about the organ. January 26 is new Members Sunday and installation of New Leaders.

Old Business None

New Business The organ is having issues. Dan motioned to replace the motherboard for the organ and Mark second.

The council decided to start an organ fund for future purchase of a new organ. More at the Annual Meeting.

Pastor Report: Prepared for baptism, prep for Connie Selnes funeral, visitation to Goldfinch, Lakeview, Trimont, and Heartland as well as cards and calls. Thank you for vocal leadership for Holden liturgy from Allison and Jacquie. Looking at new ideas and resources for Sunday morning adult study.

Pastor Carol has decided not to renew her contract with Trinity which is done in February. Pastor Carol will stay with Trinity and lead us until after Easter.

The call committee will contact Heather at the Synod in which way to go after Easter.

Dan motion to adjourn and Margaret second.

Submitted by

Kathy Wilkening



Treasurer's Summary Report As of December 31, 2024

Checking Account Bal.	\$50,394
Savings Account Bal.	\$56,085

DECEMBER:

General Fund Income	\$ 14,690
General Fund Expenses	\$ 8,311
Net long	\$ 6,379

JANUARY:

Cash Available	\$ 50,394
Bills to pay	\$ 7,991
Cash long	\$42,403

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
February 2– 4 Epiphany	Mal 3:1-4	Heb 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
February 9—5 Epiphany	Isa 6:1-8[9-13]	1 Cor 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
February 16-6 Epiphany	Jer 17:5-10	1 Cor 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
February 23-7 Epiphany	Genesis 45:3-11,15	1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50	Luke 6:27-38

TRINITY'S NEW LEADERSHIP FOR 2025

*Council Representative

PRESIDENT: *Nikki Smith, VICE-PRESIDENT: *Dan Klassen,
SECRETARY: *Kathy Wilkening,
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR: *Nikki Smith, CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Dan Klassen,
CHURCH PROPERTIES: Brian Nickerson, WORSHIP: Linda Meyer & *Yvonne Noorlun
STEWARDSHIP: Dave Sorenson, YOUTH: Carlee Scheff,
LAY MINISTRY: *Sylvia Balk and Donna Kotewa

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairperson– Josh Tonkin, Donna Kotewa, Heather Tonkin Sandy Meyer, Eloise Miller and Linda Carlson

SYNOD DELEGATES: yet to be determined



Youth Director Summary for February 2025

I am very excited about the things we have planned this year! We have many kids of all ages showing up for GIFT and our youth group activities! I am so grateful to be a part of our growing programs.

Events:

2/5 GIFT 2:15 pm-5:30 pm

2/19 GIFT 2:15 pm-5:30 pm

Ashley Parish Youth Director



The Youth Group went to Mount Kato for Glow Tubing on January 25th

WELCA NEWS/PASTOR'S LETTER (Cont.)



WELCA News

There are such willing workers at our church. For the funeral for Connie Selnes 7 people showed up to help set up and 13 people came to help serve without even being asked!

It would be great if more ladies who are retired would attend our WELCA meetings. We lost two of our members recently. Connie was our secretary and Judy Doble moved to Sioux Falls. We only meet four times a year at 9:30 after Tuesday morning coffee. The next meeting is February 11.

This year we only have two students graduating high school and receiving quilts. Forms have been sent asking them for favorite things and colors. Then we do the best we can finding fabric to match their likes.

For those of you who do not realize we have a Prayer Project where each young person from 3 years old until they graduate has a lady assigned to them. This lady not only prays for them but is to send birthday cards and also cards for other holidays. Her name is not to be revealed until graduation. If you would like to participate in this activity, let Cathy Sorenson or Barb Shoen know.

~Barb Shoen

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SERVICE: In our baptismal covenant we state:

“In baptism: you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with *them* among God's faithful people, bring *them* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *them* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *their* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *them* in faith and prayer, so that *your children* may learn to trust God, **proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.”**

The ways one can serve are many and personal. You find, or something finds you- it resonates with and you take action. Keep on the lookout for that “thing”- in your community, church or school...local, regionally or globally. As simple as helping fold the bulletins, delivering Meals on Wheels, or a more grand scale as an international service trip.

Practice these, explore these, maintain these “practices” and you will be renewed, fulfilled and be the light to one another. It is also a great way to prepare for Lent, which will be the topic of the March Newsletter article!

Once again—HAPPY NEW YEAR and NEW DAY!

Pastor Carol

UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



Fareway-\$96,175.45

Hy-Vee-\$73,591.09

Keep those receipts coming!!

***Please make sure the receipts are not getting cut off -- this makes them useless.*



Scan your smart phone



March 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WORSHIP SCHEDULE 10:00 am Worship Streaming live on FB	CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Mon-8-11 Wed-8-11, 1-4 Fri-8-11	Pastor's Office Hours Monday (work from home) Wed. 10-12	Ushers for February Tom Kneeland and Mike Wiederhoeft	Lay Readers 2/2-Allison K 2/9-Sandy M 2/16-Heather T 2/23-LeAnn M	Feb Comm Servers 2/2-Ross Ringeisen 2/16-Linda Meyer	1 BLACK HISTORY MONTH
2 <u>Communion</u> 	3	4 	5 GIFT 2:15-5:30	6	7	8
9 9 am Adult Bible Study	10 Pastor gone	11 9 am WELCA mtg.	12 Conf. class 4-5:30 pm 7 pm Church Council mtg.	13	14 Happy Valentines Day Newsletter DEADLINE!	15
16 <u>Communion</u>	17 	18	19 GIFT 2:15-5:30	20	21	22
23 9 am Adult Bible Study	24 Quilting Days 9 am Bring a sack lunch today 	25 	26	27	28 Acolytes for February 2/2-Landon & Zachary S. 2/9-Taelynn & Gage Moon 2/16-Alaina K & Sophia C. 2/23-Gabby Greier	

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH



CONNIE SELNES

Our sincere sympathy to the family of Connie Selnes. She passed away on January 2, 2025. Her funeral service was held at Trinity on January 11th Pastor Carol Mapa officiated. Burial was held at Ridgelawn Cemetery.



ORGAN FUND

Trinity Lutheran Church leadership (an annual meeting attendees) has determined it is time to begin an Organ Fund. The organ that is presently used in worship has had some issues, and like most things in this world...they don't last forever. (Trinity's organ is at least 40 years old) A pro-active approach to this reality is to begin now with setting aside some funds and establish a fund for people to donate to. This fund would welcome regular monetary gifts (above and beyond one's regular giving) for special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries, memorials and funeral donations, as well as just a gift to a special project. Thank you for considering this option for future giving. Thank you Trinity for recognizing the need to prepare for the future.



Prayers

We remember in our prayers... all who face catastrophic illness, surgery, and bindings of all kinds as well as the homebound:

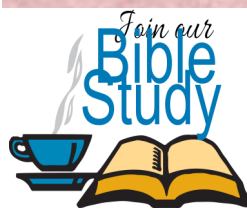
Jerry Teig, Linnea Huss, Norman & Marilyn Anderson, Linnea Huss, Lloyd's daughter-Amy, Dan Strausser and family of Connie Selnes.

Be present with your Spirit, O Lord, and lead us to be your presence to all. Amen.



(L-R) In front Norah and Ava Rolling, In Back is- Mitchell Scheff, Sheryl Rolling and Sarah Rolling. (Not pictured is Nathan Rolling)

On January 26th we welcomed our newest members. Each family received a quilt from The WELCA ladies. We give thanks for these new members in the life of our congregation!



Adult Bible Study in February will be held on the 9th and 23rd at 9 am

In case of Inclement weather, announcements about Trinity's worship service cancellations will be announced on our website, Facebook page and on the KEYC television station out of Mankato, MN.













We love our church!



FEBRUARY

birthdays



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Roger Carlson  Groundhog Day	3 Emma Wiederhoeft	4 Joyce Jorgenson	5	6 Charlotte Foster	7 	8
9	10 Jim Hansen	11 Mark Durkee Dave Sorenson	12	13	14 	15
16	17  PRESIDENTS DAY	18 	19	20	21 Madelyn Mooney	22 Miriah Mosloski Karen Strausser
23 	24 	25	26 Sandy Fisk Lowell Noorlun	27 Dean Ehlert	28  Prepare for LENT Ash Wednesday is March 5th	

TRINITY LUTHERAN PARISH (ELCA)
102 NORTH 7TH AVENUE EAST
PO BOX 38
TRUMAN MN 56088
www.trinity-truman.org



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THE MESSENGER



February 2025

 **Trinity Lutheran Church**

CONTACT

-  507-776-4781
-  trinitytruman4781@gmail.com
-  WWW.trinity-truman.org
- CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**
MON 8-11, WED 8-11 & 1-4, FRI 8-11
Office Administrator: Brenda Hansen
- Council Pres. - Nikki Smith**
 (507-230-3703)
-  Pres. Email— nikdsmith@hotmail.com
-  Pastoral Care Team— 507-776-8555
-  Pastor Carol Mapa—605-391-1086
-  Email: carolmapa605@gmail.com

SOCIAL

-  Facebook.com/
trinitylutherantruman
-  Instagram.com/trinitytrumanmn

