

# THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

~Welcome to Trinity Lutheran...Warm Hearts and Willing Hands~



## HAPPY NEW YEAR

to you- members and friends of Trinity Lutheran Church!

Three years ago, after Christmas, we (Jon, myself, Catie and our “son” Michael) spent a few days in the Black Hills. We stayed at the home of friends who live out of town in the beautiful Black

Hills between Rapid City and Pactola Lake. Michael came to live with us in the fall of 2019. At that time we lived in Gothenburg, Nebraska. Michael grew up in Ammon, Jordan. The population there is 4 million. Hence, it is VERY difficult to see the stars due to light pollution. Gothenburg is a small town, but we lived in town and had a good share of light pollution as well. I remember on the night of our arrival in the Hills. Clear as a bell.....no yard lights no “clutter” of any type of light. Michael was in AWE of this natural phenomena...he just stood there in the pasture lane looking up and taking it all in—for quite a while (he came in when his toes got cold!). It really was a beautiful thing. It is/ was imprinted on his mind; mentioning it often when we visit.

With Michael, I am in AWE of the natural light of the stars that surround us above—whether it is in town, on the farm, or in the Black Hills I am awed and have a sense of peace when I see this light shining in and through the darkness. Indeed as the hymn by Danish hymn-writer Nilolai Grundtvig “*Bright and Glorious Is the Sky*” states there is radiance, hope and promise in the stars.

We have walked through an Advent, that felt rushed and Christmas, with its joys and clutter, not to mention prior to these seasons, a tumultuous presidential campaign and election. At times, there just seemed to be darkness everywhere. But, no....there is a powerful light that has broken through the darkness and throughout the Scripture “light” brings peace, promise and power over death. Indeed the light, Christ the light, is the way, the truth and the life. As we enter into the liturgical calendar sea-

son of Epiphany and enter a New Year of 2025, may you take time out to look upward to the skies and be AWED by the stars above. **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.

## Bright and Glorious Is the Sky

- 1 *Bright and glorious is the sky,  
radiant are the heavens high  
where the golden stars are shining.  
All their rays to earth inclining  
beckon us to heav'n above,  
beckon us to heav'n above.*
- 5 *Guided by the star, they found  
him whose praise the ages sound.  
**We too have a star to guide us,  
which forever will provide us  
with the light to find our Lord,  
with the light to find our Lord.***
- 6 *And this star, as bright as day,  
that will never lead astray  
with its message so appealing,  
is the word of God, **revealing Christ,  
the way, the truth, the life,  
Christ, the way, the truth, the life.***

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877-1970, alt.  
Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## PASTOR CAROL MAPA

**Pastor Carol and her family thank you for your support, greetings, cards and gifts received this Christmas.**

**We/I am deeply grateful and pray for you regularly in your walk of life and faith.**

**Thank you and have a blessed New Year!!**

# COUNCIL MINUTES

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Josh Tonkin  
Vice President: Dan Klassen  
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening  
Financial Admin: Nikki Smith  
Christian Ed: Nikki Smith  
Ch Properties: Mark Durkee  
Stewardship: Margaret Durkee  
Lay Ministry: Judy Doble  
Worship: Cathy Sorenson  
Youth: Caitlyn Carlson



## Council Notes

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting 7:10  
Wednesday- December 11,  
2024**

Members Present: Kathy Wilkening Dan Klassen Josh Tonkin Cathy Sorenson Nikki Smith Ashley Parish Mark Durkee Margaret Durkee

Secretary report-Kathy Wilkening-Nikki motioned to accept with correction that Lent be replaced with Advent and Margaret second.

Treasures Report-Administrator- Nikki Smith-The budget is down \$5,348.97. Dan will get a VISA card for MCRI and give it to Dawn. Motion accepted as presented.

Stewardship-Margaret Durkee-The Pony Express have all been returned. Time and Talent Survey are filled out. 26 pledges were mailed and 8 returned. Total pledged for 2025 is \$84,910.

Church Properties-Mark Durkee - The sticky trap for mice has caught 2 bats in the balcony.

Christian Ed-Ashley Parrish-GIFT did more shopping for Ronald McDonald House and Nikki and Ashley will deliver to Sioux Falls. More children have joined GIFT and the total is now 70 registered youth. December 18th is the Christmas Program at the church. The youth will go caroling at the Truman Nursing Home and Assisted Living at 3:30. Everyone is invited to the Christmas Program at 5:30 and a meal to follow for everyone.

**More children  
have joined  
GIFT and the  
total is now 70  
registered**

Youth-Ashley Parish- The Youth group delivered 3 Thanksgiving meals and then went to the movie The Best Christmas Pageant Ever. December 23 the youth will shop at Dollar General and then take gifts to the nursing home and assisted living.

Worship-Cathy Sorenson- The Annual Reports need to be in by January 6. December 18 GIFT Christmas Program and meal. December 24 Christmas Candlelight Service with Holy

Communion at 6 PM. December 29 Hymn Sing with Pastor Rebecca Sullivan.

Pastors Report: Pastor Carol had baptismal session with the family. Many home visits, nursing home, and assisted living. Grateful for ushers, readers, acolytes, HC assistance and Tanner. Preparing for worship services and bible study etc.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Cathy motioned to accept new members Sheryl Rolling, Nathan and Sarah Rolling and children Norah and Ava and Nikki second. New membership Sunday will be January 26. December 15 baptism of Allison Lou-Margaret Reinke. Parents are Kaylene Feda and Philip Reinke.

Council made the budget for 2025 of \$96,785.

Submitted by Secretary  
Kathy Wilkening



## Treasurer's Summary Report As of November 30, 2024

Checking Account Bal.	\$41,037
Savings Account Bal.	\$56,088

### NOVEMBER:

General Fund Income	\$ 5,895
General Fund Expenses	\$ 7,307
Net short	\$ -1,412

### DECEMBER:

Cash Available	\$ 41,037
Bills to pay	\$ 9,222
Cash long	\$ 31,815



# WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	1st READING	PSALM	2ND READING	GOSPEL
Jan 5—2nd Christmas/Epiphany	Jeremiah 31:7-14		Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:[1-9] 10-18
Jan 12-Baptism of our Lord	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalm 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
Jan 19-2nd Epiphany	Isaiah 62:1-5	Ps 36:5-10	1 Cor. 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
Jan 26-3rd Epiphany	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10	Psalm 19	1 Cor. 12:12-13a	Luke 4:14-21



### Youth Director Summary for January

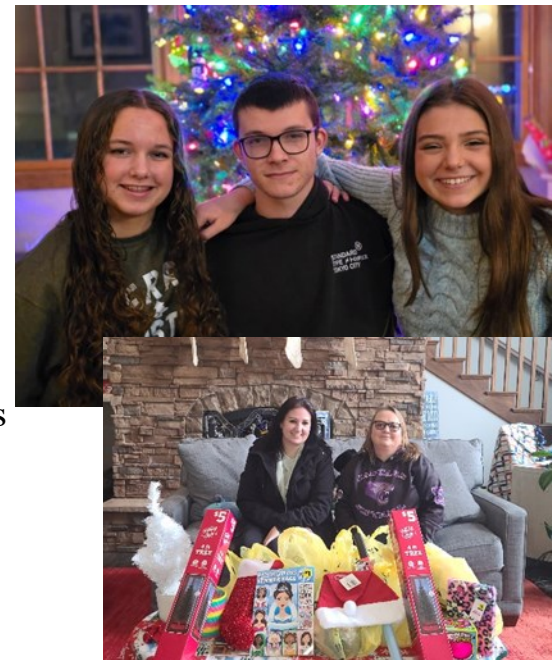
Another year has passed and as I look back, I am incredibly grateful. I am grateful for God and the blessings we receive. I am grateful for my family and for our foreign exchange student Enol. I am grateful for the friends that I have made both in the community and through our church family. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with so many wonderful kids and I am grateful for all the support as GIFT and our youth group continue to grow. Thank you to everyone who has supported us.

I wish everyone a Happy New Year!

#### Events:

January 1st No GIFT as there is no school

January 15th GIFT 2:15pm-5:30pm



**Ashley & Nikki delivered GIFT kids presents to the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux Falls, SD**

### Youth Group delivered gifts to The Truman Nursing Home



**GIFT CHRISTMAS PROGRAM—December 18, 2024**



## WELCA News

Thank you to all of you that baked cookies or made other goodies for our cookie walk. The gifts of money were also appreciated. We had a wonderful assortment and the shoppers had fun filling their trays. Several stayed and had coffee, cider and cookies and enjoyed fellowship with their neighbors and friends. The purpose of the cookie walk is to give most of the profit to deserving charities. This year these organizations were:

Truman Swimming Pool	\$300
Truman School Food Shelf	\$250
Hospice	\$200
Bravo Zulu House	\$200
Salvation Army	\$150
Lutheran World Relief	\$150
Heaven's Table	\$150
CREST	\$150
Beyond the Yellow ribbon	\$100
ARC Southwest	\$100
Caring Bridge	\$100
Options Pregnancy Center	\$75
Lutheran Social Service	\$50
	<u>\$1,975</u>

Since there is a need for lap robes most of our quilting in January will be lap robes. We would really like more people to join our quilting group. We meet the last Monday and Tuesday of January, February, and March. All you need to do is be able to tie knots! On Mondays we bring bag lunches and on Tuesdays we usually go to Aardvarks for lunch.  
~Barb Shoen

## 2024 Cookie Walk



## UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



**Fareway-\$95,562.34**

**Hy-Vee-\$68,225.07**

*Keep those receipts coming!!*

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






Scan code  
To GIVE



February 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	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b> <b>10 am Worship</b> <b>Live stream on FB</b>	<b>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</b> Mon-800-11:00 Wed-8-11, 1-4 Fri-8:00-11:00	<b>Pastor's Office Hours</b> Monday (work from home) Wed. 10-12	1 NO GIFT School today Church office closed today <b>Happy New Year!</b>	2 	3 <div>Thank you once again to JoAnn Knutson for knitting all the hats and mittens for our Giving Tree!</div>	4
5 <u>Communion</u>	6 Deadline for committee reports for annual meeting <b>EPIPHANY</b>	7	8 Conf. 4-5:30 7 pm Church Council mtg.	9	10	11
12 Adult Bible Study meeting at 9 am 	13 	14	15 GIFT class 2:15-5:30	16	17 Newsletter <b>DEADLINE!</b>	18
19 <u>Communion</u> A short worship service will be held before mtg. <b>ANNUAL MEETING</b>	20	21	22 Conf. 4-5:30	23	24 	25
26 Installation of new leadership New Member Sunday <b>WELCOME!</b> Our NEWEST members	27 9 am Quilting (bring a sack Lunch today)	28 9 am Quilting Days 	29	30	31	

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH



New  
Offering  
Envelopes

Your 2025 offering envelopes are in your mailboxes at the church.

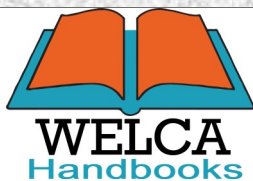
If you would like them mailed to you, or if you would like more or less or did not receive any, please contact the church office.



Join our  
Bible  
Study

**ADULT EDUCATION**...met last fall twice a month on Sundays before worship (9 am) Anyone who is interested in some Bible study/conversation/prayer; meeting twice a month for January/February (till Lent begins) **GATHER ON SUNDAY JANUARY 12** (second Sunday) at 9 am to discuss possible studies/topics prior to Ash Wednesday/Lent.

The 2025 WELCA Handbooks are here and in your mailbox at the church. If you haven't received a handbook, please contact the church office.



**Trinity's Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 19th right after a short worship service.**

In case of inclement weather, announcements about Trinity's worship service cancellations will be found on the KEYC TV...

The announcements will also be text messaged to you if your signed up to receive them and on Trinity's website and Facebook page.



**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 is Installation of New Leadership and New Member Sunday.**

Would you like to become a member of our Trinity Family?

We would love to have you! Contact Pastor Carol or the church office by phone or stop by the office. We will be recognizing our newest members on January 26

Congratulations to Philip Reinke & Kaylene Feda on the baptism of their daughter, Allison Lou-Margaret Reinke. Her sponsors are Kendra Brown, Levi Haverinen, James Harris and Sky Linton.

Allison's Grandparents are

Jason & Bridget Reinke and her Great-Great Grandmother is Sandy Fisk.



Judy Doble has moved... Her new address is: 6301 S. Connie Ave. Apt #110 Sioux Falls, SD 57108



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, Norm & Marilyn Anderson, Lois Llyod's daughter- Amy, Dan Strausser and Connie Selnes.**

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



# JANUARY

*birthdays & anniversaries*



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>O Lord, let my New Year's resolution be to follow you more closely and to trust in your loving guidance.</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Ron &amp; Kaela Kelley (10 years)</b></p> <p><b>Marlene Breitbarth (76 years)</b></p> <p>Heather Maloney</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Emilee Mosloski</p> <p>Kathy Wilkening</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Christopher Forbrook</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Austin Maloney</p> <p>Brad Nickerson</p> <p>Brian Nickerson</p> <p>Gracie Zaharia</p> <p>Johnnie Zaharia</p>
<p>12</p> <p>Peyton Franzen</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Kaden Moon</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Caitlyn Carlson</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Marlene Ratike (92 years)</b></p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Peyton Brudellie</p>
<p>26</p> <p>Doug &amp; Vicky Schwanz (51 years)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Cordae Mesa</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Ava Rolling</p>	<p>31</p>	



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



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**Annual mtg.  
on Jan 19th**

## THE MESSENGER

**January 2025**



### CONTACT



507-776-4781



[\\_trinitytruman4781@gmail.com](mailto:_trinitytruman4781@gmail.com)



[WWW.trinity-truman.org](http://WWW.trinity-truman.org)

#### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

MON 8-11, WED 8-11 & 1-4, FRI 8-11

Office Administrator: Brenda Hansen

Council Pres. - Dan Klassen



Pres. Email: [danielklassen254@gmail.com](mailto:danielklassen254@gmail.com)



Pastoral Care Team— 507-776-8555



Pastor Carol Mapa—605-391-1086



Pr email: [carolmapa605@gmail.com](mailto:carolmapa605@gmail.com)

### SOCIAL



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*“Glory to God  
in the highest heaven!”*

Luke 2:14