

Trinity Lutheran Church

WORSHIP • FELLOWSHIP • SERVICE

January 2025

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings in Christ!

January... a new year, and it seems like we just started the old year last week. This is a time when life seems to drag. The days are short and cold, the nights are long and colder. We don't have any major events, or holidays coming up until Ash Wednesday on March 5 and Resurrection Sunday on April 20. That's a long time away.

So, how do we pass away the time. We can spend some time watching the youth of our community playing winter sports, Basketball, Wrestling, etc. That takes up a few nights. We can watch some sports on TV, but that gets pretty boring eventually.

What if we try something new, something we've always known we should do, but just never got around to doing? What if we try spending some time in Scripture, reading the Good Book? What if we try spending some time in conversation with God? We all know how to talk with our friends, and Jesus wants to be the best friend we ever had. Jesus wants us to talk to Him and He will respond to us. It might be something as simple as Him telling you directly what He wants for you, or it might be in another way, but however He chooses to let you know, you WILL know it is from God.

If we are spending time in Scripture, AND spending time in conversation with God, we will see incredible growth in our ability to see Jesus at work in our lives. God is always active in our lives, and He is always willing to let us see it happen, but most of the time, we don't open our eyes.

Many of us have seen the movie, "Field of Dreams" and we remember the scene where the main character's brother-in-law is desperately trying to talk him into selling the farm before the bank forecloses on it. Then, a little girl falls and starts choking on a hot dog. One of the players, who the brother-in-law cannot see, crosses the foul line and reveals himself to the brother-in-law. This player is also a Medical Doctor. He clears the obstruction, and everything is fine. The brother-in-law, now having seen the players, completely changed his position. Nothing else changed, except his eyes were opened. This will happen for those of us who read God's Word and kneel before Him in prayer regularly. Join us in prayer Jan 6-Jan 9 here at Trinity. The church of God will not rise until it first gets on its' knees.

Go with God,

Pastor Ritchie



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NO Blast Supper on January

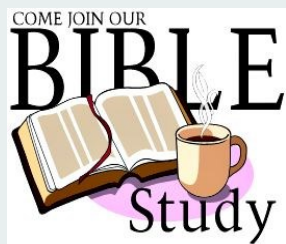
Serving from 5:30 to 6:15

Students and Families are invited.

B.L.A.S.T. is from 6:30-7:30 for Kindergarten through 6th grade.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation class is from 6:30pm—8:00pm on Wednesday evenings.



Women's Bible Study

The Third Tuesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. in the church fellowship hall

Dear Trinity Family,

As we bid farewell to 2024, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and exceptional financial stewardship that has allowed Trinity to thrive.

Our Christmas program was a resounding success, thanks to the incredible efforts of our talented BLAST students, teachers and those who volunteered their time to organize the program. The Christ-centered atmosphere they created filled all hearts with joy and reminded us of the true meaning of Christmas.

Thank you to our staff and those who volunteered throughout the year, ensuring the seamless operation of Trinity in various capacities. Your commitment to service is the backbone of our church. Thank you all for your time, energy, and dedication.

As we embark on a new year, let's carry forward the spirit of gratitude, unity and service to God that defines our Trinity congregation. Your generosity and commitment have made this year memorable, and I look forward to the continued growth and fellowship in the coming year.

Wishing each of you and your families a blessed and joy-filled New Year!

With sincere thanks,

Nic Beach
Trinity Council President



Christmas Program
December 15th



FEBRUARY FAITH IN SERVICE LIST

Membership of Trinity Lutheran is divided into 11 groups that each take a month to be responsible for tasks within the church. Each month we will be looking for ushers, lay readers, communion set-up, communion servers and coffee servers.

The list below is the service group scheduled for February. The coordinators for February are Deb Leapaldt and Joyce Wick. If your name is on this list, please check the calendar and see what Sunday(s) in February works best for you and call Deb (307-0860) or Joyce (650-8718) to volunteer. If you are called, please prayerfully consider how you can help. Please say yes when called. Thank you for doing your part and participating in our worship services.
Gary Austin

Mike & Rita Balvitsch	Alan Lange	Bernice Sandvol
John Cabler Sr.	Duane & Beth Lura	Fred & Kristy Sauby
Kathy Cabler	Ronda Myers	Wally & Andrea Scheen
Tina & Myron Jans	Jon & Tina Oatis	Cody & Doug Stangeland
Darlene Knuth	Matt Paulson	Kirk Stokes
Justin & Brooke Kollman	Tiffany Paulson	Mark & Mary Struxness
Sara & Preston Laib	Tysen & Markie Rosenau	Holly Zieman
	Andrew & Molly Rzaszutak	Randall & Amanda Zink

TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2024

	<u>November Income</u>	<u>Disbursed</u>	<u>Weekly Income and Attendance</u>		
General	\$20,247.78	\$10,333.61	Weekly Need:	\$4,938.47	
B.L.A.S.T.	\$	-	11/03/2024	9,502.67	231
Mission	\$	\$	11/10/2024	2,668.00	116
Building	\$	\$ 2,514.39	11/17/2024	3,249.00	153
Total	\$20,247.78	\$12,848.00	11/24/2024	2,331.00	144
			Online giving for November	\$2,918.44	

Budget Report for January 1, 2024—December 31, 2024

<u>Categories</u>	<u>Disbursed to Date</u>	<u>Budgeted for Year</u>	<u>Difference for Year</u>
Benevolence	\$1,250.00	\$3,250.00	\$ 2,000.00
Pastoral Ministry and Staff	\$157,197.14	181,400.00	\$ 24,202.86
Congregational Life	\$23,778.90	25,850.00	\$2,071.10
Building and Maintenance	\$42,895.42	46,300.00	\$ 3,404.58
Totals	\$225,121.46	\$256,800.00	\$31,678.54

COUNCIL MINUTES

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes December 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Nic Beach.

Council Members Present: Josh Cabler, Michael Simons, Nic Beach, Kelsey Neis, Larry Schagunn, Rob Marcotte, Pastor Ritchie Cole, and Ruth Braaten. Also present, Sheryl Roundy and Michelle Kliem, representing WOW.

Pastor Ritchie opened with prayer, and Nic gave devotions.

A motion was made by Rob and seconded by Josh to approve the minutes of November 19, 2024, council meeting. The motion carried. The minutes from the special congregational meeting on December 1, 2024, were approved by Kelsey, seconded by Michael, and carried by the council.

Treasurer's Report by Sheryl:

General Acct:	\$12,370.77	Missions Acct:	\$27,260.74
Reserve Acct:	\$13,743.91	Edward Jones:	\$74,945.73

Pastor's Report: Pastor highlighted his report, which included BLAST/confirmation, meetings attended, home visits, and multiple zoom conferences for prayer events. He preached at Golden Acres, as well as at the Thanksgiving Community Service. He did a funeral for Inez Fandrich and met with the family of Brynlee Dewald for baptism. He went on a pastoral retreat for personal ministering. He attended the ministerium meeting, where the Three Days of Prayer Event was well received, and he met with other pastors regarding sermon prep.

WOW Report: Michelle reported that they had received \$940 to date for the Thank Offering, with money still coming in. This money has been designated for the Backpack Program. They delivered 30 quilts to a homeless shelter in Moorhead. They have decided to donate \$1,500.00 to a college senior nursing student from our congregation for a mission trip to Kenya. They will be losing five board members, but two are willing to return. They will be helping with the three day prayer event by providing refreshments. After expenses, the fall supper recorded a profit of \$7,052, which is the highest profit recorded. Their ending balance in December is \$17,610.00.

Deacons' Report: No report

Board of Education: No report

Trustees' Report: Michael reported that they had a budget meeting with Sheryl, Janice, and Nic. Josh mentioned that they will be working on the electrical issues with Christopher Gussiaas as the project was too big for Don Caylor.

Old Business: Nic is still working on nominations for the year 2025. Annual reports are due in the office by Thursday, January 2nd, and the annual meeting will be January 19th.

New Business: Plans are to schedule another sound system training session as there are a few more individuals wanting to be trained. The congregation overwhelmingly passed the new Constitution and By-Laws, and we will vote again to ratify the change at the annual meeting,

January 19th. In case church is cancelled due to weather, the annual meeting will be held January 26, 2025.

Pastor Ritchie will give devotions at the next meeting, Sunday, January 12th, at 7:00 pm.

Larry closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Braaten.

DECEMBER 2024 WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW)

BOARD MEETING

The Women of the Word (WOW) board meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. on December 9, 2024 by Co-President Sheila Harrington. Those in attendance were Sheila Harrington, Julee Erdmann, Nikole Hoggarth, Michelle Kliem, Karen Buskness, Kristee Page, Traci Lura and Kristen Hewitt. Sharie Mattson and Mary Struxness were absent. **** Others Present were:** Pastor Ritchie Cole. Kristen Hewitt shared a devotion.

Minutes of the November meeting: Will be read and approved in January (due to Mary's absence). Kristen will be taking Decembers minutes for Mary.

Treasurer's Report: Michelle presented the financial report for November 2024. The beginning balance for November was \$17,497.43 with deposits of \$483.20 and expenses of \$369.93. **Bills submitted and paid in November were:** Dakota Dust Tex \$273.63, Leever's \$19.36, Julee Erdmann \$76.94. **Current bills to be approved and paid in December:** Dakota Dust Tex (rug rental) \$183.05, Leever's \$270.74 and Julee Erdmann (Pans for funeral) \$20.36, Independent (fall supper ad from 09/23/24) \$52.00 and Prairie Inn (funerals & pies) \$249.00. ******

Michelle also reported that she has received \$940.00 so far for Thank Offering. Nikole moved to approve the Treasurer's report and Karen seconded it. All were in favor.

Vice Presidents Report: Julee reported two coffee hours and one funeral for November.

Fellowship Report: Karen thanked all who helped decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Take down will be on January 4th at 9:00 am. ****** Nikole suggested getting new heavy duty totes with wheels for the Christmas decorations. The old ones are in bad condition and need replacing. Nikole will get some.

Stewardship Report: \$940.00 so far collected for the Thank Offering. We will wait a bit yet to send out checks as more offering is still coming in. ****** Still searching for new board members for 2025. Sheila will do another term.

Correspondence: Letter from The ND National Guard Foundation seeking a donation for North Dakotas first military gallery at The Heritage Center. Letter from the Smile Train (our last donation was in 2005). Nikole mentioned that her daughter Lexi will be doing a mission trip to Kenya. She is requesting a donation. Karen made a motion to donate \$1500.00 to Lexi for her mission to Kenya. Kristen seconded it with all in favor. There will also be a coffee hour on January 12, 2025 to support the mission.

Old and Unfinished Business: Julee got all the callers for "Faith in Service" groups except for one (group #7). Sheila will call for one. ****** The constitution was approved and we are listed under the Deacons. They would still like one WOW member to always report at the church council meetings every month. They will need our proposed budget for 2025. We are called "Women's Group" on their budget. We will still have our own treasurer. Sheryl wants copies of our paid invoices. We will be audited.

New Business: January 6th at 6:00 PM to January 9th at 6:00 PM will be 72 hours of prayer. WOW will provide the snacks.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. in the church library.

Submitted by Mary Struxness

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- 1
- 2 Rexton Aljets, Mike Balvitsch
- 3 Bob Buskness, Kylie Skadberg, Doug Smith
- 4 Mark Frost, Kimber Moravec, Laurie Struxness
- 6 Zoey Kollman, Cole Solwey, Kylie Solwey, Cory & Tana McKibben
- 7 Lynelle Bachmeier, Kade Erdmann, Shaunette Koenig
- 8 Cody Bickett, Kristin Cabler, Molly Fiebiger, Julie Kutz, Chris Schmid, Jerome Zink
- 10 Brooks Mozelle
- 11 Indy Beach, Jaedyn Lura, Traci Lura
- 12 Tyler Ingebretson, Bradee Schroeder, Jenean Smith, Brewen VanRay, Val & Fred Piatz
- 13 Brittney Moravec
- 14 Gracie Carr, Kirk Stokes, Kenzie VanRay
- 15 Aubree Carr, Ann Hoffert, Rilynn Ingebretson, Emma Koll, Michael Rexin
- 16 Karen Buskness, Kaulder Kvamme, Jackie Schroeder
- 17 Kaydri Cabler, Emma Rindy, Grace Rindy, Jim Scheen
- 18 Jacob Edland, Val Ellingson, Linda Olson, Val & Lester Ellingson
- 19 Kelsey Carr
- 20 Skip Beach
- 21 Jameson Rzaszutak, Dan Wick, Jensyn Wolf
- 22 Kansas Hooey
- 23 Justin Dunn, Gary LaBelle, Mac Miller
- 24 Maddyx Davis, Trace Hoggarth, Heidi Johnson, Larry Schagunn
- 25 Lawson Lura, Vander Lura
- 26 Merrilyn Dahl
- 27 Susan Bickett
- 28 Fisher Cook, Cole Ferguson, Rhen Skytland, River Skytland, Marrah VanRay, Gladys & Jerold Hertel
- 29 Asley Reismour
- 30 Zach Creviston
- 31 Paityn Knudson, Jordan Kramer



JANUARY 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Years Day NO BLAST/ Confirmation	2 Church Office Closed	3	4
5 9:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45 am Bible Study	6 1:00pm Quilting/ Nalbinding 3-Days of Prayers starts at 6:00pm	7 3-days of Prayer	8 3 days of Prayer NO BLAST Family Supper 6:30pm BLAST/ Confirmation	9 3 days of Prayer ends at 6:00pm	10	11
12 9:30am Worship 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Bible Study 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	13 1:00pm Quilting/ Nalbinding 7:00pm WOW Meeting	14	15 6:30pm BLAST/ Confirmation 7:15pm New Life Youth Group	16	17	18
19 9:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Annual Church Meeting	20 1:00pm Quilting/ Nalbinding	21 9:00am Woman's Bible Study	22 6:30pm BLAST/ Confirmation	23	24	25
26 9:30am Worship BLAST Students Sing 10:30am Coffee Hour 10:45am Bible Study	27 1:00pm Quilting/ Nalbinding	28	29 6:30pm BLAST/ Confirmation	30	31	

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Facebook: [trinity.lutheran.carrington](https://www.facebook.com/trinity.lutheran.carrington)

Pastor Ritchie Cole
920-216-4292

Sheryl Roundy - Secretary

Holly Zieman - Parish Nurse
Home: 652-3073
Cell: 652-5732



January 2025

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

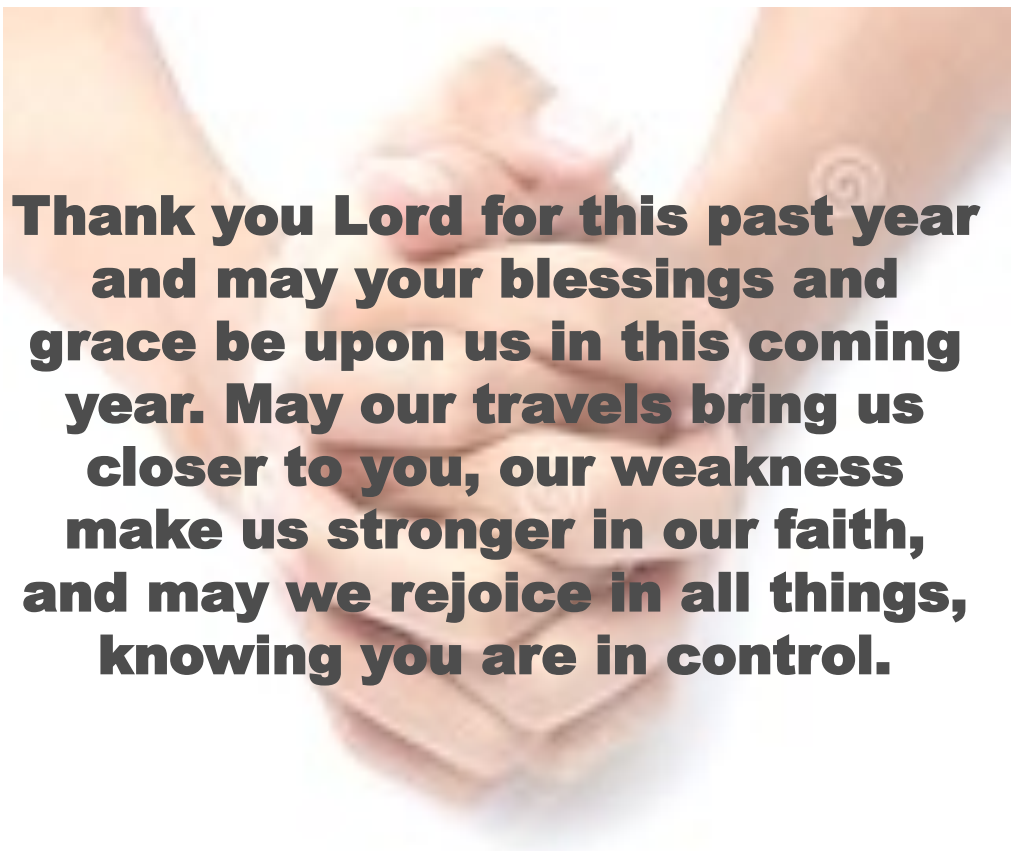
**TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Worship Services are
Sundays at 9:30 am

Listen to us Sundays at 11:20 a.m.
on KDAK (1600 AM)
-or-
online at www.newsdakota.com

Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Pastor Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
By appointment at all other times



**Thank you Lord for this past year
and may your blessings and
grace be upon us in this coming
year. May our travels bring us
closer to you, our weakness
make us stronger in our faith,
and may we rejoice in all things,
knowing you are in control.**