

THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

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



Grace to you and peace

Are you ready?

Advent is a season of preparation in two ways. The one we are maybe most familiar with is preparation for Christmas. Many of us think about it in a secular way. Are our

porches and yards decorated with lights, blow-up Santas and reindeer, and maybe even music?

As a child I loved riding in the car at night as my parents drove around town to see everyone's lights. Although they were much more simple than today's fanfare, there were a lot more people who would put up basic lights on the porch or eaves and electric candles in their windows. While I like the variety of decorations used today, I miss the abundance of my childhood where every house on the block was lit up. The other part of our preparation is gift buying which sometimes seems like it has gotten out of hand. Are you a deliberate shop ahead of time or a frantic last minute shopper? Do you get things all through the year or wait for big sales to come up?

How about your religious preparation? As you read this, we are already into the first week of Advent. If you haven't already, please stop at church and pick-up an Advent devotion book or an Advent calendar. Both contain scripture to read each day following the theme of The Grand Miracle. This is how C. S. Lewis, author of the Chronicles of Narnia, described the birth of Jesus. He felt that this was the greatest miracle in history, even

more so than Jesus' resurrection. In part, because if Jesus hadn't been born there wouldn't have been a death and resurrection but even more so, who could ever imagine that God would come down to earth and inhabit a human body.

INCONSEIVABLE!

Each Sunday we will explore what Jesus gave up in order to become Immanuel - God with us, and how Jesus was fully God and fully human, experiencing the world as we do, including suffering and death, but also as God who performed miracles and raised the dead.

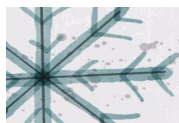
We will end the season on December 24 with a 6 p.m. worship service as we herald in the Christmas Season and celebrate Christ's birth. We will have the opportunity to hear the Word of God in both scripture and music. We will also join in the Sacrament of Holy Communion where we celebrate God's gift of forgiveness given through the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I hope to see you at all of the services as each week will approach The Grand Miracle from a different angle as we prepare for Jesus' birth. If you are unable to attend our 10 a.m. Sunday worship you can find us streaming on Facebook.

May you have a blessed Advent and Merry Christmas.

Peace in Christ

Pastor Eunice



COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President:: Nikki Smith
Vice President: N/A
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening
Financial Admin: Nikki Smith
Christian Ed: Ashley Parish
Ch Properties: Mark Durkee
Stewardship: Margaret Durkee
Lay Ministry: Donna Kotewa
Worship: Yvonne Noorlun
Youth: Ashley Parish



**Trinity Lutheran Church
 Council Meeting
 Wednesday November 12, 2025
 Called to Order 7:10**

Member Present: Kathy Wilkening
 Ashley Parish Mark Durkee Mar-
 garet Durkee Yvonne Noorlun
 Pastor Eunice Woodberry

Nikki Smith was ill so Yvonne led
 the meeting.

Pastor Eunice Report Planned
 Crue Crosby funeral. Attended
 GIFT and confirmation. Visitation
 and phone conversation with 4 by
 phone and 3 visits. Planning All
 Saints, Thanksgiving and Advent
 worship services. Advent theme is
 A Grand Miracle with daily scrip-
 ture readings and reflection calen-
 dar plus devotional book.

Secretary Report -Kathy Wilkening
 Margaret motioned to accept as
 read and Mark second.

Treasures Report Yvonne Noorlun

Income is up for October by \$3,075.
 Income is close to the budget. Mar-
 garet motioned to accept as present-
 ed and Mark second.

Stewardship - Margaret Durkee,
 Slowly the pledge/talent sheets have
 been returning by mail. Some of the
 Pony Express packets have been
 returned.

Lay/Ministry -Donna Kotewa sent a
 letter with a question for Pastor
 Eunice. Will she be taking over the
 visitation/communion to the shut-in
 members? Donna has met with Jer-
 ry Miller. Not Marilyn, Norman or
 Linnea due to illness.

Church Properties - Mark Durkee
 As yet no estimate on replacing
 light bulbs with LED bulbs. Re-
 moval of the leaves from the yard.

Christian Ed/GIFT -Ashley Parish,
 Very good turn out for the Hallow-
 een party. November GIFT will
 meet November 5 and 19. Will
 again shop with the kids at Dollar
 General for the children at the

Ronald McDonald house. The kids
 made cards for Veterans and were
 delivered to Nursing home and Bra-
 vo Zulu house. December 17 will
 be the Christmas program with the
 GIFT kids and a meal afterwards.

Youth -Ashley Parish, Many youth
 helped with the Halloween Party.
 The youth served at the Election
 Supper on November 4th. The
 youth will try to bake some Christ-
 mas cookies for the Cookie Walk.

Worship -Yvonne Noorlun, Pastor
 Eunice will preach Nov. 16-26-30

and Dec 7, November 23 service
 will be lay ministry. November 26
 is Thanksgiving Eve service at 6:00
 with pie and coffee served after.

December 6 is the Cookie Walk 8-
 10 AM, December 24 Candle Light
 worship at 6:00

OLD BUSINESS:

Yvonne is hoping to start a Pen Pal
 Program through Crest.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Submitted by Secretary
 Kathy Wilkening



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

*Through Thrivent Choice, eligi-
 ble members can recommend where
 Thrivent Financial distributes some
 of its charitable outreach grant dol-
 lars among thousands of participat-
 ing nonprofit organizations and con-
 gregations.*

\$30.00 deposit

**We need to continue to apply to
 Thrivent for funding for our
 Church projects. Contact Yvonne
 Noorlun and she will help you with
 the application process!**



Treasurer's Summary Report As of October 31, 2025

Checking Account Bal.	\$45,904
Savings Account Bal.	\$66,117

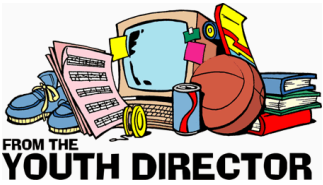
OCTOBER:	
General Fund Income	\$ 9607
General Fund Expenses	\$ 6532
Net long	\$ 3075

NOVEMBER:	
Cash Available	\$ 45,904
Bills to pay	\$ 6,863
Cash long	\$39,041

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READINGS – NOVEMBER

DATE	1ST READING	PSALM	2ND READING	GOSPEL
Dec. 7– 2nd Advent	Isaiah 11:1-10	72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
Dec. 14-3rd Advent	Isaiah 35:1-10	146:5-10	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11
Dec. 21-4th Advent	Isaiah 7:10-16	80:1-7, 17-19	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25
Dec 24-Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9:2-7	96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14[15-20]
Dec. 28, 1 Christmas Hymn Sing	Isaiah 63:7-9	148	Heb 2:10-18	Matthew 2:13-23



Youth Director Newsletter for December 2025

My husband Ryan and I recently started shopping for the holidays. We picked up some Christmas lights and some gifts for our girls. My favorite find of the day was a vintage ceramic Christmas tree! I am pretty sure

Ryan saw the look on my face and knew it would be coming home with us! As we were packing it up, memories flooded back as I took out each plastic bulb. It was always my job to help put the light bulbs in my Grandma Muriel's ceramic Christmas trees and her villages. Some of my favorite memories are helping her bake, decorate, go to the Christmas Eve service and listen as my Grandpa Don read us the Christmas story before we opened gifts. I now collect ceramic Christmas trees, do some Christmas baking and we often read the Christmas story. With the business of the holidays it is always good to be reminded of the family traditions and the true meaning of Christmas. I hope you all have a Merry Christmas!

Events:

December 3rd GIFT 2:15pm-5:30pm

December 17th GIFT 2:15pm-5:30pm/Christmas program at 5:30pm with meal to follow.

Everyone is welcome!

We will also be having a Youth Group Christmas party! Date TBD. I will send a message to the Youth Group.

Ashley Parish-Youth Director



The Youth met on November 30th to bake cookies for residents in our community and for the Trinity Cookie Walk.

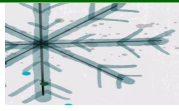
Acolytes for December

Dec 7– Jackson Hastad
 Dec 14– Grayson & Liam Werner
 Dec. 21–Gabby G & Zach Schneider
 Dec. 24–Please volunteer
 Dec 28– Sophia Carlson



January 2026						
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 Worship Service at 10:00 am Live streamed on our FB page	CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Mon-8-11 Wed-8-11, 1-4 Fri-8-11	2 9:45 Open Bible Study at the church 	3 GIFT Class 2:15-5:30	4 	5 	6 WELCA'S Annual Cookie Walk 8-10 AM
7 <u>Communion</u> 	8	9	10 Confirmation class 4-5:15 7 pm Church Council mtg.	11	12 	13
14 <u>Communion</u> 	15 Newsletter DEADLINE!	16	17 GIFT 2:15-5:30 	18	19 	20
21 <u>Communion</u> 	22	23	24 6:00 PM Trinity Lutheran's 	25 NO SERVICE 	26	27
28 HYMN SING with Tanner 	29	30 	31	Usher for December Doug Schwanz & Chris Mosloski	Dec. Lay Readers 12-7-Jan R 12-14-LeAnn M 12-21-Donna K 12-24-volunteer 12-28-Brenda H	Dec. Comm. Servers 12-7-Dave S 12-14-Margaret 12-21-Jan R 12-24-Yvonne Linda M M Durkee



WELCA News

Do you have your cookies and treats ready for the Cookie Walk which is Saturday, December 6. If not, please give a monetary gift. We would like everyone to contribute to the project.

The proceeds from this event are given to various organizations, mostly those in this area.

Kathy Wilkening has agreed to be WELCA President in 2026. Joyce Ysker is Vice President, Robin Miller has taken over the WELCA Secretary position and Sandy Meyer is once again the Treasurer. Thank you to all these ladies who have agreed to be our WELCA officers.

Thanks to all who gave a Thankoffering and contributed to the Truman Schools Food Pantry.

May you all have a Blessed Christmas Season.

~Barb Shoen

Cookie Walk

at

**Trinity Lutheran Church
Truman, Minnesota**

**Saturday, Dec. 6
8:00-10:00 AM**

Let Trinity help you with your Christmas baking--
lots of cookies, caramels, kringle, etc.

You pick what you want and pay by the pound.
Containers are provided.

You can also enjoy goodies along with
coffee and cider for a free will donation.

Trinity members are asked to bring 8 dozen cookies or make a comparable monetary donation. We would like the cookies to the church on the Friday night before or 7 am on Saturday.

UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



Fareway-\$108,251.02

Hy-Vee-\$98,186.58

Keep those receipts coming!!

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

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH



Our deepest Sympathy to the family of Kaela & Ron Kelley at the death of their son, Mason who passed away on November 22, 2025. Visitation was held at Zaharia Funeral Home in Truman on Monday, December 1st. They will have a private family funeral for Mason on Saturday, January 17, 2026 at Trinity.



Our heartfelt sympathy to the Lois Lloyd family at the death of her daughter, Amy Teetzel who passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 19th. Card's may reach Lois at: 7900 Timber Lake Dr. Apt. 103, Eden Prairie MN 55347

Congratulations to Jordan & Elizabeth (Kotewa) DeLong at the birth of Violet Elizabeth DeLong who was born on October 30, 2025. She weighed 7lbs-12 oz and 21 inches long.

Grandparents from Trinity are Donna & Sam Kotewa.



TRINITY HAS A FOOD PANTRY

Thanks to Jackson Hastad for making it for a 4-H project for the Martin County Fair. He said he seen one in Fairmont by a church and thought it would be a good idea for Trinity to have one in front of our church. So he worked and labored hard to make this wonderful project. On the front of the pantry it says: "Take What You Need, Leave What You Can" If you would like to donate items to the pantry, please remember to only bring items that can withstand the frigid temperatures outside.



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



Prayers

Jerry Teig, Norman & Marilyn Anderson, Linnea Huss, Dan Strausser, Marlene Breitbarth and the family of Kalea & Ron Kelley and the Lois Lloyd Family.



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1 Kent & Chris Hyndman (52 years) Ryan & Julie Bruderie (24 years)	2 Keegan Hastad Wayne & Becky Maloney (53) Larry & Amy Mohwinkel (36 years)	3	4 	5	6 
7 Marilyn Anderson (81 years) Nathan & Sarah Rolling (12 years)	8 Geri Peterson (90 years) 	9	10 Cheryl Culbertson Kaela Kelley	11	12	13 Judy Doble
14 Doris Fedder (88 years)	15	16 Lori Anderson	17 Ella Fadness	18	19 KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS	20
21 Sophia Carlson Becky Maloney	22	23	24 	25	26	27 Norman Anderson (86 years)
28	29	30 Laurie Wille	31 Mike Wiederhoeft			

TRINITY LUTHERAN PARISH (ELCA)
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U.S. POSTAGE
REQUIRED
FOR
DELIVERY

WHAT'S INSIDE

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- 2 Council Minutes
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Scan code to Give!

Address Service Requested

Trinity Lutheran's

*Christmas Eve
Candlelight*

6:00 PM WORSHIP



We have reached
our goal!! Thanks
to all who gave!

THE MESSENGER

December 2025

GIFT CHRISTMAS



**PROGRAM-And Supper
December 17 at 5:30 PM**

Trinity Lutheran 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

Council Pres. Cell: 507-230-3703

Pres. Email: nikdsmith@hotmail.com

Pastoral Care Team- 507-776-8555

Pastor Eunice Woodberry-320-290-5775

Email: craftpastor08@gmail.com

SOCIAL

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