

The Trumpet

APRIL 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 2nd:

12:00 p.m. Lenten Lunch

7:00 p.m. Lenten Service

April 9th:

7:00 p.m. Lenten Service

April 17th:

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday

First Communion Ceremony

April 18th:

7:00 p.m. Good Friday

April 19th:

5:00 p.m. Easter Vigil Service

April 20th:

9:15 a.m. Easter Breakfast

10:30 a.m. Easter Service

April 27th:

Confirmation Sunday

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Volunteer Opportunities

- **Individuals who would like to volunteer for Children's Church please contact Rachel Kitch or Kristy Jerke, or see the sign-up sheet in the gathering area of the sanctuary**
- **We are looking to host VBS again this summer, the dates will be Aug. 5th-7th in the evening with a pool party on Aug. 8th. As we begin the early stages of planning we will need to make sure we have volunteers to make this happen. Please contact Kristy Jerke or Rachel Kitch for more details.**

Scholarships

Scholarships are available

to active members of Trinity Lutheran Church for college, technical school and other educational endeavors. There are some stipulations in that the family or individual must be and active member of the Church. These scholarships are renewable until the individual graduates. Any individuals who think they might qualify should contact Rachel in the church office for an application. The Endowment committee will review them and then make their recommendations, all applications are due into the church office by April 15th.

Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." (John 20:29)

We are in a time of transition. As this newsletter arrives we will still have another Sunday in Lent and Holy Week to get through. But we know what comes next, don't we? We know the emotional and spiritual roller-coaster that awaits us as our Lenten candles continue to be extinguished and the tension as Maundy Thursday and Good Friday take away the joy of the triumphal entry on Palm Sunday. We know what comes next, but what about the people who were there that first time?

It is said that on the evening of June 18, 1815 a man stood in the tower of England's Winchester Cathedral gazing anxiously out to sea. After staring intently for who knows how long, he finally found what he was looking for—a ship, signaling news that all of England had been waiting for. He strained to see the message. All of England held its breath with him, wanting to know the outcome of the war between their military leader, the Duke of Wellington, and the French dictator Napoleon Bonaparte. England seemed to stand alone as Napoleon steadily conquered the rest of Europe. Would England be next? The threat consumed them, but now the decisive Battle of Waterloo had been fought.

He stood by to relay the message. What would it be? What was the news that would determine England's future? The signal came just as a heavy fog was rolling in. It only just got through, but he wished it hadn't, for the signal read: "Wellington defeated"

The man signaled to other stations and the news spread across the countryside, bringing great gloom and sadness. But then a great reversal. The fog lifted, and the message was sent again, this time in full: "Wellington defeated the enemy." Wellington had won! An uplifting joy swept through the land with this great news.

We can read this story now with a bit of amusement because we know what happened; we know of the great victory that changed the world that day. But 'knowing' what happened then doesn't lessen the event. The same thing is true of Good Friday and Easter.

On that first Good Friday it seemed the message was "Christ defeated." The people had walked with him as he was beaten, abused, scorned, mocked and finally crucified. It was over. All their hopes had been crushed just as his body seemed to be. Gloom and despair formed a heavy fog that filled their hearts; a fog that hid the full message about what was really happening. But in the clear light of that first Easter, the full message was revealed, "Christ defeated the enemy!" Just as the people of England were overjoyed at the turn of events, so too were those first disciples when the full message of Jesus' victory was fully received.

But how do we look at all this now? We know the story. We've heard it time after time; some of us have heard it enough we could recite it by memory. But does 'knowing' what happened make it any less amazing? I certainly hope not and I truly don't believe that's the case. We know what's going to happen. We know how the events will unfold in the coming weeks; and yet we find ourselves again on that emotional and spiritual roller-coaster. We feel the tension around the table and in the garden; we feel the sting of darkness and the cold of the tomb; and we feel new life that comes from the victory of the resurrection.

Why? Because the greatest story ever told is not one that happened once upon a time; it's not a one-time or even once a year story—it happens each and every day. And the best part is that we are all a part of this truly never ending story. When we sing "Were You There" we can truly say yes, we were. We heard and felt the nails; we felt the cold as the darkness of the tomb wrapped around us; but we were also there to hear the words, "he is risen!"

Blessings on you in this time of transition as we get ready once again to ride that roller-coaster; we may know what's coming, but that makes getting there even better.

Pastor Jay

As leader of the Ministry Team, I thought I would tell you about the importance of this team. The main missions of this team are Trinity Ladies Fellowship, Social Concerns, In-home Communion and Barton County Association of Churches.

The TLF women meet monthly for Bible Study and fellowship. All women are encouraged to attend. TLF participates in many mission projects. These include supporting Lutheran World Relief with quilts, school bags and health kits; supporting our local food bank with men's and women's hygiene products; sending cards monthly to shut-ins, and those needing healing; visiting and taking gifts to our shut-ins; delivering our weekly altar flowers. They also host a soup fundraiser each year to raise money to support our missions.

The Social Concerns team assists church and community members with financial needs, such as rent, utilities or gas. This team also hosts a fundraiser each year for the Oaks Indian Mission; they support our Barton County Association of Churches by providing volunteers to serve at the food bank one month out of each year; collecting food for the food bank; hosting a Lenten lunch each year and collecting money for Emergency Aid thru the Widow's Mite and Fill the Soup Pot offerings.

The In-home communion team takes communion to our nursing home residents and home-bound members. On average, they serve 20 individuals each month. There is a team of six volunteers who serve communion to those living in Great Bend, Larned and LaCrosse.

Trinity is a member of the Barton County Association of Churches. This organization includes the Food Bank and Emergency Aid. The purpose is to join local churches together to support the needs of our community. Pastor Jay and two representatives attend BCAC meetings six times a year. We share community concerns and strive to spread the word of God thru helping others.

Ruth Lanterman, Ministry Team

**Trinity Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report
February 28, 2025**

	For the Month	Year-to-date 2025	Year-to-date 2024	
Unified Budget Receipts				
Regular Offerings	21,981.72	40,470.89	41,796.16	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	470.00	470.00	516.00	
Other Revenue	260.79	433.32	425.96	
Total Receipts	<u>22,712.51</u>	<u>41,374.21</u>	<u>42,738.12</u>	
Expenditures through 02/28/2025	<u>22,586.31</u>	<u>50,456.21</u>	<u>48,607.46</u>	
Over (Short) of Actual Expenses	<u>126.20</u>	<u>(9,082.00)</u>	<u>(5,869.34)</u>	
Budget Receipts:		Year-to-date 2025	Year-to-date 2024	Increase/ (Decrease) from 2024
Average per Sunday (8 Sundays in 2025) (8 Sundays in 2024)		<u>5,058.86</u>	<u>5,224.52</u>	<u>(165.66)</u>
Total Unified Budget Receipts		40,470.89	41,796.16	<u>(1,325.27)</u>
Budget Requirements		56,534.17	57,665.83	
Over (Short) of Budget Goal		<u>(16,063.28)</u>	<u>(15,869.67)</u>	

From the Council

Council met on March 18 with all members in attendance.

Kristy Jerke reported the education committee has moved forward with children's church starting March 30. The children's service will be during the 10:30 service, during the lessons and sermon. The education committee felt children from ages 3rd grade would benefit the most. It should last about 15-20 minutes and will meet in the parlor.

The Lenten luncheon for our church is scheduled for April 2nd from noon to 1 o'clock. It is a gathering of members from the churches in the community and all are invited. Food and drink are provided.

Confirmation will be April 27 and I believe there will be 2 individuals participating.

Michele Brack has volunteered to begin digitalization of the church's records and the Council has approved the purchase of a scanner, a software package, and a computer. These purchases should be completed in the very near future so Michele with help from volunteers can get started.

Randy Wetzel has provided excellent guidance on our bathroom situation. The plan is to consider automating the entrance door on the family bathroom in the education wing. This would allow individuals to enter or exit with little difficulty (e.g., walker/crutches). Also he is looking into either modifying or changing how the doors on the stalls work so it will be much easier for individuals to enter or exit the stalls. Also the bathroom in the basement (near the stage) will become a family bathroom. Because of the steps it will not be handicap accessible. The electronic sign on the east side of the church is starting to have malfunctions and a new sign would cost nearly \$40,000 so he is considering modifying and probably going to a non-electric sign. Finally, it was proposed to put leaf guards on our gutters. The gutters on the main structure are too high for the operation steam to easily clean out.

The treasures report was given and no unusual expenses were noted.

Finally, applications for scholarships are available in the back of the church or individuals can apply through Rachel Kitch in the church office. April 15th is the deadline. The endowment committee will meet to determine the recipients.

By Len Fleske

Council Highlights

President –

Vice-President – Len Fleske

Secretary – Christi Penka

Worship –

Education – Kristy Jerke

Ministry – Ruth Lanterman

Operations – Randy Wetzel

- Children's Church is starting up on Sunday, March 30th. Ask Rachel Kitch or Kristy Jerke for details!
- Trinity is hosting the Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday April 2nd from 12:00-1:00PM.
- There are still two unfilled positions on Leadership Council- Worship Committee and President. Please prayerfully consider serving the congregation of Trinity. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Pr. Jay or any member of the Leadership Council (Len Fleske (620) 793-4069, Christi Penka (620) 282-2679, Randy Wetzel (620) 791-7768, Kristy Jerke (620) 639-4953, or Ruth Lanterman (620) 786-9701).

Rebecca Circle

Rebecca Circle met on Monday, March 17 with nine ladies present. Ruth led our Bible Study as continued our study of Gideon. Please join us as we learn more about listening to God's callings. Lydia Kaufman and Verna Maier were our hostesses. We were served a delicious piece of "made from scratch" carrot cake and the serving table was beautifully decorated for St. Patrick's Day. A sign-up sheet was filled out as we discussed the plans for serving the Lenten luncheon at noon on April 2nd. We hope all of you will plan to attend.

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Luke 1:45

Friendship Circle

Friendship Circle Had to cancel once again due to the Spring snow storm. Our next meeting will be April 16th.

TLF will again be collecting men's hygiene items for the Food Bank! The following items are needed (Travel size or larger please):

Razors, Shaving Cream, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Soap/Body Wash, Combs, Nail clip-pers

There is a collection basket set up in the Gathering Space. Thank you for your help with this Mission Project. The greatest commandment is to "Love your neighbors as you love yourself", Mark 12:31. This project is just one more way that we, as the Women of Trinity Lutheran Church can serve the Lord.

Quilting Dates:

Tuesday April 8 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday April 22 9:00 a.m.

Thursday April 24 9:00 a.m.

TLF Event Dates:

TLF Council Meeting April 8 2:00 p.m.

Rebecca Circle April 21 7:00 in the Parlor

Friendship Circle April 16 9:30 a.m. in the Library

Missions

BCAC met on March 5th with eight churches represented. It was reported that the Food Bank served 914 people in January and February. Emergency Aid spent \$5,561.59 assisting people with rent, utilities and overnight stays. These totals for the first two month of the year are up significantly over that timeframe in 2024. With the possibility of government cuts for food bank funding, we all may need to increase our donations to the food bank.

There is also a need for churches to host meals for the Thursday night meetings of the Core Community group. These meetings are held at the United Methodist Church to help the enrolled families learn how to budget their money and be better able to financially take care of themselves and their families. There is also a need for volunteers to help with childcare while the parents are in their meetings.

If you have any interest in helping with Core meals or volunteering at the food bank het in touch with Kathy Ahlvers, Ruth Lanterman or Pastor Jay.

As a mission team we continue to look for new opportunities to impact people in our community and across the seas. As we look at the opportunities we have we are also looking to how we can become more involved with the missions we already support. One of these ways is to take a trip to Oaks to see how they have expanded and help them with some much needed projects at their site. We would like to find a Saturday-Sunday that would work to go there and be the hands a feet that they need to get some much needed work done, and to also interact with the children and families they are currently supporting. As we reach out to Dan and the team to find this time, we ask that you pray about this opportunity for all generations of our church to come together and support this mission of Trintiy!



Scan Me to see
more about
missions

**GO THEREFORE AND MAKE
DISCIPLES OF ALL THE NATIONS,
BAPTIZING THEM IN THE NAME
OF THE FATHER AND OF THE SON
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

MATTHEW 28:19

April 2: KICKS

April 9: KICKS

April 16: KICKS

April 23: KICKS

April 30: KICKS



It's hard to believe we are in the final month of KICKS. The kids have all grown and learned so much this past year, and I could not be more proud of each of them. Along with mastering the Lord's Prayer and why we use it, they have worked on memory verses, the Ten Commandments and learned more about what it means to be Lutheran and why we have certain traditions. It is so much fun watching these kids enter the program and seeing where they are when it is time for them to be confirmed. I hope each of them continue to grow their faith over the summer and look forward to next fall when they all return.

Keep your eyes and ears open for more information about VBS and volunteer opportunities, it takes a village to make VBS happen and we are praying that each of you find the spot you are called to volunteer for. We also ask that you are praying for VBS as well.

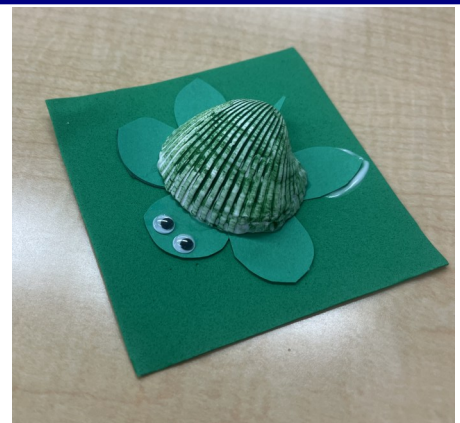
Train up a child in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it. Proverbs 22.6

Little Blessings Preschool



We are back from Spring break and learning the letter T for trust. Daniel had unwavering faith and trust in God which allowed him to face the lion's den with confidence. T is also for turtles so we made these turtles from sea shells.

Blessings—Diana Welshonse



TLC Discoveries

These are some of the things that we have planned for April.

Shari Karst

APRIL

- ❖ **EASTER Fun!**
- ❖ **Who/What Easter is all about!**
- ❖ **Outside kickball!**
- ❖ **Prayers!**
- ❖ **Good Things!**
- ❖ **Easter Lessons!**
- ❖ **Egg Hunt!**

Prayer Page for April 2025

WE PRAY TODAY FOR:

Resident of Azria of GB

Sam Spece

Allen Ukens

Les Stewart

Resident of Riverbend of GB

Elsena Bender

Resident of Brookdale

Joyce Nagel Jim Juergensen

Resident of Medical Lodges

Deon Lupton

Ladine Hartman

Residents Out-of-Town:

Nancy Soeken, Hutchinson

Wilma Steadman, La Crosse

Marie Schepmann,
Hoisington

Donna Oliver, Wichita

Clara Mae Brown, Larned

August Sandy, Larned

Betty Barnard, Larned

Alene Clarke, Manhattan

Glen Snyder, Larned

Homer Kruckenburg, Prairie
Village

Marty Kruckenburg-Meade

MISSION PARTNERS

Barton Co. Association of Churches

Core Community-Journey to Resolve
pOVERty

Oaks Indian Mission, Oaks, OK

Barton Co. Emergency Aid

Awakening Lives to World Missions

Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch

Star of Hope

Live Like Jesus Today

MEMBERS CURRENTLY NEEDING HEALING:

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Leann Wegele, Vicki Boxberger, Sheryl Corn, Carolyn Nelson, Merle Klima

Delores Schneidewind, Lola Michael, Dottie Anderson, Robert Rowland , Kasey Kennedy

Marlene & Mak Brack, Patti Klima, Kathy Delimont, Gerald Postlethwaite & Lily Akins

WE PRAY FOR THOSE CURRENTLY IN OUR MILITARY:

Kelly Vogel, Army (grandson of Deloris Schneidewind)

Lane Wilson, Marine (grandson/Judy Messersmith)

Austin Anschutz, Army Aviation (grandson/Merle & Liz Klima)

Adam Watkins, Joshua Helm, Army, (grandson/great grandson/Wilma Steadman)

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS NEEDING HEALING:

Pat Dirks (*mother/Darla Clarke*)

Danine Smith (*sister/Darla Clarke*)

Vickie Owston (*daughter/Joyce Nagel*)

Nick Okeson (*friend/Anne Linenberger*)

Connie Petersen (*cousin/ Bev Juergensen*)

Roberta Holden (*Judy Messersmith*)

Cirus Feil, Ashley Corn, Jessie & Creed
Rodriguez; Rachel Corn & Family (*family/
Steve & Sheryl Corn*)

Janet Meyers, Jasmnka Jevtic Fiso & Otto
(*friends/ Steve & Sheryl Corn*)

John M. Maneth (*Brother-in-law/Carla
Maneth*)

Howard King (*Brother-in-law/Carla Maneth*)

Rob Smith, Lynn Smith (*BiL/sister/Kathy
Delimont*)

Darwin Folkerts, Donita & Don O'Hearn
(*Deanna Swank*)

Denise Wilson (*Sister, Deanna Swank*)

Erika Kohart (*friend/Vicki Boxberger*)

Mary Ann Leroy (*friend/Vicki Boxberger*)

Pam Merten (*friend/Vicki Boxberger*)

Mary McGee (*sister/Cindy Smith*)

Evette Aguilara (*Friend Ruth Lanterman*)

Daniel Klima & Christine Klima (*Son &
Daughter of Merle & Liz Klima*)

Barbara Wolter (*friend Judi Brack Johnson*)

Cindy Philips (*Judi Brack Johnson*)

Laurie Schaffer (*Friend of Christi Penka*)

Sandra Geschwenter (*Friend of Christi
Penka*)

Kim Feulner (*cousin of Christi Penka*)

Cathy Bell (*Friend of Penkas*)

Linda Cannon (*friend of Penka*)

Donita Keil (*Aunt/ Christi Penka*)

Brian Breese, Dianna Allison (*Friend of
Penka's*)

Annabella Davis (*friend/Deloris
Schneidewind*)

Laurie White; Rhonda Feldman (*friends
Marty Schloemer*)

Gunner Jackson (*family friend/Kim
Kummer*)

Chelsea VanVeleet (*friend of Kim Kummer*)

Tracy Cox (*friend of Kim Kummer*)

Lee Kuhn (*friend of Kim Kummer*)

John Winter (*friend of Kummings*)

Wally Gregg (*friend of Kummer*)

Jamie Howard (*Niece of Ruth Stietz*)

Roger Suchy (*Brother/Connie Belt*)

LaDesha Clark, Todd Clark, Janie
Mooneyham (*Family of Tom Kirkhart*)

Jim New (*friend of Hofeling*)

Amy Dalton (*friend of Kitch's*)

Sharon Campbell (*friend Lorrie Ruble*)

April 2025

Sunday **Monday** **Tuesday** **Wednesday** **Thursday** **Friday** **Saturday**

		1 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	2 12:00 p.m. Lenten Luncheon 5:15 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	3	4	5 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
6 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	7 5:30 p.m. TLCD Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Bldg. & Grnds Meeting	8 9:00 a.m. Quilting 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. TLF Council	9 2:00 p.m. Pastor Riverbend 5:15 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	10	11	12 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
13 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	14	15 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Council	16 9:30 a.m. Friendship Circle 5:15 p.m. KICKS	17 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday First Communion Ceremony	18 7:00 p.m. Good Friday	19 5:00 p.m. Easter Vigil
20 8:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise 9:15 a.m. Education Hour Easter Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Easter Service	21 7:00 p.m. Rebecca Circle Office Closed	22 9:00 a.m. Quilting 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	23 5:15 p.m. KICKS 2:00 p.m. Pastor Riverbend	24 9:00 a.m. Quilting	25	26 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
27 9:15 a.m. Education Hour Confirmation Reception 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	28	29 Pastor Gone	30 5:15 p.m. KICKS 6:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study			

Trinity Lutheran Church

2701—24th Street
Great Bend, KS 67530-2298

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Phone: (620) 793-7894

TLC Discoveries & Little Blessings Pre-School
Phone: (620) 793-8816

Email: trinitychrch@hotmail.com

Facebook at [Trinity Lutheran Church KS](#)

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Lenten Lunches

The public is invited to attend the Barton County Association of Churches Lenten Luncheons at the following churches. Serving will begin at noon with the luncheon lasting until 1:00 p.m. A free will offering will be taken to defray the expenses of the host congregation.

April 2 – Trinity Lutheran Church, Pastor Keith Funk from the Center for Spirituality

April 9th — Grace Community Church, Pastor Tim Singleton, First Southern Baptist

April 16th — Prince of Peace St. Rose, Becky Gillette, Presbyterian Church