

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 14th
Ash Wednesday @ 7:00

February 18th
Fellowship Meal

February 21st
Lenten Service @ 7:00

February 28th
Lenten Luncheon @
Trinity
Lenten Service @ 7:00

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The Trumpet

FEBRUARY 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN



KICKS kids learning all about the animals of the Bible. The kids made bears out of cookies.



By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return. –Genesis 3:19

Have you looked at the calendar lately? Something strange is happening this year; something that really doesn't conform to logic or common sense. If you haven't seen it yet, you might not realize it, but Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th this year. Yes, that's right; Ash Wednesday is on Valentine's Day. Now how weird is that?

The day when people all over the place are giving flowers, or exchanging cards with those very special people; when the purchase and consumption of chocolate absolutely skyrockets; when thoughts of romance abound—Christians throughout the world are getting somber and very un-festive ashes put on their foreheads in the shape of a cross. And if the thought of having the shape of an instrument of pain, humiliation and death put on your forehead isn't dismal enough, it's done with the burned remains of last year's palms from the celebration of Palm Sunday. And as if an ugly cross, traced with the dead, burned remains of a celebration that went downhill from there isn't enough, we also have to hear the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." Wow. That's just what you want to hear on Valentine's Day, isn't it?

But wait a minute. We might be missing something here. Yes, the ashes and the words are a bit depressing, but we have to remember where it all comes from. Those words that we heard are what God spoke to Adam and Eve after they had eaten the forbidden fruit and fallen into sin. Those words showed them that the bitterest fruit of their sin was death. And when we receive those ashes and hear again those words, we are also reminded of the bitterness of our sin and our own mortality.

And yet, those ashes are in the shape of a cross; and not just any cross, but the cross of Christ Jesus. So we have to look beyond the ugliness of the cross and look into why Jesus was willing to suffer the pain and humiliation of the cross—God's love for all of us. And God's love is a love that goes beyond flowers, cards and candy; it's a love that's willing to give completely and fully so that we can be free from the chains of our sin.

This might not make sense to the world. And as much as we hate to admit it, there are times when the world still has a lot of influence on us and our relationship with God. I even came across a little something that helps to illustrate that:

- I asked God to take away my pain. God said, No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.
- I asked God to grant me patience. God said, No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations. It isn't granted, it is earned.
- I asked God to give me happiness. God said, No. I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.
- I asked God to make my spirit grow. God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.
- I asked for all things that I might enjoy life. God said, No. I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.
- I ask God to help me LOVE others, as much as he loves me. God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

Ash Wednesday on Valentine's Day—makes perfect sense to me. On a day dedicated to love, it's a good time to be reminded of the boundless love that God has for all of us.

Pastor Jay

Council Highlights

President – John Krug
 Vice-President – Lynn Fleske
 Secretary – Christi Penka
 Worship – Rhonda Anshutz
 Education – Open
 Ministry – Ruth Lanterman
 Operations – Randy Wetzel

- Slate of new council members were sworn in by Pastor Jay at the Leadership Meeting.
- Education position is still open if anyone is interested in serving
- TLC is hosting the Lenten Luncheon on February 28
- We are looking into adding a "Welcome" area at the entry of the church for visitors

Trinity Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report December 31, 2023

	For the <u>Month</u>	Year-to-date <u>2023</u>	Year-to-date <u>2022</u>	
Unified Budget Receipts				
Regular Offerings	41,952.00	301,096.40	282,773.85	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	-	1,357.00	1,050.00	
Other Revenue	162.77	10,048.64	1,299.16	
Total Receipts	<u>42,114.77</u>	<u>312,502.04</u>	<u>285,123.01</u>	
Expenditures through 12/31/2023	<u>26,775.40</u>	<u>274,260.00</u>	<u>240,907.30</u>	
Over (Short) of Actual Expenses	<u>15,339.37</u>	<u>38,242.04</u>	<u>44,215.71</u>	
Budget Receipts:		Year-to-date <u>2023</u>	Year-to-date <u>2022</u>	Increase/ (Decrease) from 2022
Average per Sunday		<u>5,681.06</u>	<u>5,437.96</u>	<u>243.11</u>
(53 Sundays in 2023)				
(52 Sundays in 2022)				
Total Unified Budget Receipts		301,096.40	282,773.85	<u>18,322.55</u>
Budget Requirements		<u>328,545.00</u>	<u>382,129.00</u>	
Over (Short) of Budget Goal		<u>(27,448.60)</u>	<u>(99,355.15)</u>	

Missions

2023 was the start of the Missions Development Team at Trinity. Through many talks over the last few years many of our members wanted to be more active with missions as a whole. The Great Commission states that we are to make disciples of all nations. What does this mean? This is a process of finding ways to support those local and in our community, the support nationally those within the united state, and of course globally, those of other nations. We as a church need to understand the many ways that mission works. Missions is not merely an amount of money that we send each quarter, but it is also our “boots on the ground”. As we look to expand what we think of as Missions of Trinity we want to find was to support our community through our efforts, our hand and feet amongst our community showing them that we are here to provide. The missions team is seeking ideas from congregational members to make this a priority and to schedule some of these events for Trinity to get involved in. We are looking to have a Sunday School breakfast for anyone who is interested to come and give ideas and have conversation about what Missions is going to look like in 2024. We will be hosting this on February 11th. If you have ideas please feel free to contact any of the Missions Team, Jil Johnson, Ruth Lanterman, Rachel Kitch, & Shelia Fleske. We are also always looking to add members to our team if interested let any of us know.

Over the past year the Missions team has created a qr code, so that members have easier access to the Missions we are currently supporting. This makes it possible for members to read about each mission or go to their website and personally donate. We hosted Mission in July, where there were special envelopes in the pews that members could put a donation in and check where they would like those funds to go. As we move forward we will be looking for new ways to bring missions front and center to the congregation.

Missions Disbursement 2023

Matt & Christina Smith	\$4,000	Star of Hope	\$250
Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch	\$550	Praire God Mothers of BC	\$250
Awakening Lives to World Missions	\$500	Kans for Kids	\$250
Oaks Indian Mission	\$550	<u>LCMC</u>	<u>\$400</u>
Kingdom Campus of GB	\$250	Total for 2023	\$8,000
Emergency Aide	\$250		
Baby Blessing	\$750		

Schedule of Events

- } February 7th-KICKS
- } February 14-KICKS, Ash Wednesday
- } February 21-KICKS
- } February 28-KICKS



As we begin the season of Lent we are looking at ways to grow the children of the church and their knowledge of what this season means to us. In years past we have taken Ash Wednesday off from KICKS this year we will be having a special service following our meal. After the service the children will work on a Lenten chain to take home, which will keep the Lenten spirit going at home with their families. We invite parents to join us this evening for the dinner, service, & activity following.

As we continue the Lenten journey to Easter each class will be focusing on the meaning of Lent and all the special services that take place during the season. This is a special time in all of our lives but helping children to understand this season is such a blessing to me. I look forward to helping all the children grow in their faith through this journey.

Little Blessings Preschool

Spring is right around the corner even though it is only February.

Wednesday the 14th will be a full day with our Valentines Day party and Ash Wednesday where the children will learn about the meaning of the ashes as well as receive the ashes from Pastor Jay. This will begin our learning about and participating in Lent.

We will also be taking applications for the 2024-2025 preschool year. If we have enough children, we will offer both am and pm classes. Please see contact information below if you know of any families wanting a Christian based preschool education.

Our program this year is Monday through Friday 8:00 – 11:00. We offer both 3- and 5-day options. There are a few spots open, so if you know someone needing preschool, contact Diana Welshonse @ 620-793-8816 or by email @ tlc.littleblessings@gmail.com.



Trinity Lutheran Church

DISCOVERIES AFTER-SCHOOL/SUMMER PROGRAM
& LITTLE BLESSINGS PRE-SCHOOL

Trinity Ladies Fellowship

Rebecca Circle

Rebecca Circle will meet on February 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Parlor. Verna Maier and Clara Niedens will be the hostesses. Ruth Lanterman will be leading the Bible Study. Women, please come and join us for a Bible Study along with lots of fellowship and fun. If you have questions please contact Judi Brack Johnson or Ruth Lanterman for more information.

Friendship Circle

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

The Friendship Circle met December 20th for their Christmas pot luck lunch. Twelve ladies were present. The ladies were reminded to think about what cause part of their treasury money could be donated to. Judi showed the ladies the snow globes she would be delivering to 7 Trinity members living outside their homes. The ladies present put the gift bags together & Judi delivered them. The next Friendship Circle meeting will be February 21st at 9:30 in the church library. Doris Goad will be the hostess.

BCAC

Trinity will be hosting the BCAC Lenten Luncheon on February 28th from noon till 1:00 p.m. Look for the sign-up sheet in the gathering space and volunteer to help prepare and serve this meal. We will be serving sloppy joes, chips, and cake. We look forward to serving our community.

Trinity will be participating in the BCAC Lenten Fundraiser, The **Widow's Mite Offering**, which will be collected from Ash Wednesday through Easter Sunday, March 31. This money will be used to support Emergency Aid. There will be a collection box at the back of the church for your donations. If writing a check, please make it out to BCAC and include "Widow's Mite" on the memo line. Thank you for your participation in this fundraiser.

Quilting

The quilting group will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month as well as on the 4th Thursday. Check the calendar for the dates. We are pleased to have a couple more ladies interested in joining us. This is open to anyone to come and check us out. You don't have to know anything about sewing to be a part of this group. We need people to iron, cut blocks, tie knots to hold the layers together, pin the three layers together; you name it, we will find something that everyone can do. We have a lot of visiting and laughter as well as being the hands of God as we create warm quilts for those who need them the most. If you have questions call Ruth Lanterman or Cindy Smith.

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP WITH A MISSION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IS AVAILABLE FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9, 9:00 AM IN KITCHEN AS WE PREPARE FRIENDSHIP MEALS!

In the past, the Trinity Ladies Fellowship has individually prepared meals as they were made aware of needs within the congregation. They would like to expand this outreach ministry to the entire church family.

We will make freezer meals as needed and stock the freezer! Then when someone needs a meal for any reason, they can be delivered easily and with a one-stop shop! These meals are available for all of the community not just members of Trinity. To prepare the meals, we are having a workday Friday, February 9 in the kitchen. Everyone is welcome the meals are simple to make. We will be assembling Casseroles and making desserts. There will be a checkout sheet so we can monitor food needs! If this date doesn't work, please watch for other upcoming meal preparation opportunities! We are trying a weekday this time to see if it is more convenient! Questions, please contact Rachel at the church office or Krista Smith 620.786.5959.

PLEASE PLAN ON JOINING US AS WE EXPAND THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH.
All are welcome to assist with this project and the more the merrier !

March IS FOOD BANK MONTH

Food Bank Volunteers – We will be needing volunteers to sign up to help at the food bank each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday during the month of March. Two volunteers will be needed from 1:00 till 3:00 p.m. on each of these days. A sign-up sheet will soon be available at the back of the church.

LENTEN LUNCHESES

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.

February 21 – First United Methodist, 2123 Forest Ave., Pr. Mike Munz

February 28 – Trinity Lutheran, 2701 24th St., Pr. Tim Bever

March 6 – First Christian, 5230 Broadway Ave., Father Aneesh

March 13 – Central Baptist, 3301 Lakin Ave., Pastor Joseph S.

March 20 – First Presbyterian, 2400 Washington, Pastor Sandy Kennedy

March 27 – Prince of Peace, St. Rose Auditorium, 1412 Baker, Pr. Adam Wutka

Prayer Page for February 2024

WE PRAY TODAY FOR:

Resident of Azria of GB

Sam Spece

Allen Ukens

Homer Kruckenbug

Les Stewart

Resident of Riverbend of GB

Ladine Hartman

Resident of Brookdale

Helen Wetzel

Joyce Nagel

Residents Out-of-Town:

Nancy Soeken, Hutchinson

Wilma Steadman, La Crosse

Marie Schepmann,
Hoisington

Donna Oliver, Wichita

Clara Mae Brown, Larned

August Sandy, Larned

Deon Lupton, Larned

Betty Barnard, Larned

Alene Clarke, Manhattan

Glen Snyder, Goddard

MISSION PARTNERS

Barton Co. Association of Churches

Core Community-Journey to Resolve
pOVERty

Oaks Indian Mission, Oaks, OK

Barton Co. Emergency Aid

Matt & Christina Smith

Awakening Lives to World Missions

Dakota Boys & Girls Racnch

Star of Hope

MEMBERS CURRENTLY NEEDING HEALING:

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Leann Wegele, Ron & Janice Ensle, Vicki Boxberger, Alene Clarke, Sheryl Corn

Delores Schneidewind, Lola Michael, Dottie Anderson, Les Stewart,

Robert Rowland, Marlene & Mak Brack, & Kathy Delimont

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:

Robert Smith (brother/Gene Smith)

Nathan Thayer (grandson/Shari Miller)

Patti Klima (sister/Maynard Miller)

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)

Carl Zollman (father/Carla Maneth)

Garret Reed, son of Stan & Kelly Reed (friend/
Dorothy & Doug Quade)

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

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

Erika Kohart (friend/Vicki Boxberger)

Mary Ann Leroy (friend/Vicki Boxberger)

Pam Merten (friend/Vicki Boxberger)

Linda Stone (Sister/Vicki Anderson)

Vera Westerman (sister/Judy Dunn)

Daniel Klima (Son of Merle & Liz Klima)

Karen Monroe (Judi Brack-Johnson)

Robert Roth (Friend, Judi Brack-Johnson)

Kathy Henry (friend/Judi Brack-Johnson)

Hennie Harris (cousin/Judi Brack-Johnson)

Laurie Schaffer (Friend of Christi Penka)

Sandra Geschwenter (Friend of Christi Penka)

Philip Donecker, Travis Milsap, Chris Haberman,

Brian Breese (Friend of Penka's)

Annabella Davis (friend/Deloris Schneidewind)

Ben Daubert (Tom & Carolyn Humburg)

Joel Daubert (Tom & Carolyn Humburg)

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

Gunner Jackson (family friend/Kim Kummer)

Chelsea VanVleet (friend of Kim Kummer)

John Winter (friend of Kummer's)

Jamie Howard (Niece of Ruth Stietz)

Roger Suchy (Brother/Connie Belt)

James Michael (son/Lola Michael)

LaDesha Clark, Todd Clark, Janie Mooneyham,

Arvella Kirkhart (all family of Tom Kirkhart)

Kathy Drake (Mother of Ami Kennedy)

Linda Essmiller (friend of ArNell Briel)

Jim New (friend of Hofeling)

February 2024

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

				1	2	3
4 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	5 7:00 p.m. Bldg. & Grnds Meeting	6 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	7 5:30 p.m. KICKS	8	9 9:00 a.m. friendship meal preparation	10 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
11 9:15 a.m. Mission Breakfast Fellowship Hall 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	12 5:30 p.m. TLCD Board Meeting	13 9:00 a.m. Quilting 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Council	14 2:00 p.m. Pastor @ Riverbend 5:30 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday	15 5:30 p.m. Endowment Meeting	16	17 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
18 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Fellowship Meal	19	20 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	21 5:30 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	22	23	24 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
25 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	26	27 9:00 a.m. Quilting 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	28 Lenten Luncheon @ Trinity 2:00 p.m. Pastor @ Riverbend 5:30 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	29 9:00 a.m. Quilting		

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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**Every good gift and every
perfect gift is from above,
coming down from
the Father of lights.**

James 1:17