

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Trumpet

FEBRUARY 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 16th Fellowship Meal



Another faze in church renovations is complete. All of the education wing halls have new carpet. What a change from green to gray, it looks so refreshed and modern. If you have yet to see the new halls please stop by and take a look.

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“And he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’” (Luke 13:6-9)

By this point, we are well past the beginning of the year, but if I may confess something--it's taken me this long to think about my New Year's resolutions. And just for fun, I thought I'd share them with you, so for 2025 I want to:

Think about exercising more. Think about eating right. Think about better managing my time.

Well, I'm done thinking about it! Woohoo! I finally completed a set of resolutions!

Now, we may joke about making resolutions, but the new year seems to bring with it certain feelings that are almost universal. It's not just a number on a calendar for a lot of people, but instead it represents a boundary, a very real separation between what was and what can be.

The beginning of the year brings out our intense desires for the future and our commitments to change, whatever that change entails. Our preference is usually a set of "resolutions" aimed at working harder for whatever it is we want or fixing our self-perceived flaws. But if all we have is our ambitions and desire to do better this year and we don't really do anything different than what we did the year before, then we can be like that fig tree that doesn't bear any fruit.

Now I'm not suggesting that we follow the advice in the Gospel literally; after all I believe that we get enough 'manure' dumped on us in our daily lives. Instead, I would suggest that what is being talked about here, what is being proposed is that we should have something in our lives that enriches them and gives us what we need to grow as both people and as followers of Christ.

Some people look at things like resolutions or other self-help or self-improvement routines to make their lives better, to be a better person, but in the end, all these things are essentially depending on something that's broken, to fix what's broken.

When we seek to do better or be better, all too often we start by depending on ourselves to get the job done. Now if we could do something like that—depend solely on ourselves—then why would we be looking at all those outside things for? Things like the exercise classes, the workout videos, or the new diets guaranteed to make you a new person and all the other 'stuff' that we hope will make us feel better about ourselves.

But did you notice that it wasn't the fig tree that was suggesting to the man what to do? After all, whatever the fig tree had been doing for itself for the last three years hadn't made any differences. All that time of trying to do for itself and what did it have to really show—no fruit and a frustrated landowner that was ready to add it to the woodpile.

The start of the year is a time for new beginnings, second chances and doing things differently. And with God, every day can be a time for those new beginnings and second chances. We just need to open ourselves up to the efforts of the master gardener and be patient as the seeds of faith are planted, watered and cared for. And in the fullness of time, we may just be surprised at not only what grows in our own lives, but what may also spill into the lives of others who may just be looking for their lives to be made new in Christ.

As far as my resolutions go, I think I'll take another look at mine and maybe see if I can't find some help with taking out the thinking about part and try to add a little more doing. After all, I've got the support I need for all things mind, body and spirit in my Lord and Savior. And so do each and every one of you! So let's see what happens in the coming year as we not only think, but do, as we grow and produce good fruit, in the name of Christ!

Pastor Jay

Council Highlights

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President –

Vice-President – Len Fleske

Secretary – Christi Penka

Worship –

Education – Kristy Jerke

Ministry – Ruth Lanterman

Operations – Randy Wetzel

Keeping 3rd Sunday meals going by asking people to sign up for set up and clean up, which consists of setting paper goods out prior to meal and cleaning up any dishes that were used.

Trinity Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report December 31, 2024

	For the <u>Month</u>	Year-to-date <u>2024</u>	Year-to-date <u>2023</u>	
Unified Budget Receipts				
Regular Offerings	54,993.26	322,224.91	301,096.40	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	172.00	2,020.00	1,357.00	
Other Revenue	276.26	2,102.99	10,048.64	
Total Receipts	<u>55,441.52</u>	<u>326,347.90</u>	<u>312,502.04</u>	
Expenditures through 12/31/2024	<u>29,008.04</u>	<u>306,566.84</u>	<u>274,260.00</u>	
Over (Short) of Actual Expenses	<u>26,433.48</u>	<u>19,781.06</u>	<u>38,242.04</u>	
Budget Receipts:		Year-to-date <u>2024</u>	Year-to-date <u>2023</u>	Increase/ (Decrease) from 2023
Average per Sunday		<u>6,196.63</u>	<u>5,681.06</u>	<u>515.57</u>
(52 Sundays in 2024)				
(53 Sundays in 2023)				
Total Unified Budget Receipts		322,224.91	301,096.40	<u>21,128.51</u>
Budget Requirements		345,995.00	328,545.00	
Over (Short) of Budget Goal		<u>(23,770.09)</u>	<u>(27,448.60)</u>	

Trinity Ladies Fellowship

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Rebecca Circle did not meet in January. We will resume our monthly meetings in February.

Hostesses for our meeting on February 17th will be Verna Maier and Clara Niedens. Our Bible study leader will be Tina Hiss. We will continue our study of God's Reluctant Leaders. This month we will learn about Gideon and his reluctance to lead God's people. Please join us as we learn more about listening to God's callings. After a short business meeting, we will enjoy refreshments and fellowship.

Rebecca Circle

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

Luke 1:45

Friendship Circle

The Friendship Circle met January 15th with ten ladies present. The items from TLF Council were discussed and some of the yearly expenses were questioned. Judi reported on the expenses for the gift bags for Trinity members who live outside their home and the gift card purchased for Trinity's youth group. Judi reported that the gift bags with a small gift were delivered to eight Trinity members. The next meeting will be February 19th in the church library. Doris Goad will be hostess and Carla Maneth will present the study. All Trinity ladies and their friends are welcome to attend the Friendship Circle meetings which are held in the church library at 9:30 AM on the third Wednesday of the month.

TLF Council Meeting February 11 2:00 p.m.

Rebecca Circle February 17 7:00 in the Parlor

Friendship Circle February 19 9:30 a.m. in the Library

Quilting Dates:

Tuesday February 11 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday February 25 9:00 a.m.

Thursday February 27 9:00 a.m.

JOIN THE KITCHEN KREW TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 9:00 AM IN KITCHEN AND HELP PREPARE FRIENDSHIP MEALS!

This fun work morning involves making freezer meals so that whenever anyone needs a meal, its ready and easy to deliver by anyone! We are having a workday **Tuesday, February 11 in the kitchen**. Everyone is welcome the meals are simple to make! If this date doesn't work, please watch for other upcoming meal preparation opportunities! Questions, please contact 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!

Missions has been out and about serving our community this past month. Once again a meal was served to the BCCC athletes. Roughly 40 athletes attended the meal and were served a delicious lasagna dinner. Krista & Perry Smith, John & Donna Krug, Steve & Jil Johnson, & Brylee & Debbie Snyder all helped serve the meal. Thank you for continuing to help put this together for the athletes of Barton. We also tried something new this month and signed up to serve the Sunday meal at the DC Kitchen. We served 15 people on Sunday evening. This is an area that we will try to sign up and serve once a quarter. Everyone attending was appreciative for the hot meal.

As we work to find more ways to serve the community we are always looking for other ideas and places where we can benefit the members of our community.



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

February 5: KICKS

February 12: KICKS

February 19: KICKS

February 26: KICKS

It seems like Christmas was just here and now we are already into February. KICKS is back in full swing with each of the grade levels back to learning from the Small Cat Series. We kicked off the new semester with some fun games on being disciples for Jesus. As we focus on the Cat Series and our Lutheran heritage it is also important that we teach and show how to be disciples, as Christians this is our ultimate goal to disciple to others so they too can have eternal life with Jesus.



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 have a new student —Kason, 3 years old, he started in mid December. All the children were so excited to meet him and had fun with introductions along with hand shakes and welcoming him to class. The first week of February we will two birthdays to celebrate, which now gives us five 4 year olds.

It's hard to believe that we are half way through our alphabet and counting into our teens. For our letter N we learned about Narwhal's also known as the unicorn of the ocean.

Blessings—Diana Welshonse



Volunteer Opportunitites

Once again we are asking members to pray over how they can serve at Trinity Lutheran Church. We are needing more people to volunteer for Ushers, Lectors, Camera Operator, Projector, & Assisting Minister. There is also a need for added help on Wednesday evenings, this can be one Wednesday a month or every week. Please contact the office if you are interested in volunteering.

Please continue to pray about the openings on leadership council for President & Worship. This may not be your calling but through prayer God will find the right person to step up and fill these positions.

Thank You

I would like to thank Tom Humburg for bringing his snow blower to my house and clearing off my drive and sidewalk, and for also clearing off the snow and ice on my car. Thanks and Gods Blessings, Judy Messersmith

Thank you for your continued support of those in need. We are all blessed by this congregation and what you continue to do to support the mission. We thank you once again for your contribution.

Thank you so much for your donation. Your financial support as well as your prayers help to keep this important Mission going and blessing those in need. "Go and do likewise" Luke 10:37 Lois Eye, Orphan Grain Train

Dear Trinity- Thank you so much for the generous scholarship! I really appreciate the support from my church family.

Sincerely, Dru Penka

On behalf of Emergency Aid, I want to tank you for your donation and continued support. Your support is truly appreciated. Nancy Sundahl

Prayer Page for February 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:

Gene Smith

Merle Klima

Homer Kruckenburg-Hospice

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Leann Wegele, Ron & Janice Ensle, Vicki Boxberger, Sheryl Corn, Carolyn Nelson

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*)

Jimmy Ernest (*cousin/Vicki Boxberger*)

Mary McGee (*sister/Cindy Smith*)

Evette Aguilara (*Friend Ruth Lanterman*)

Marty Becker (*Member Emmanuel Lutheran*)

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 VanVleet (*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,

Jim New (*friend of Hofeling*)

Amy Dalton (*friend of Kitch's*)

February 2025

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

							1 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
2 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	3 5:30 p.m. TLCD Board Meeting 7:00 p.m. Bldg. & Grnds Meeting	4 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	5 9:30 a.m. Friendship Circle 5:30 p.m. KICKS	6	7	8 5:00 p.m. Worship Service	
9 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	10	11 9:00 a.m. Quilting Friendship Meal Prep 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. TLF Council 7:00 p.m. Council	12 2:00 p.m. Pastor Riverbend 5:30 p.m. KICKS	13 11:00 a.m. Dining w Diabetes	14	15 5:00 p.m. Worship Service	
16 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Fellowship Meal	17 7:00 p.m. Rebecca Circle	18 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	19 9:30 a.m. Friendship Circle 5:30 p.m. KICKS	20	21	22 5:00 p.m. Worship Service	
23 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	24	25 9:00 a.m. Quilting 12:00 p.m. Bible Study	26 2:00 p.m. Pastor Riverbend 5:30 p.m. KICKS	27 9:00 a.m. Quilting	28		

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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