

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Trumpet

MARCH 2025

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5th:

7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday

March 12th:

7:00 p.m. Lent Service

March 16th: 3rd Sunday Meal

Potato Bar Provided

March 19th:

7:00 p.m. Lent Service

March 26th:

7:00 p.m. Lent Service

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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.

March 12 – Central Baptist, Ave 3301 Lakin Ave., Pastor Micah Powell from Grace Community

March 19 – First Christian, 5230 Broadway, Pastor Robert from First United Methodist Church

March 26 – First United Methodist, 2123 Forest Ave., Pastor Victor from Central Baptist Church

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

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.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)

The Lenten season is upon us. Yes, already. In some ways it seems as though we just finished up with Christmas, yet here we are. And while the season of Lent is a time of preparation, contemplation and reflection about Jesus and his journey to the cross; instead of dwelling on the history or the sacrifice or piety of the season, which are all good things, I want you to reflect on you. And once you’ve done that, reflect on who God is to you. Not just the stuff you learned in Sunday school or during confirmation, but who God is to you on a very personal level.

You see, what started me thinking about all this was remembering a couple of songs that my wife Diana recommended I listen to quite a while ago. What brought all this to mind was the interesting ‘coincidence’ that I heard both of these songs quite recently on the radio. Now separately, each of these songs have a lot of good things in them, but if you listened to them together, one right after the other you may very well find yourself—as I did—thinking about myself and who God is in my life and the lives of all of His children.

Both songs are performed by Matthew West and the first one is called “Truth Be Told.” And while that sounds like a good title for a song by a Christian artist, it’s not really what you would call an upbeat, toe tapping, feel good type of song. Instead, it points a rather convicting finger straight at us. The opening lines of the song tell us:

Lie number one: You're supposed to have it all together
And when they ask how you're doing, just smile and tell them "Never better"
Lie number two: Everybody's life is perfect except yours
So keep your messes and your wounds and your secrets safe with you behind closed doors.

How often have we accepted these lies in our lives? How many times have we put on brave faces for those around us? How many times have we hidden what we truly think and feel from those closest to us, including God? Yet the problem isn’t that we hide our brokenness from others. After all, we have good reasons; we don’t want to be a burden, we don’t want to cause others stress and worry, we want to protect them. The true problem is that we try to hide ourselves from God. And the more we try to hide from God, the more profound our brokenness becomes until we get to the point that we believe that God could never love someone as broken as we are. And yet, despite our doubts and our brokenness, he does. Which brings me to the next song, “The God Who Stays.”

Perhaps to most revealing line in this song is part of the chorus and tells us, “You’re the one who runs in my direction, when the whole world walks away.” You see, no matter what we think of ourselves, no matter what’s causing us pain, no matter what we struggle with, no matter what lies we tell ourselves about how broken we think we are—God is with us. Not pointing fingers, not “judging” us, not even telling us, “I told you so,” but simply holding his arms open and telling us to bring our brokenness, our burdens and our pain to him because no matter how hard and how far we may run, God is there. “And You tell me nothing I have ever done can separate my heart, from the God who stays.”

Lent can be a difficult time for many people simply because it does call for us to look deep into ourselves and confront the sin that’s within all of us; the sin that took Jesus to the cross. But as you take a good, hard, deep, even painful look at yourself, don’t forget to reflect just as deeply on who God is and what He has done and continues to do for you as we journey to the cross, and to the wide-open forgiving arms of Christ Jesus who truly is the God who stays; and he will give you rest.

Pastor Jay

Council Highlights

President –

Vice-President – Len Fleske

Secretary – Christi Penka

Worship –

Education – Kristy Jerke

Ministry – Ruth Lanterman

Operations – Randy Wetzel

- Michele Brack has generously taken on the task of organizing and digitizing our church history. If anyone is interested in assisting with this project, please contact her at 620-786-8749.
- First Communion Class will begin on March 5th and go until Maundy Thursday, April 17th.
- VBS is scheduled for August 5-7 in the evening. It is not too early to volunteer!

Trinity Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report January 31, 2025

	For the <u>Month</u>	Year-to-date <u>2025</u>	Year-to-date <u>2024</u>	
Unified Budget Receipts				
Regular Offerings	18,489.17	18,489.17	17,716.00	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	-	-	-	
Other Revenue	172.53	172.53	272.09	
Total Receipts	<u>18,661.70</u>	<u>18,661.70</u>	<u>17,988.09</u>	
Expenditures through 01/31/2025	<u>27,869.90</u>	<u>27,869.90</u>	<u>25,740.75</u>	
Over (Short) of Actual Expenses	<u><u>(9,208.20)</u></u>	<u><u>(9,208.20)</u></u>	<u><u>(7,752.66)</u></u>	
Budget Receipts:		Year-to-date <u>2025</u>	Year-to-date <u>2024</u>	Increase/ (Decrease) from 2024
Average per Sunday		<u>4,622.29</u>	<u>4,429.00</u>	<u>193.29</u>
(4 Sundays in 2025)				
(4 Sundays in 2024)				
Total Unified Budget Receipts		18,489.17	17,716.00	<u>773.17</u>
Budget Requirements		<u>28,267.08</u>	<u>28,832.92</u>	
Over (Short) of Budget Goal		<u><u>(9,777.91)</u></u>	<u><u>(11,116.92)</u></u>	

We met on Feb. 20th and I thought we should keep our congregation aware of what is happening at the council meetings. Operations has been busy with weather related items-snow removal and some leakage of the roof under the cupola. With better weather Randy Wetzel has asked the roofing company to evaluate and correct this problem. The church has contracted with Miller Lawn for the snow removal as this is too big of a job for operations to handle on their own. Nothing unusual was noted in the Treasure's report-no unexpected expenses. Kristy Jerke, Ruth Lanterman, and Rachel Kitch are working to see if it is feasible to have a Wednesday evening Bible lessons for adults of all ages and their children that would be in conjunction with KICKS. They are also working to have VBS in early August (5, 6, 7) and on August 8th have an all church BBQ and pool party at Club West. The VBS would be held in the evening. We would also like the congregation to know that Michele Brack is in the process of digitizing Trinity Lutheran Church's records which is much appreciated as that is not an easy task. Currently, everything is on paper and this should organize our Church history and its records into a format which one could find much easier to retrieve the desired information. The concert (Stan Kenton) at our church last December was very well received and they are planning to come back to perform. Pastor Welshonse moderated the concert and did an excellent job. One of our own members, Kurtis Koch gave a tremendous performance on the drums which the crowd really appreciated. I personally attended the concert and was very impressed with their performance. Finally, Council meetings are always open for members to attend. If you have a topic you would like to discuss, we can do this at the beginning of the meeting so you don't have to stay for the entire meeting, unless you would like too.

Submitted by Len Fleske

Volunteer Opportunities

- **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.**
- **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.**

Trinity Ladies Fellowship

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Rebecca Circle met on Monday, February 17th with six ladies present on a very cold, snowy evening. Tina

Rebecca Circle

Hiss led our Bible Study. We learned that Gideon was one of God's Reluctant Leader's. God called Gideon to defeat the Midianites and save the Israelites from sin and idolatry in their lives. Please join us as we learn more about listening to God's callings. Verna Maier and Clara Niedens were our hostesses. After a short business meeting, we enjoyed cinnamon rolls, coffee and fellowship.

Friendship Circle

Friendship Circle was unable to meet this month due to the snow storm. We plan to meet again March 19th.

Hope 4 Kids International

Hope 4 Kids International is a mission supported by the Heartland District **Women of the Word.** Trinity Ladies Fellowship sent \$400.00 of our mission money to support this organization. Pastor Leah Krotz is the WOW pastoral advisor. She and her husband took a mission trip to Uganda and learned first hand about the work being done by this W4KI.

More than 300 million people in the world do not have access to clean water. Each day, women and children spend hours walking long distances to collect water from unprotected sources including open ponds, livestock water points, and polluted ditches-because they literally have no other option. Half of their children die before their 5th birthday because of lack of safe water. Girls are often unable to attend school because carrying water takes so much of the day and they are vulnerable to being molested while walking for water. W4KI provides hope to communities by providing safe drinking water. Hand-pumped borehole wells are dug in strategic locations in communities close to primary schools, medical clinics, and trading centers. Providing safe water is the first step to helping our brothers and sisters in Africa and elsewhere overcome extreme poverty.

"Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"
Luke 1:45

Quilting Dates:

Tuesday March 11 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday March 25 9:00 a.m.

Thursday March 27 9:00 a.m.

TLF Event Dates:

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

Rebecca Circle March 17 7:00 in the Parlor

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

On Tuesday February 11th the Kitchen Krew prepared 20 friendship meals, the meal prepared was goulash. Once again we encourage all members of Trinity to get involved with this missions. It is as simple as grabbing a prepackaged meal and the extra goodies that go with it and delivering it to anyone whom you feel needs a meal. This could be for sickness, birth of a child, surgery, passing of a loved one, or just someone who needs shown a little extra love.

A huge thank you goes out to Kathy A., Susan H, Judy B-J, Audrey J, Vicki A, Jeanie G, Perry S and Krista S. for helping prepare all of the meals this quarter.

As we begin the season of Lent, we look to renew or deepen our spiritual faith. The next 40 days many of us will fast, go deeper in prayer, repent, or whatever Lenten tradition you have. I ask that as you spend this time in scripture and prayer that you look and listen to ways that we can continue the call of this church to carry out the Great Commission. I believe all of us want to disciple others but we need to continue to grow and find new ways to do this and reach those who aren't being reached or who don't know Jesus. Growing disciples is something that we can continue to do in our own community but that we are also called to make disciples of all nations. I ask that you continue to look for new avenues for us to reach those regions outside of our community. Maybe you hear of some missionaries who are look for congregations to sponsor them, or you find an organization that is doing good works and needs more help, we ask that you share any of these things with the mission team and we will look into how we as a church can support them.

Mission Funds spent

DC Kitchen \$78.93

BCCC Athlete Meal \$237.78



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

March 5: KICKS

March 12: KICKS

March 19: NO KICKS

March 26: KICKS



Wow, we have not seen a lot of the children this month due to illness and winter weather cancelling several of our scheduled days. I look forward to having them all back and healthy. As we continue our studies each class continues to focus on the Small Cat Series and growing their knowledge of Lutheran theology and the Bible. Many of the children have been able to memorize and recite work back to me, they are all excited to get their names on the bulletin board. As we continue these last couple months of KICKS we will continue with the Small Cat and also add in so various activities to teach them more about Lent and why we celebrate it the way we do. The children will have their own Ash Wednesday service on March 5th geared to them and their understanding. If parents would like to join their children we welcome them to do so.

First Communion will begin on March 5th.

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

Spring is fast approaching and the best part of that is when the children get excited for what seems magical to them—green grass, tree leaves and flower buds ready to emerge. Birds, insects and animals returning from migration or hibernation. All the beautiful colors and sounds that come alive.

And speaking of colors; in February these children were surprised when we took the three primary colors red, blue and yellow and from there created the secondary colors of green, orange and purple. One of the children kept mixing the colors and found brown.

For me, this season is an opportunity to teach the children to stop, look, listen, and find God in the middle of this season. Please check the bulletin board outside the Little Blessings classroom for some of our creative efforts as we continue to learn and grow.

Blessings—Diana Welshonse

Prayer Page for March 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:

Merle Klima

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*)

Mary McGee (*sister/Cindy Smith*)

Evette Aguilera (*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 Phillips (*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 Kummers*)

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*)

Sharon Campbell (*friend Lorrie Ruble*)

March 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 5:15 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday	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 12:00 p.m. Bible Study 2:00 p.m. TLF Council 7:00 p.m. Council	12 2:00 p.m. Pastor Riverbend 5:15 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	13	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 NO KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	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 5:15 p.m. KICKS 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service	27	28	29 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
30 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	31					

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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