

Trinity Lutheran Church

TRUMPET

March 2026

Upcoming Events

Monday March 2nd

5:30p.m. TLCD Board

7:00 p.m. BLDG &

GRNDS

Sunday March 8th

7:00 p.m. Council

Tuesday March 10th

9:00 a.m. Quilting

2:00 p.m. TLF Council

Sunday March 15th

11:30 a.m. Fellowship Meal

Monday March 16th

7:00 p.m. Rebecca Circle

Wednesday March 18th

9:30 a.m. Rebecca Circle

Tuesday March 24th

9:00 a.m. Quilting

Thursday March 26th

9:00 a.m. Quilting

Monthly Events

12:10 p.m. Tuesdays

Bible Study in the Library

5:15 p.m. Wednesdays

KICKS & Confirmation

7:00 p.m. Wednesday

Lenten Service-

Guided to the Cross



Walking into Lent with Eyes Wide Open

Have you ever noticed how Lent has a way of slowing us down—even when we don't necessarily want it to? The world around us keeps sprinting forward, busy as ever, but the Church invites us into something countercultural: **a season of pausing, noticing, and being honest with God.** Lent quietly asks us one powerful question:

“What is God trying to shape in you right now?”

Maybe it's calling us to let go of a habit that drains us.

Maybe it's inviting us to pick up a practice that gives life.

Maybe it's simply drawing us to walk more closely with Christ on His path to the cross and empty tomb.

Lent isn't only about giving something up.

It's about opening ourselves to receive something deeper—hope, clarity, renewal, and a fresh awareness of God's grace.

So this year, don't let Lent “just happen.” Respond to it.

Engage with it. Let it open something new in you.

To help guide your journey, here are **four Scripture focuses (ESV)** you can read and reflect on this season.

1. A Heart That Returns: **ESV: Zechariah 1:3**

Reflection: Where is God inviting you to come back to Him with deeper honesty?

2. Strength for the Wilderness: **ESV: Luke 4:4**

Reflection: What “daily bread” of Scripture do you need right now?

3. A Clean and Renewed Spirit: **ESV: Psalm 51:10**

Reflection: What needs renewing or resetting in your walk with God?

4. Following Christ's Path: **ESV: Luke 9:23**

Reflection: What daily choice could help you walk more closely with Jesus?

Council Highlights

- Carpet project for remaining areas will begin in April.
- Reminder that Trinity will be hosting the Lenten luncheon on March 25th.
- The final Wednesday family night is on hold until after Easter, they will resume in April!

First Quarter Mission Disbursements

The Missions Committee allocated **\$3,250** to support several valued mission partners this quarter, while keeping a small reserve for emerging needs within our community.

Funds were distributed as follows:

- **Tartu Academy & Home of Hope — \$1,000**
- **Oaks Indian Mission — \$1,000**
- **Omega Project — \$1,000**
- **Elder Care Project (Home Bound) — \$250**

We welcome suggestions from the congregation for future mission opportunities and areas where these funds can continue to make a meaningful impact.

Treasure Report

January 31, 2026

Unified Budget Receipts	
Regular Offerings	\$20,654.63
Thrivent Choice Dollars	—
Other Revenue	<u>\$ 256.30</u>
Total Receipts	\$20,910.93
Expenditures through	
01/31/2026	<u>\$37,552.10</u>
Over(Short) of Actual Expenses	<u>\$(16,641.17)</u>

Thought from Council

This past week, Pastor Stephen Lien visited Trinity to lead worship and to meet with our council and ministry leaders for a workshop on healthy church management. His message to us was steady and encouraging: **this is not a time for anxiety or worry—God is already at work in our midst.**

He reminded us that this is the time for calm reflection, trust, and growing together as a church family. Worship is happening. The Gospel is being preached. Our lights are on, our doors are open, and God continues to lead us forward.

As Pastor Lien shared, in times of uncertainty the Church doesn't shrink back—we **pray, trust, and keep walking in faith.**

A helpful Scripture focus for us this week comes from **Philippians 4:6–7 (ESV reference)**, do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

May this be our posture as a congregation: **less worry, more prayer; less fear, more trust; less uncertainty, more faithfulness.** If we walk together, God will guide us.

Don't Forget to Direct Your Choice Dollars!

Thrivent Choice Dollars allow eligible Thrivent Financial members to support enrolled churches and nonprofits at no cost to them. Members have until March 31, 2026, to direct any remaining 2025 Choice Dollars.

Trinity Lutheran Church received \$2,226 in charitable donations in 2025—thank you for your generosity!

To support Trinity Lutheran Church, log into your account at thrivent.com/thriventchoice, select "Direct Choice Dollars," and search for Trinity Lutheran Church, or call 800-847-4836.

Lutheran World Relief Quilt & Kit Ministry Expands Its Reach

As the Quilters and TLF continue our support of Lutheran World Relief, we would like to share the changes and additional ways this organization is growing and evolving in its mission to care for our neighbors. The Lutheran World Relief Quilt & Kit Ministry has expanded to reach neighbors here in the United States. This exciting development means that the quilts and kits lovingly made by dedicated volunteers will now bring comfort to families not only around the world, but also in our own communities.

Founded in 1945, the Quilt & Kit Ministry has grown significantly over the past 80 years. Thanks to the faithful people who contribute their time, talents, and compassion, this ministry is now able to extend its care even further—offering warmth, dignity, and hope to more of our neighbors, both near and far.

Our newest partners, Lutheran Services of the Carolinas and Lutheran Family Services of the Rocky Mountains, are eager to distribute these gifts of comfort within their communities. They serve children, women, and men who are recovering from disasters, facing crises, or living in poverty—and your contributions will make a meaningful difference in their lives.

To all at Trinity who support this mission: thank you. Your generosity helps extend Christ's love in tangible ways. God bless you!

Built to Serve

March is **Food Bank Month** here at Trinity Lutheran Church. As we walk through the Lenten season and reflect on the promise of new life through Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, we also look outward toward the needs of our neighbors and the ways God calls us to serve.

During this season of reflection, we invite you to **pray and discern** whether this is your time to step forward and serve the people of our community through the work of the Barton County Food Bank. The Food Bank serves individuals and families who are facing food insecurity across our county. Their ministry provides:

- Weekly food distribution to households in need
- Emergency food assistance for crisis situations
- Support for seniors, families with children, and individuals facing financial hardship
- Partnerships with local churches and volunteers to prepare, pack, and store food

This important work depends on many hands and feet, and March is our dedicated month to help fill those needs. As we serve, we remember Christ's call: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:35, 40

Lent reminds us that new life comes through Christ's love—a love we are called to share in word and action. Let us walk this Lenten journey together, guided by compassion, generosity, and hope.

Please see sign-up sheet located in the gathering area.

What's Happening At Trinity

- ◆ Beginning the weekend following Easter, we will be locking the church doors 5 minutes after worship starts as part of our ongoing security measures. If you arrive after this time, please use the west elevator entrance or the ramp doors to enter the building. Thank you for your understanding and for helping us keep our church family safe.
- ◆ Looking for more information? Please stop by the welcome table in the gathering area to find Trinity calendars, Council Minutes, upcoming events, and other helpful resources related to Trinity Lutheran Church.
- ◆ After a long wait, our door entry system is finally up and running again! If you previously had a 4-digit access code, you may now resume using it. Please note that the system works a little differently than before:
Enter your 4-digit code, then press the # sign to unlock the door.
Thank you for your patience as we worked through this process!
- ◆ Our Wednesday Lenten services are following a special series called **Guided to the Cross**. This journey began on Ash Wednesday and will continue each week as we move toward the hope and promise of **new life on Easter**. We invite everyone to join us for this meaningful walk of reflection, repentance, and renewal as we prepare our hearts for the joy of the Resurrection.
- ◆ **Don't Forget to Direct Your Choice Dollars!** Eligible *Thrivent Financial* members have until **March 31, 2026** to direct any remaining 2025 Choice Dollars. **Trinity Lutheran Church** received **\$2,226** in charitable donations last year—thank you for your support!

Lenten Worship Schedule

Wednesday Evening Lenten Services

7:00 p.m.

March 4, 11, 18, 25

March 25th-Lenten Luncheon @ Trintiy

Palm Sunday-Youth Sunday

March 29 — 10:30 a.m.

No Saturday service this weekend

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday-First Communion

April 2 — 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday

April 3 — 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil

April 4 — 5:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday – April 5

Easter Breakfast — 9:15 a.m.

Easter Worship Service — 10:30 a.m.

Lenten Luncheon Schedule

March 4 - First Presbyterian Church with
Congregational Church

March 11 - Central Baptist Church with St
Mark's Lutheran

March 18 - First Christian Church

March 25 - Trinity Lutheran Church

April 1 - Prince of Peace at St Rose