

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 15: Rebecca Circle
Sept 18: Friendship Circle
Sept. 21: Fellowship Meal
Sept. 24: Final Wednesday
Sept. 27: WOW Conference

The Trumpet

SEPTEMBER 2025

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Join us for a Night at the Zoo!

On Wednesday, September 24th from 6:00–7:30 p.m. at the Great Bend Zoo, we'll gather for an evening of fellowship, fun, and ice cream!

We're celebrating the \$500 our children raised for the zoo during VBS with an ice cream social and special time together.

This event is for all Trinity members of every age—come enjoy a sweet night with your church family!

Please continue to watch each months for updates on our family events.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”—Matthew 6:19-21

During some of my travels, I talked to someone who is an occasional church attender. At one time, he had attended worship at a church a few blocks from where he lives. This particular church has an interesting mix in their worship style. They sing traditional hymns as well as more contemporary ones; and while it is a Lutheran church and they have a liturgy, you won't find anything quite like it in our worship books. I asked him what he thought of the service and the message. He told me that while he enjoyed the service, he was a little concerned because this time the pastor talked about money and possessions and having a lot of 'stuff.' And yes, the message was based on the same text you see at the top of the page. It would seem that he stumbled on what may be close to a universal truth within the church in general—if you want to start a lively discussion in the church or perhaps make people uncomfortable—bring up this text or one like it and watch what happens.

However I have seen that you don't have to bring up Bible passages to start some people squirming. Sometimes all you have to do is bring up one word—are you ready for it? Hold on, here it comes...“stewardship.” There; I said it. And believe it or not, some people are going to stop reading at this point. Why? Because for far too many people, stewardship only means one thing—money; and that's not something they're comfortable with. But truth be told, that's only one part of it.

Just for the fun of it, I looked up the definition of stewardship; not the church one, but the dictionary one and this is what I found: the conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care. Did you see anything specifically about money? I didn't; instead I see something that encompasses our entire lives from the time we are born until the time we die.

Throughout our lives we have been entrusted with so many things; yes, you can count money as one of them (bad pun, I know), but aren't we blessed with so much more? Think about the words of one of our offertory prayers when we say, “Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions.” Did you notice the order? Who we are seems to be more important than what we have and even the time to be who we are is more important than what we have.

But stewardship in the church is a little more than simply taking care of things that have been entrusted to us; it's also about taking care of those things in a way that brings glory to God and gives thanks to the one who gave us everything in the first place. But how do we do that? Well, the theological answer would be to allow God through the Holy Spirit to guide your actions in life in a way that truly brings the Kingdom of God into this world, thereby allowing you to store your treasures in heaven. The shorter and more practical answer is to share. Share yourself and your gifts with the world; in worship; in service; in everything you do. Do you have a warm smile? Share it as an usher or visiting those who can't get to church. Do you have a voice? Share it in singing, in reading the scripture lessons. Do you have a heart for service? Share it in helping with community meals, home communion, or in other outreach programs. When we keep all this to ourselves, we truly are storing our treasures in an earthly container; and we all know what will happen with it someday. But in sharing who you are and what God has blessed you with in the congregation, in the community and with all our neighbors, we entrust those gifts to God and in so doing, bring a bit of heaven here to earth.

Stewardship and being a good steward isn't all about money; and it isn't about what we have to do to be a good Christian. Being a good steward however, is all about what we get to do because of what God in Christ Jesus did for us. Where's your treasure? Is it in an earthly vessel that will eventually crumble into the dust it came from? Or is it out there in the world that God loved enough to give his greatest gift to. Answer that question, and you'll know where your heart is as well.

Pastor Jay

From the Council

The Council met on August 20. The different committees gave their reports. Among the highlights was the fact that VBS was a success this year with over 20 children participating and Rachel felt it was very well received.

Krista Smith gave the worship report and that group has been active in that several changes were suggested because of Pastor's illness and the potential problem with pastoral needs for Advent. At this time the worship group will prepare to have services during Advent so arrangements for lectors and others will proceed. This situation will be revisited as we approach November and December.

Ruth Lanterman reported for ministry that three funerals were served by the Lutheran women and 14 home bound individuals received communion. Also, the quilting group has prepared 36 health kits for Lutheran World Relief and are on track to have 60 quilts completed by October.

Randy Wetzel reported that the area for dropping off individuals with mobility issues was under construction and will soon be available for use. We did discuss expanding this towards the street if it results in individuals having difficulty turning or negotiating that space though he felt that should not be an issue. Markers were placed on the Church grounds for trees that the Terry Stueder family kindly donated -remember two years ago a large storm took out several of the large trees(July2023). Under new business Randy reported that the security system was not functioning and may have been damaged during a recent storm so he has proceeded with replacing it and the bid was near \$7000. I

It is that time of year for a congregational meeting and that will occur on October 19 with ballots going out 2 weeks prior. A nominating committee of Jill Johnson, Chad Jerke, Perry Smith and Len Fleske will meet to discuss openings and suggestions for individuals to fill them. Anyone interested should contact a member of that group.

Finally, a realignment of rooms was discussed and the considerations of each group was discussed. This included the quilting group, TLC, and the youth ministry. The current and proposed room changes were made and it appears that all three groups reached a satisfactory solution that appears to meet the needs of each. The meeting then concluded. L. T. Fleske

Council Highlights

President – Len Fleske

Vice-President –

Secretary – Christi Penka

Worship – Krista Smith

Education – Kristy Jerke

Ministry – Ruth Lanterman

Operations – Randy Wetzel

- VBS was August 5th-7th, raising \$501.00 to donate to the zoo.
- The next family night is planned for the end of September, exact date and activity to be announced.
- The Worship Committee is working on new offering envelopes.

JOIN US
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
VOLUNTEER/TRAINING APPRECIATION DINNER
5:30- 6:30 Fellowship Hall

Have you ever wondered what is involved in volunteering to assist with worship at Trinity?

- It takes 10 volunteers per service to be fully staffed.
- In what capacity would you like to serve?
- We will explain all jobs, let you practice, sign up.

- Scheduling is done on a 3 month cycle, Surely, one service is doable. You can pick the day that works for you, or any dates that don't work. Tina Hiss does a great job of honoring family units and scheduling families together.

Trinity Lutheran needs you!

- ◊ Please know we appreciate all our volunteers
- ◊ We want to thank you for your current service
- ◊ We want you to explore new volunteer opportunities
- ◊ The Board of Worship wants to treat you to a pizza party, Wednesday, September 10 at 5:30 in the fellowship hall.

Join us for a fun time! RSVP to Krista 620.786.5959 by Tuesday Sept. 9th.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Treasurer's Report
July 31, 2025

	<u>For the Month</u>	<u>Year-to-date 2025</u>	<u>Year-to-date 2024</u>	<u>Increase/ (Decrease) from 2024</u>
Unified Budget Receipts				
Regular Offerings	22,355.59	168,204.97	165,006.82	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	25.00	2,187.00	1,823.00	
Other Revenue	<u>105.58</u>	<u>1,278.56</u>	<u>1,177.93</u>	
Total Receipts	<u>22,486.17</u>	<u>171,670.53</u>	<u>168,007.75</u>	
 Expenditures through 07/31/2025	<u>26,281.03</u>	<u>172,336.66</u>	<u>163,848.10</u>	
 Over (Short) of Actual Expenses	<u>(3,794.86)</u>	<u>(666.13)</u>	<u>4,159.65</u>	
 Budget Receipts:				
Average per Sunday		<u>Year-to-date 2025</u>	<u>Year-to-date 2024</u>	<u>Increase/ (Decrease) from 2024</u>
(30 Sundays in 2025)		<u>5,606.83</u>	<u>5,500.23</u>	<u>106.61</u>
(30 Sundays in 2024)				
 Total Unified Budget Receipts	<u>168,204.97</u>	<u>165,006.82</u>	<u>3,198.15</u>	
Budget Requirements	<u>197,869.58</u>	<u>201,830.42</u>		
Over (Short) of Budget Goal	<u>(29,664.61)</u>	<u>(36,823.60)</u>		

Trinity Ladies Fellowship

Heartland District Women of the Word convention will be held in Hastings, Nebraska on September 27th at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The theme will be "Love the Little Children" based on the scripture from Mark 10:14 – "Let the little children come to me for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these". We will be taking school supplies as our tangible offering. We will have one member of TLF attending.

TLF council will meet on Tuesday, September 9th. Rebecca Circle will meet on Monday, September 15th. RoAnn Button and Ruth Lanterman will be hostesses, and Cindy Smith will be the Bible leader. Friendship Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 17th with Jeannine Girton as Hostess and Ruth Steitz as Bible leader.

We will be collecting women's hygiene products during the month of September through October 12th. These will be delivered to the food bank.

If anyone is interested in learning more about Trinity Ladies Fellowship, please call Cindy Smith - 620-617-9262 or Ruth Lanterman - 620-786-9701. We would love to have you join us.

Quilting Dates:

Tuesday Sept. 9 9:00 a.m. Tuesday Sept. 23 9:00 a.m. Thursday Sept. 25 9:00 a.m.

Upcoming Dates:

TLF Council: Tuesday September 9, 2:00 p.m. – Library

Rebecca Circle: Monday, September 15, 7:00 p.m. – Library

Friendship Circle: Wednesday, September 18, 9:30 a.m. - Library

September 27 Women of the Word Convention, St. Paul's Church, Hastings, NE

October 11-12 Blessing of Quilts & Kits

October 22nd Quilts & Kits will be taken to Trinity Lutheran Church in Hays

Thank You

Thank you for the cards and telephone calls as I've been recovering. My family also thanks you for the friendship meal. Your thoughts and prayers are appreciated. - Ruth Steitz

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

Luke 1:45

Missions

Help Spread the Word – Trinity Lutheran Friendship Meal Mission

We invite you to continue sharing and supporting the Friendship Meal Mission of Trinity Lutheran Church. Together, we are working to spread God's love throughout our community by providing ready-to-cook meals for anyone in need. These meals are a gift of kindness and can be shared with anyone—whether they are recovering from surgery, celebrating the birth of a child, going through sickness, or simply needing a reminder that they are loved and cared for. By joining this mission, you are helping to bring comfort, encouragement, and nourishment to neighbors and friends who could use an extra measure of love. Let's continue to grow this ministry together—one meal, one heart, and one act of kindness at a time.

Backpack Blessings Update

We are so excited to share that all 250 backpacks filled with school supplies have been donated! What a joy to see the relief and gratitude from parents who no longer had to carry the heavy burden of school supply costs. This project, made possible through the combined efforts of the churches in our community, truly made a difference in the lives of many families. We hope to continue this ministry each year, making sure that every child in our community has the tools they need to start school with confidence and joy. Thank you to everyone who gave, served, and prayed to make this possible!

Backpack for the Community

Missions Month

The Mission Team is excited to once again host Missions Month this

October! We look forward to welcoming guest speakers into our church to share about the incredible mission work they are involved in.

Our prayer is that these stories will inspire and bring awareness to the many missions that Trinity is blessed to support—both locally and around the world.

As always, we welcome your ideas! If you know of a mission or ministry where disciples are being made for Jesus, please share it with us. Together, we can continue to grow God's Kingdom through love, service, and support.



Scan Me to
see more
about missions

Wow, summer flew by (as it always does), but what a wonderful season it was!

We are thrilled to announce that KICKS will begin on Wednesday October 1st! This fun-filled evening will help kids get back into the rhythm of learning, growing, and loving Jesus together.

We need YOU! If you are available to serve as a Teacher, Kitchen Crew member, or in other volunteer roles, please contact me—we would love to have you on the team!

This summer's VBS was such a joy, with an incredible turnout of kids who learned all about the 7 C's of History—from Creation to Consummation. Along with scripture, we also focused on missions and supporting our community. The children amazed us with their creativity and dedication as they raised \$501 for the Great Bend Zoo to support the zoo's important efforts.

What a blessing to see our kids growing in faith, serving others, and making an impact!

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

To celebrate this amazing gift from our kids at VBS, we invite all Trinity members to join us at the Great Bend Zoo on Wednesday, September 24th from 6:00–7:30 PM for an evening of ice cream and animal interaction!

This special night will take the place of KICKS for the week and will be a wonderful opportunity for fellowship across all ages—young and old alike.

Come enjoy a sweet treat, God's creation, and time together as a church family!

Sunday School News

Sunday School classes for children ages 3 through High School

Adult Parlor Class is studying “Stuff They Didn’t Teach Me in Sunday School”. This is a video series produced by The Lutheran Hour – Men’s Network. There is a different lesson every week followed with discussion.

Library Class is studying lessons following the Readings and Gospel lessons for each weekend. At 10:00, you are invited to enjoy coffee, treats and lots of fun and fellowship in the Gathering Space.

We would love to have everyone join us whenever you can!

Prayer Page for September 2025

WE PRAY TODAY FOR:

Resident of Azria of GB

Sam Spece

Resident of Riverbend of GB

Elesna Bender

Resident of Brookdale

Joyce Nagel Jim Juergensen

Resident of Medical Lodges

Deon Lupton

Ladine Hartman

Residents Out-of-Town:

Nancy Soeken, Hutchinson

Marie Schepmann,
Hoisington

Donna Oliver, Wichita

Clara Mae Brown, Larned

August Sandy, Larned

Alene Clarke, Manhattan

Glen Snyder, Larned

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

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Leann Wegele, Vicki Boxberger, Sheryl Corn, Carolyn Nelson, Ted Bird

Delores Schneidewind, Dottie Anderson, Robert Rowland, Kasey Kennedy

Marlene & Mak Brack, Patti Klima, Kathy Delmont, Gerald Postlethwaite,

Dottie Anderson, Ruth Steitz, Debbie Marshall, Geneva Steinert, Patsy Mull & Pastor Jay

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*)

Roberta Holden (*Judy Messersmith*)

Cirus Feil, Ashley Corn, Jessie & Creed

Rodriguez; Rachel Corn & Family (*family/Steve & Sheryl Corn*)

Janet Meyers, Misty Claussen Train
(*friends/ Steve & Sheryl Corn*)

Dennis Peter (*Cousin Sheryl Corn*)

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

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

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

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*)

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*)

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 Kimmers*)

Wally Gregg (*friend of Kummer*)

Jorja Campbell (*Niece of Ruth Steitz*)

Jamie Howard (*Niece of Ruth Steitz*)

Roger Suchy (*Brother/Connie Belt*)

LaDesha Clark, Todd Clark, Janie

Mooneyham (*Family of Tom Kirkhart*)

Jim New (*friend of Hofeling*)

Sharon Campbell (*friend Lorrie Ruble*)

Charlene Miller (*Carolyn Humburg*)

Sandra Bauer (*Lucy Snyder*)

Vera Reed (*friend Judy Dunn*)

Ethan Lanterman (*Cousin of Arnelle Briel*)

Enrique Lira (*Friend of Katy Jerke*)

September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 7:00 p.m. Bldg. & Grnds Meeting	4	5	6 5:00 p.m. Worship Service	
7 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	8 9:00 a.m. Quilting 2:00 p.m. TLF Council 5:30 p.m. TLC Meeting 7:00 p.m. Council	9 10 5:30 p.m. Training & Appreciation Dinner	11	12	13 5:00 p.m. Worship Service	
14 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	15 7:00 p.m. Rebecca Circle	16	17 9:30 a.m. Friendship Circle	18	19	20 5:00 p.m. Worship Service
21 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service Fellowship Meal	22	23 9:00 a.m. Quilting	24 6:00 p.m. Final Wednesday at the Zoo	25 9:00 a.m. Quilting	26	27 5:00 p.m. Worship Service WOW Conference
28 9:15 a.m. Education Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship Service	29	30				

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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Permit No. 16

Great Bend, Kansas 67530

Coffee Fellowship



Every Sunday at 10:00 AM we gather in the Gathering Area for coffee, treats, and fellowship. We'd love for you to join us each week—it's a wonderful way to connect with one another before worship!

If you would like to provide treats on a Sunday, please contact Harlen Jerke. Donations are also welcome to help support this time of fellowship.

Come for the coffee, stay for the fellowship!