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*For to us a child is born,
to us a Son is given
-Isaiah 9:6*



FROM THE PASTOR...

It's the most wonderful time of the year—or so we often hear people say as Christmas approaches. Perhaps it's because of the decorations that go up, the bright lights that make these long nights feel less dreary, or the extra time off later in the month. Of course, it doesn't hurt that *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year* is a song first released by Andy Williams in 1963, and has since become a Christmastime classic.

The song itself celebrates and describes activities associated with the Christmas season, focusing primarily on gatherings of friends and families. Among the activities listed is the telling of “scary ghost stories,” which I've always found a bit odd. Yet, it reflects a Victorian Christmas tradition that has mostly faded, though it survives in the enduring popularity of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*—with *The Muppet Christmas Carol* being, in my opinion, the best adaptation. Other activities mentioned include hosting parties, welcoming friends, enjoying universal gaiety, spending time with loved ones, sledding, roasting marshmallows, reminiscing about past Christmases, and singing carols in winter weather.

Whether these things are cherished memories or simply idyllic hopes for our own Christmas season, they certainly stir our sentimentality. Each year, Christmas seems to be the time when people are willing to go the extra mile to be with family and friends.

I must admit that Christmas is indeed a wonderful time of year. It is when we celebrate the incarnation of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. The Second Person of the Trinity has been present since creation: **“God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light”** (Genesis 1:3). The Gospel of John makes this even clearer: **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us”** (John 1:1–2, 14a).

Christ came to us as an innocent, helpless child. His birth was announced by angels to a handful of shepherds on the outskirts of town—not exactly the most honorific welcoming committee for the one who would live and die for our salvation. And yet, the infant Christ has been adored by countless generations. As the great philosopher Ricky Bobby humorously put it: “Well, look, I like the Christmas Jesus best when I'm sayin' grace. When you say grace, you can say it to Grown-up Jesus, or Teenage Jesus, or Bearded Jesus, or whoever you want.”

Christmas is indeed a wonderful time of year. But is it truly the *most* wonderful? I would argue that another holiday deserves that title: Easter. Those three days from Good Friday to Easter Sunday are the most wonderful time of the year. It is then that our Savior laid down His life for our sins and rose again on Easter Sunday. That is where Christ won our salvation and reconciled us to God.

That being said, I hope you enjoy this wonderful time of year. Enjoy your decorations, your lights, your family, your traditions, and even your Christmas music (after Thanksgiving). I pray that you all have a Merry and Blessed Christmas during this wonderful season.

In Christ,
Pastor Mayland

Find
Us



on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram &
on our Website: trinitywausau.org



Missed Worship Last Sunday?

Watch Our Worship Services at Home!

Weekly recordings will be available on our YouTube page (“Trinity Lutheran—Wausau”) and website (trinitywausau.org), as well as televised on Spectrum Channel 980 and TDS Channel 14 at the following times: 9pm Wednesday, 2pm Thursday, and 8am Friday

CALENDAR—DECEMBER 2025

Monday, December 1: *No Scheduled Events*

Tuesday, December 2:

8:00 AM Trinity Quilters—Parlors
9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
10:00 AM Simply Psalms—Parlors
3:15 PM Grief Share—Parlors
5:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM School Board Meeting—Parlors

Wednesday, December 3:

9:00 AM Adult Bible Study: Proverbs—Parlors
10:00 AM Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary
6:00 PM Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary

Thursday, December 4:

5:30 PM JuBellation Handbells Rehearsal—Music Rm
6:00 PM Trail Life Meeting—SLC
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, December 5:

8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors
4:00 PM American Heritage Girls—Lounge
6:30 PM Wausau Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 6:

8:00 AM Men's Bible Study—Parlors
10:30 AM YAT Church Christmas Decorating—Lounge
11:30 AM Blind Outreach Gathering—Parlors
2:30 PM Young Family Cookie Decorating—TBD
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—SLC

Sunday, December 7:

7:30 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
9:15 AM Modern Contemporary Worship—SLC
10:30 AM Adult Bible Study: Book of Acts—Parlors
10:30 AM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Class—Rm 212
10:30 AM Sunday School—Various Classrooms
3:00 PM Advent By Candlelight—Parlors
6:00 PM Youth Group—Youth House

Monday, December 8: *No Scheduled Events*

Tuesday, December 9:

8:00 AM Trinity Quilters—Parlors
9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
10:00 AM Simply Psalms—Parlors
12:00 PM LWML Women's Fellowship—Parlors
5:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC
6:00 PM Board of Elders—Parlors

Wednesday, December 10:

9:00 AM Adult Bible Study: Proverbs—Parlors
10:00 AM Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary
6:00 PM Midweek Advent Worship—Sanctuary

Thursday, December 11:

5:30 PM JuBellation Handbell Rehearsal—Music Rm
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, December 12:

8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors

Saturday, December 13:

8:00 AM Men's Bible Study—Parlors
9:00 AM Cookie & Candy Sale—Parlors
(9am-12pm & 4:30-6:30pm)
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—SLC

Sunday, December 14:

7:30 AM Traditional Choral Worship—Sanctuary
7:30 AM Cookie & Candy Sale—Parlors
(7:30—11:30am)
9:00 AM Traditional Choral Worship—Sanctuary
9:15 AM Modern Contemporary Worship—SLC
10:30 AM Adult Bible Study: Book of Acts—Parlors
10:30 AM 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Class—Rm 212
10:30 AM Sunday School—Various Classrooms
6:00 PM Youth Group Christmas Party—Youth House

Monday, December 15: *No Scheduled Events*

Tuesday, December 16:

9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
10:00 AM Simply Psalms—Parlors
1:00 PM JOY Group—Parlors
5:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC

Wednesday, December 17:

9:00 AM NO Adult Bible Study
10:00 AM School Christmas Program—Sanctuary
6:00 PM School Christmas Program—Sanctuary

Thursday, December 18:

6:00 PM Trail Life Meeting—SLC
5:30 PM JuBellation Handbells Rehearsal—Music Rm
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal—Music Room

Friday, December 19:

7:00 AM School Christmas Breakfast—Gym
8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors
4:00 PM American Heritage Girls—Lounge

Saturday, December 20:

8:00 AM Men's Bible Study—Parlors
5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—SLC

Sunday, December 21:

7:30 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
 9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
 9:15 AM Sunday School Christmas Program—SLC
 10:30 AM Adult Bible Study: Book of Acts—Parlors
 10:30 AM NO Confirmation Class
 10:30 AM Sunday School Cookie Reception—Cafeteria
 6:00 PM NO Youth Group

Monday, December 22: *No Scheduled Events*
Tuesday, December 23:

9:30 AM MStaff Meeting—Lounge
 8:00 AM Bulletin Assembly—Parlors
 10:00 AM Simply Psalms—Parlors
 5:15 PM Praise Team Rehearsal—SLC

Wednesday, December 24:

Childcare & Church & School Offices are CLOSED

3:30 PM Christmas Eve Worship—Sanctuary
 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship—Sanctuary
 10:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship—Sanctuary

Thursday, December 25:

Childcare & Church & School Offices are CLOSED

9:00 AM Christmas Day Traditional Worship—Sanctuary

Friday, December 26: *No Scheduled Events*

Church & School Offices are CLOSED

Saturday, December 27:

8:00 AM Men's Bible Study—Parlors
 5:00 PM Contemporary Worship—SLC

Sunday, December 28:

9:00 AM Traditional Worship—Sanctuary
 9:15 AM Modern Contemporary Worship—SLC
 10:30 AM NO Adult Bible Study, Confirmation Class, Sunday School
 6:00 PM NO Youth Group

Monday, December 29: *No Scheduled Events*
Tuesday, December 30:

9:30 AM MStaff—Lounge
 10:00 AM Simply Psalms—Parlors

Wednesday, December 31:

9:00 AM NO Adult Bible Study

CHILDCARE DIRECTOR UPDATE

Abby Northup has officially transitioned out of the role of Childcare Director at Trinity. We have the director position posted on Indeed, with our LCMS — North Wisconsin District, and with local churches. Our leadership team and the School Board are committed to bringing in a qualified Childcare Director to lead this great team who are continuing to care for your children under a vacancy.

In the interim, the Childcare Director duties have been designated to the following:

- Barb Emerson, School Board Member --> She will be the first point of contact for parents and staff, and she will delegate where needed. Barb has served in this interim role before, and we are blessed to have her.
- Tina Dickens, Church Administrator --> Tina will manage staff and direct parent communications when necessary.
- Jen Effinger, Administrative Assistant --> Jen will continue to manage childcare enrollment and billing.
- Vanessa Bellman, Administrative Assistant --> Vanessa will continue to manage Hot Lunch accounts and has taken on staff scheduling.

Our goal is to simplify procedures to give parents and staff a consistent, quality childcare experience where your children are learning about Jesus in a safe and loving environment.

There are some other transitions to note:

- Lora, former Lead in the Rainbow Room, is transitioning to the Lead role in Sonshine, at her request. We believe this will be a fantastic fit for Lora, the students, and the center.
- Kylee, currently in Little Lambs, will transition into the Rainbow Room. Kylee will be the point person in Rainbow Room for parents and staff.

We have two new faces in Childcare. Mady has a lot of energy, and commands student attention in ECC. Kali is so sweet and welcoming, working in several classrooms to find her fit.

We are so blessed with a dedicated group of staff. While we have had some turnover, we truly believe that the staff we have right now is committed to the development of your children in a Christ-centered way. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Barb with any concerns, constructive feedback or questions during this interim period. You can reach her by email at ChildcareDirector@trinitynet.org.

Here's What's Happening

A season to remember is probably the best way to categorize this year's volleyball season. The A girls team participating in the State Volleyball tournament for the 3rd year in a row! The team WON the Consolation bracket and took home the spirit award! Thanks to all of the coaches, parents and players that made this a special season and a memorable trip to state at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School!



Chapel Time

Chapel time is always a special time in our school week. Chapel is led by various staff members, outside guests, and our classes. Chapel takes place on Wednesdays starting at 10am. Everyone is welcome to come and join in.



Dates to Remember

- **December 8**—Red Robin Fundraiser for 8th grade class trip
- **December 17**—School Christmas Service
- **December 19**—School Christmas Breakfast
- **Dec. 22nd—Jan. 2nd**—Christmas Break
- **January 26, 2026**—Open House

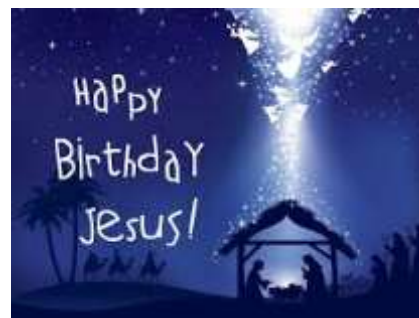
Youth of the Month

Each year the Wausau Noon Optimists recognize two 5th grade students from Trinity for their leadership skills and use of their gifts and talents to uplift, encourage and support their classmates and teachers. This year Diedra Stangl and Gabe Welch were presented with the award. Congratulations!



Merry Christmas!

We want to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from the faculty, staff, and students at Trinity Lutheran School. Thank you for your continued support!



CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR, TINA DICKENS

Facilities/Properties

The Stewart Avenue sign has a new look! This was a much needed update because we are no longer referred to as “Trinity on Stewart,” and Trinity Childcare, as a function of the School, is no longer the Early Childhood Learning Center. We are simply “Trinity Lutheran Church & School.” We are in process of evaluating the digital sign for replacement because the current sign is at end of life and is no longer eligible for service. The new sign will be animated and in color. You can donate to “digital sign” by memo on a check or giving envelope.

The elevator is leaking hydraulic fluid. The elevator maintenance company came out and tested the elevator, and it is testing like it should, but we know that the fluid is leaking into the ground underneath the cement pad. They are in process of quoting repairs for this, and it will be a big project. Look for more info about this in the yellow sheet in upcoming weeks. You may donate to “elevator repair” by memo on a check or giving envelope.

Council asked the Properties Committee to put together a new priority list. Keep in mind that many of us are here more frequently, and it becomes easy to overlook things that others may find important. If you have an idea of what should go onto that list, please email that to properties@trinitynet.org. These can be big things or small things.

October Financial Summary

By this time last year, we had significantly higher giving to tithes and offerings specifically - roughly \$33,000 higher. However, we cannot pinpoint why that is. The school is thriving; the childcare is thriving; we have added a modern service on Sundays; TLC Nights has been a huge outreach and educational opportunity for all ages; the expanded pastoral staff allows us to reach all of our congregation members who aren't physically in the building for worship; the sound system is a vast improvement; and there are new outreach opportunities for all ages and stages. In short, we are living the mission every day, and yet giving is down significantly.

The financial chart includes 4 line items at the bottom that show the “bottom” line for each area within the church. We now have a 5th line to reflect the School Choice Reserve Liability. We are all one budget, but we do have individual responsibilities for our respective areas. There is also a comparison to last year in the chart. Highlights from last month's financials include:

Childcare:

- Childcare income in October was higher than we expected it to be. We have EXCELLENT staff members, and our focus (second to the children) is team building.
- When we have additional children, we often need additional staffing. Expenses were right at budget.
- The bottom line for Childcare was better than we expected.
- Abby Northup has transitioned out of the role of Childcare Director to pursue an opportunity in healthcare. We are actively trying to find the right person to fill that vacancy.

School:

- School income in October was right where we expected it to be. Year-to-date is evening out as expected.
- Looking at the YTD bottom line, we are performing better than budget. This is important because some payroll expenses in the Elders section get transferred to the School before the end of the fiscal year (June). It is good to have a buffer here because the budget accounts for the expected transfers, but the actual expenses do not yet.
- We will have less support from the State to the School this year because the State cut some Title funding from its budget. We previously used this money for staff education. We will be able to work with this in the next budget, but we need to look forward and plan for this moving forward.
- The State has also fewer resources for speech therapy, which the Wausau School District used to provide in house at Trinity. They are still providing this service, but over a video call. Because of this change, we have increased teacher assistant hours to accommodate the service. This was not a budgeted expense, but it is necessary. It is a minimal expense.

Church:

- We have a new service at 9:15am Sunday. The “Modern” service intentionally “feels different” from the Saturday Contemporary service, which is reminiscent of the old 10:40 service. The new service has all of the elements of an LCMS service, but you might have to be focused to recognize that. Don't get lost in the details...enjoy worship.
- Another TLC Nights segment is complete! Thank you to everyone who contributed – that is truly a commitment. The next segment will be after Christmas, and it will last 6 weeks. Look for more info to come through the Advent & Christmas seasons.

Overall:

- Overall, we are right where we expected to be at this point in the year (we are \$15,000 favorable to budget for the bottom line). That is something to celebrate.

As always, if you have an idea about how we can be practicing better stewardship of the congregation's funds, or if you feel that we are not being good stewards in one area or another, please discuss that with Chad Schwantes, Chairman of the Congregation, chairman@trinitynet.org. We strive to be good stewards of the LORD's gifts.

FINANCIALS—OCTOBER 2025

We continue to pay down debt ahead of schedule. Debt is currently:

Endowment Loan: \$51,218 →Perspective...we borrowed \$212,000 from the Endowment in 2018 with the goal of paying it back in 15 years – We are WAY ahead of schedule with interest.

Thrivent Loan: \$418,202 →Perspective...this was just under \$1,000,000 when I began at Trinity in August 2015!

TOTAL Debt: \$469,420

Current account balances (as of Oct 31, 2025):

Checking: \$74,351

Savings: \$403,546

**Original Endowment: \$1,118,778 (Original Endowment that disburses annually based on percentages prescribed decades ago – that does not change. You cannot donate to specific areas within this endowment. All income is prescribed just like the disbursements.)

**Pegorsch Education Endowment: \$186,133 (Set up through Trinity by the Pegorsch children to fund Trinity tuition incurred by workers call to serve at Trinity. If there are no children of Called Workers, the annual disbursement can be used to cover Trinity early childhood or childcare tuition for Called Workers of Trinity).

**Krienke Properties Endowment: \$106,356 (Set up through Trinity by George H. Krienke, DVM to fund Trinity properties projects that qualify as “capital projects.” Disbursements will be banked year over year if there are no capital projects to fund in the disbursement year.)

**Please note that you can donate to ANY of the 3 Endowments, so you should specify which endowment you are donating to in the memo line of your check. If your check memo says “Endowment,” your donation will automatically go to the Original Endowment.

We are excited about Trinity’s Mission/Vision: Teach the faith; Love the lost; Connect all to Christ...and we hope you are, too!

Trinity Lutheran Church

Profit & Loss Budget Performance

October 2025

	Oct 25	Budget	ACTUAL TO BUDGET	Oct 24	Jul - Oct 25	YTD Budget	ACTUAL TO BUDGET	Jul - Oct 24	Annual Budget
Income									
CHILDCARE INC	56,755	46,352	10,403	35,739	203,904	195,858	8,046	164,470	607,141
COUNCIL INC	86,528	93,230	(6,702)	101,417	341,253	370,110	(28,857)	374,519	1,174,918
ELDERS INC	36	65	(29)	0	166	260	(94)	258	780
SCHOOL INC	18,457	19,265	(808)	28,480	339,841	324,658	15,183	337,674	1,365,135
Total Income	161,776	158,912	2,864	165,636	885,164	890,886	(5,722)	876,921	3,147,974
Gross Profit	161,776	158,912	2,864	165,636	885,164	890,886	(5,722)	876,921	3,147,974
Expense									
CHILDCARE EXP	69,861	72,351	2,490	40,321	241,708	228,091	(13,617)	191,871	667,457
COUNCIL EX	15,726	16,097	371	17,518	60,978	68,810	7,832	67,741	567,470
ELDERS EXP	55,315	51,766	(3,549)	37,609	178,211	170,727	(7,484)	151,335	497,912
SCHOOL EXP	134,998	147,884	12,886	128,312	453,946	488,074	34,128	436,968	1,365,135
Total Expense	275,900	288,098	12,198	223,760	934,843	955,702	20,859	847,915	3,097,974
Net Income	-114,124	-129,186	15,062	-58,124	-49,679	-64,816	15,137	29,006	50,000
CHILDCARE Net Income	(13,106)	(25,999)	12,893	(4,582)	(37,804)	(32,233)	(5,571)	(27,401)	(60,316)
CONGREGATIONAL Net Income	70,802	77,133	(6,331)	83,899	280,275	301,300	(21,025)	306,778	607,448
ELDERS Net Income	(55,279)	(51,701)	(3,578)	(37,609)	(178,045)	(170,467)	(7,578)	(151,077)	(497,132)
SCHOOL Net Income	(116,541)	(128,619)	12,078	(99,832)	(114,105)	(163,416)	49,311	(99,294)	0
School Choice Reserve Balance									50,000

BIBLE STUDIES, MINISTRIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adult Bible Study

THE BOOK OF PROVERBS—a study of the Book of Proverbs, held at **9am on Wednesdays** in the Parlors, led by Pastor Sundbom. Wisdom is given by faith in God and the Holy Spirit working through His Word.

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES—an in-depth study on the book of Acts, held at **10:30am on Sundays** in the Parlors, led by Pastor Williamson.

Women's Ministry

We will meet for our Christmas Potluck on Tuesday, December 9. Our meal will begin at 12 noon. Please let Sharon Hanke know what dish you will bring to pass. (It would be a shame if we all brought deserts—NOT) We will also have a short Bible study, carols, and games. Please bring an item for the Women's Shelter such as socks, leggings, PJ's, toiletries, dish soap, etc.



Sunday, December 7 at 3:00pm

It is never too late to mark your calendar for this event! Trinity Lutheran Church & School will be holding an **Advent by Candlelight** for all women of the congregation, and their female family members, friends, and neighbors.

Join us in the Parlors for a wonderful hour of the Word, music, dessert, and fellowship with beautifully decorated tables to help you prepare your hearts for the Advent season before the holidays get in full swing. Sign up in the Narthex coffee area or outside of the Spiritual Life Center.

Men's Ministry

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Saturdays, 8-8:45am, Parlors
All men are welcome to come for fellowship and to spend time in God's Word. Contact Dave Christian at 715-410-7012 with any questions.

Youth, Children & Family

YOUTH AT TRINITY Youth grades 6-12 are invited to attend these weekly gatherings in the Youth House, 6:00 to 7:30pm. Stay connected through the TeamReach app, using the code: **YouthatTrinity24**.

November was another great month for Youth Group! Our Bible Study's focused on what happens when we let conflict linger and where should we search for fulfillment. For our servant event, the youth made care packages to send off to our youth who are either off to college or serving in our military. We made about 30 packages. If you know of a youth who is off learning or serving, please let us know, as we still have packages to send out.

Looking ahead to December: We will assist in decorating the sacred spaces for the Christmas season on the morning of December 6. We'll be doing a servant event on December 7 and having our end of year Christmas Pizza Party on the 14th.

Please note: There will be no Youth Group on December 21 and 28 due to the Christmas break.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Trinity Kids Sunday School has a tradition of putting on a children's Christmas program in December. This year's program is entitled, "Why We Need a Savior?" You can expect to hear the good news of Jesus' birth through entertainment and song! Join us on Sunday, December 21 at 9:15am in the SLC for the performance! Questions? Please email Kimberly at kimberlyatTrinityss@gmail.com.

CHRIST-CENTERED SCOUTING GROUPS AT TRINITY
AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS (AHG) is for girls ages 5-18. We meet the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every month at 4:00pm in the Parlors. Connect with us online at <https://americanheritagegirls.org/find-a-troop/>.
TRAIL LIFE is for boys ages 5-18. We meet every other Thursday of each month, 6-7pm in the SLC. Learn more at <https://trinitywausau.org/ministries/children-and-youth-at-trinity/trail-life-usa/>.

CHRISTMAS COOKIE AND CANDY SALE On Saturday, December 13, in the Parlors beginning at 9am until 12 noon. The sale will extend on Saturday from 4:30 to 6:30pm and Sunday, December 15 from 7:30 to 11:30am. Proceeds go toward Trinity Lutheran School activities.

Ministries & Service Opportunities

HOT CHOCOLATE GIVEAWAY Trinity will be handing hot chocolate out to our local community during the Wausau Holiday Parade on Friday, December 5. We are looking for volunteers to help us with serving and clean-up for this service event! Sign-up sheets are located in the Narthex. Volunteer to share the love of Christ with our Wausau community by passing out cups of hot chocolate to the people who gather for the parade (6-6:30pm)! Prefer to stay out of the cold? You can also help out behind the scenes with filling cups (6:00pm) or clean-up (6:45pm) in the Parlors. Join us as Trinity mobilizes to perform this random act of kindness for our community!

"SIMPLY PSALMS" Join facilitator, Terry Page on Tuesdays, 10-11am in the Parlors to read the Psalms with Martin Luther.

GRIEF SHARE Our final session will be held on Tuesday, December 2 beginning at 3:15pm in the Parlors. All are welcome who are seeking hope & healing after a major loss. Watch for our next Grief Share offering, beginning on February 2, 2026.

DIVORCE CARE Begins February 2, 2025 and runs 13 weeks. 6p-7:30 in the Parlors. Divorce Care is a safe place where caring people come alongside you as you find healing from the pain of separation or divorce. You'll find helpful counsel to manage the emotional turmoil and practical tools for decision-making. People at Divorce Care understand how you're feeling and what you're struggling with—because they're facing similar challenges.

JOY GROUP will be meeting Tuesday, December 16 at 1pm. We will be welcoming Craig Vincent, Executive Director of Bridge Street Mission. He will talk about what is happening at Bridge Street and how people can help out the Mission. Join us for information, fellowship, and refreshments.

BLIND OUTREACH GATHERING will be held on Saturday, December 6, 11:30am-2:00pm in the Parlors. Those who are blind or visually-impaired and their caregivers are welcome to join us for fellowship, refreshments, and fun!

BLOOD DRIVE will be held on December 9 at the Community Blood Center of Northcentral Wisconsin (211 Forest St., Wausau) 8:00am to 6:00pm. Join us!

TRINITY QUILTERS meets this month on December 2 and December 9 at 8am in the Parlors. Join us in making beautiful creations that honor God and help our community!

Announcements & Events

ALTAR FLOWERS Thank you to all who provided altar flowers this year—they really brighten the Sanctuary and make our worship experience even more beautiful! The 2026 Altar Flower Sign-Up chart is now posted outside the Church Administrator's office—sign up today to get your preferred dates for this upcoming year!

BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS TODAY!

Boxed Christmas cards are on sale now in the main lobby reception area at a price of \$8 per box. Buy yours today for the best selection. Proceeds go to support Trinity Lutheran Church & School.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS: 7:30am-3pm M-F. Scrip gift cards will be sold 7:30am-2pm, as well as on the weekends between services. Offices and childcare will be closed on December 24-25, 2025 for Christmas and December 31-January 1, 2026 for New Year's.

COFFEE HOUR We are looking for volunteers to help make it a success! Any assistance you can offer would be greatly appreciated. Please consider volunteering and being part of this welcoming tradition. If interested or have any questions, feel free to contact Kelly at 715-574-1584.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026 are available for pick-up this month in the Narthex. They are arranged in alphabetical order—thank you to Lynn Wadzinski for volunteering to set them out! If you are one of our homebound members and would like to receive your envelopes via mail or visiting pastor, please let the church office know. If you are not currently assigned offering envelopes and would like a box for 2026, please let the church office know.

TRINITY'S CHRISTMAS CHORAL SERVICE will take place on Sunday, December 14th at the 7:30 and 9:00 am services. For over four decades choirs and musicians have led this service in joyous observance of our Savior's birth. The Sanctuary Choir and the Jubellation Handbell Choir will have their selections interwoven with the Lessons, the Sermon, and Holy Communion. A special part of this service will be the choir's singing of a shortened version of Handel's Messiah, ending with the "Hallelujah Chorus". Invite a friend and come early as some of the special selections occur during the pre-service music time.



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Start streaming today on your favorite device (android, iphone/ipad, Apple TV, chromecast, Roku, or FireTV).

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.



We look forward to bringing cheer to the residents at the Hagar House (a faith-based organization for women and their children that provides help and home made possible through Christ-centered community support). This year, we will be collecting gift cards from different venues so that the families can enjoy some fun activities together such as ice skating, bowling, movies, and even enjoying a pizza. It's very easy to do! Just take a tag off the tree, purchase the gift card, and return it to the designated box by the Giving Tree or the secure box located on the wall by the church office. You may also put it in the offering plate when you worship. Each card will have a value on it as a suggestion and you can decide if you would like to do that amount or more. Some of the gift cards might be available through our Scrip program, which, if utilized, would also fundraise for Trinity! Please return your gift cards to Trinity by Sunday, December 14 so we can get the cards to the Hagar House in time for Christmas. Thank you for supporting this outreach adventure! Please contact Pauline with any questions at 715-845-3202.

REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00pm—Contemporary Worship (SLC)
 Sunday 7:30am — Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
 Sunday 9:00am — Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
 Sunday 9:15am — Modern Worship (SLC)

MIDWEEK ADVENT

10am & 6pm Wednesdays, December 3 & 10, 2025

SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

10am & 6pm Wednesday, December 17, 2025

The Christian is called to a life of expectant waiting, but during each Advent season, we especially emphasize this vigil. The word "Advent" means the arrival of a notable person or event. This 2025 season, we are using the hymn "Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (LSB 338) to focus on the arrival of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Advent is a season of expectant waiting. Christmas, or Cristes Mæsse, is only a few weeks away once the season begins. We also remember that the Church waits for the second Advent of Christ, when He will return in glory on the last day. Just as December 25th is certain to arrive, so too is Christ's return.

Our hymn serves as the foundation for our Wednesday service themes. (With Christmas Eve falling on a Wednesday this year, we've joyfully begun our Advent anticipation a week early—so we can fully celebrate the coming of our Lord together!) The excerpts of the hymn we will highlight are: "Born to set your people free," "Hope of all the earth Thou art," and "Rule in all our hearts alone." Each of these passages draws our attention to the aspirations of faithful followers of Christ.

Each of these themes will be examined through the lens of God's Word, the only rule and norm of our doctrine and practice. Through the Word preached the Holy Spirit will inform us of God's will for us. Through Him, we are truly free to love, He is our hope in every trial and every joy, and Christ alone is to rule our hearts! These themes will guide our church as we worship together during our midweek Advent services.

MILESTONES

Happy Birthday!

To our members who are celebrating their 80th or more birthday in December!

- ◇ December 5 Adeline Krause
- ◇ December 9 Marlene Goetsch
- ◇ December 12 Bernice Grosskreutz
- ◇ December 14 Lyle Krohn
- ◇ December 16 Robert Detert
- ◇ December 18 Gordon Hansen
- ◇ December 23 Marion Froemming
- ◇ December 29 Robert Schalow

Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following who will be celebrating their 50th or more wedding anniversary!

- ♥ Jeffrey & Sherri Wanner December 6

Our Sympathy.

We extend our sympathy to the families of those who have passed away.

- Merlin Zahrt November 5



Congregational Officers

Chad Schwantes, *Chairman*
Chairman@trinitynet.org 715-355-3027

Ron Edwards, *Vice-Chairman*
ViceChairman@trinitynet.org 715-845-2972

Kathy Anderson, *Secretary*
Secretary@trinitynet.org 715-843-9715

Lenore Breit, *Treasurer*
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Board of Elders

Jeff Kelm	Elders@trinitynet.org
Bob Moser	Bob Popelka
Ted Gruhn	Tim Rock
Todd Hauer	Jerry Rhoden
Dan Oelke	Dan Schwantes
Steve Johnson	Skyler Lynn
	Bob Zimmerman

CHURCH OFFICERS & BOARD CONTACTS

SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

JANUARY 26, 2026 FROM 3:30 - 6:00PM

Take a tour, meet the teachers, and get a personal look at what sets Trinity apart!

Tuition Assistance is Available!

Please contact the school office for more information. Trinity is a participant of the **Wisconsin Parental Choice Program** which, if certain eligibility criteria are met, may allow for your student to attend Trinity for FREE!



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL CONTACTS

Phone: 715-842-0769 or 715-848-0166

Website: trinitywausau.org

Email Address: trinity@trinitynet.org

Rev. James L. Mayland, Senior Pastor. ext. 360

Rev. Peter C. Williamson, Associate Pastor. ext. 302

Rev. Paul D. Sundbom, Associate Pastor. ext. 303

Rev. Steven Vaudt, Pastor Emeritus. 715-610-2920

Andrew Hulke, School Principal. ext. 308

Tina Dickens, Church Administrator. ext. 304

*Emergency On-Call Pastor. 715-842-0769, press "0"
 715-680-9114

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 Ted Gruhn, *Chairman of Board of Elders*
 James Kramer, *Chairman of School Board*
 Rev. James Mayland, *Senior Pastor*
 Rev. Peter Williamson, *Associate Pastor*
 Rev. Paul Sundbom, *Associate Pastor*
 Andrew Hulke, *Principal*
 Tina Dickens, *Church Administrator*

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CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Poinsettia Order: In Loving Memory or Honor of

Help us decorate the church for Christmas! If you'd like to place an order for one (or more) poinsettia(s), please fill out the form below and return to the church office by *Sunday, December 7*. Cost is \$15 each. Flowers may be picked up after the 9am worship service on Christmas Day. Questions? Please call the church office at 715-842-0769.

Name _____

In Memory / Honor of (circle one) _____

_____ Pick Up? Yes _____ No _____

Color: Red _____ qty. + White _____ qty. = Total Plants: _____ Total Cost: \$15 X _____ plants = \$ _____

