



Family Matters

MARCH 2026

A Message from Your Pastor...

Dear Friends in Christ,

During the first week of March, Trinity will be celebrating National Lutheran Schools week. Our synod (through the office of Synod President) designates a week each year for God's people to recognize, celebrate, and support the work and ministry of Lutheran Schools. Lutheran School Ministry is certainly something that should be recognized and celebrated.

Consider that "congregations and Christian day schools of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod operate more than 1,600 early childhood centers and preschools, and they serve more than 100,000 children ranging from infants and toddlers to 5-year-olds." In addition, "LCMS congregations operate more than 800 elementary schools with approximately 78,000 students." (Stats are quoted from the synod website: lcms.org) Lutheran school ministry is something we should be giving to the Lord in prayer, not only in thanksgiving and praise, but also humbly asking for His continued blessings upon this work and ministry.

So, what does Lutheran Schools Week look like at Trinity? Well, there are many special activities planned, and I would encourage you to find that schedule on the school website (trinitybillings.org). But there is one activity that week that I would like to highlight.

On Wednesday, March 4th, the students at the school will come to the church. We'll have some time for activities, like singing, learning about the stained-glass windows, building, organ, and exploring TYM Square. The older students will also be canvassing the neighborhood around church to place door hangers on the homes of neighbors inviting them to join us in experiencing the Love of Christ at Trinity. We'll conclude our time with a chapel service in the sanctuary at 2:00 pm before the students return to school. The Bell Choir students will also be playing for our midweek Lenten service that evening. If you are interested in helping direct traffic (both cars and people!) or would like to walk with students through the neighborhood, please call the church office and we can give more details.

As we think about National Lutheran Schools Week, we also might consider that Lutheran Schools stretch beyond the borders of our nation. There are Lutheran Schools around the World. One of those schools is St. John's Lutheran in Uganda, Africa. They are a church and school that Trinity has been supporting and will be visiting this month. We'll be having a team of 4 people going to Uganda to meet with some leaders at St. John's, along with another ministry called Hearts and Hope for Uganda, to discuss and determine best steps and practices to support and further the work and ministry of St. John. Again, please turn to the Lord in prayer. Pray for safe travel; good discussions; and blessings on the work and ministry through St. John's Uganda.

Yes, this month we get to celebrate the work and ministry that God is accomplishing through Lutheran Schools. These schools provide a place where children get to know and experience the Love of Christ. They are also a place where students get to grow and learn how to Live for Christ. But those lessons are not just for students in a Lutheran School, they're for all of us. May we all be in God's Word, experiencing Christ's love for us, that we may live for Him.

In Christ,
Pastor Keinath



Loved by Christ to Live for Christ

School NEWS



Stacy Hall
Interim Principal of
Trinity Lutheran School

NO LONGER STRANGERS

The first time I visited the St. Louis area as a high school student from Miles City, I remember feeling like a stranger - nearly everything was unfamiliar and outside my comfort zone. Sometimes one kind person can make all the difference in a new place. Other times, the discomfort seems to stick around. And, sometimes feeling comfortable just takes a little time. After living in the St. Louis area for three years while my husband attended Concordia Seminary, much of the area no longer felt unfamiliar.

In the Epistle to the Ephesians 2:19-20 we are reminded: *“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God... Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone.”* Though we may feel out of place in this world, we are not strangers to God. As the hymn says, “I’m but a stranger here, Heav’n is my home.” Our true belonging is in Christ.

During this Lenten season of repentance and reflection, may we remember that we are part of God’s household. God uses us, right where He has placed us, to love and care for one another and to remind each other that we are seen and known by Him.

Please continue to pray for Trinity Lutheran Church and School—for our families, students, and staff—that we remain focused on what God has done and will continue to do in this ministry. He sees us! Enrollment is open for the 2026–2027 school year. Know someone with children ages 3–grade 8? Invite them to call for a tour!

Youth NEWS



Cameron Heiliger
Director of Youth and
Parish Education

All proceeds benefit
Trinity Youth Ministry's
Summer Trips Fund

TYM PRESENTS
TRIVIA NIGHT
2026

Saturday, March 14
Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM

\$25 per person
OR
\$80 for team of 4
\$150 for team of 8

10 TYM

**Gather your team
and RSVP today!**
cameronheiliger@trinitybillings.org

**FAMILY
GAME
NIGHT**

Saturday 2/28
6 PM

BRING A SIDE OR DESSERT,
GAMES, FRIENDS
AND JOIN US FOR A
NIGHT OF FELLOWSHIP
@ TYM SQUARE

VICTORY IN CHRIST!

VICTORY IN CHRIST!

Wednesdays: March 4, 11, 18, and 25
Lenten Dinner @ 5pm and Worship @ 6:30pm

Sunday, March 29, @ 8am and 10:30am
Palm Sunday Worship

Thursday, April 2, @ 6:30pm
Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion

Friday, April 3, @ 6:30pm
Good Friday Worship

Saturday, April 4, @ 5pm
Resurrection Victory Service

Sunday, April 5
Outdoor Sunrise Service at 1416 Canyon Trail Dr. in Lockwood @ 6:30am
Easter Worship with Communion at Trinity @ 8am and 10:30am
Easter Brunch in the Fellowship Hall @ 9am



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 Psalm 116</p> <p>MITE BOX SUNDAY</p> <p>8 & 10:30am Worship</p> <p>9:30am Toddler SS, Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes</p> <p>7pm Men's Basketball @ TLS</p>	<p>2 Luke 20</p> <p>6:30 pm Adult Instruction Class</p> <p>7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p>3 Genesis 12:1-9</p> <p>6am Men's Bible Study @ TYM</p> <p>9am Quilting</p> <p>7pm Bible Study w/ Rev. Zagal (zoom)</p>	<p>4 Romans 4:1-8, 13-17</p> <p>12:45pm TLC Canvassing</p> <p>2pm Kitchen Guild Mtg.</p> <p>2pm Chapel at TLC</p> <p>5pm Lenten Dinner</p> <p>6:30pm Lenten Worship</p> <p>7:15pm Gr. 7-12 Youth Group & 1st Year Conf.</p>	<p>5 John 3:1-17</p> <p>10:30 am Bible Study</p>	<p>6 Luke 21</p> <p>2 pm Geography Bee @ TLS (Grades 5-8)</p>	<p>7 Proverbs 21</p> <p>5 pm Worship with Communion</p>
<p>Lutheran Schools Week</p>						
<p>8 Psalm 117</p> <p>8 & 10:30am Worship w/Communion</p> <p>9:30am Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes</p> <p>7pm Men's Basketball @ TLS</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time Begins – Turn clocks ahead 1 hour</p>	<p>9 Luke 22</p> <p><i>Circuit Pastors' Meeting</i></p> <p>6 pm Fellowship Mtg.</p> <p>6:30 pm Adult Instruction Class</p> <p>7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p>10 Exodus 17:1-7</p> <p>6am Men's Bible Study @ TYM</p> <p>9am Quilting</p> <p>6:30pm Cradle Roll Mtg.</p> <p>7pm Bible Study w/ Rev. Zagal (zoom)</p>	<p>11 Romans 5:1-8</p> <p>8:30am Chapel at TLS</p> <p>5pm Lenten Dinner</p> <p>6:30pm Lenten Worship</p> <p>7:15pm Gr. 7-12 Youth Group & 1st Year Confirmation</p>	<p>12 John 4:5-26</p> <p>9am Trinity Moms Group</p> <p>10:30 am Bible Study</p>	<p>13 Luke 23</p>	<p>14 Proverbs 22</p> <p>2pm Caregivers Group @ TYM</p> <p>5 pm Worship</p> <p>6:30pm Trivia Night</p>
<p>15 Psalm 118</p> <p>8 & 10:30am Worship</p> <p>9:30am Toddler SS, Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes</p> <p>7pm Men's Basketball @ TLS</p>	<p>16 Luke 24</p> <p>6:30pm LWMML Meeting</p> <p>6:30 pm Adult Instruction Class</p> <p>7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p>17 Isaiah 42:14-21</p> <p>6am Men's Bible Study @ TYM</p> <p>9am Quilting</p> <p>7pm Bible Study w/ Rev. Zagal (zoom)</p> <p>Uganda Team leaves</p>	<p>18 Ephesians 5:8-14</p> <p>8:30am Chapel at TLS</p> <p>1pm Wrinkled Righteous</p> <p>5pm Lenten Dinner</p> <p>6:30pm Lenten Worship</p> <p>7:15pm Gr. 7-12 Youth Group & 1st Year Conf.</p>	<p>19 John 9:1-41</p> <p>10:30 am Bible Study</p>	<p>20 Mark 1</p>	<p>21 Proverbs 23</p> <p>2:30pm Not So Wrinkled Righteous</p> <p>5 pm Worship with Communion</p>
<p>22 Psalm 119</p> <p>8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Communion</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes</p> <p>7pm Men's Basketball @ TLS</p>	<p>23 Mark 2</p> <p>6:30 pm Adult Instruction Class</p> <p>7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p>24 Ezekiel 37:1-14</p> <p>6am Men's Bible Study @ TYM</p> <p>9 am Quilting</p> <p>5:30pm YVFL @ TLC</p> <p>7pm Bible Study w/ Rev. Zagal (zoom)</p>	<p>25 Romans 8:1-11</p> <p>8:30am Chapel at TLS</p> <p>5pm Lenten Dinner</p> <p>6:30pm Lenten Worship</p> <p>7:15pm Gr. 7-12 Youth Group & 1st Year Conf.</p>	<p>26 John 11:1-53</p> <p>10:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>Uganda Team returns</p>	<p>27 Mark 3</p>	<p>28 Proverbs 24</p> <p>5 pm Worship</p>
<p>29 Psalm 120</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>8 & 10:30 am Worship</p> <p>9:30 am Sunday School Celebration, Cradle Roll Easter Party, and Adult Bible Classes</p> <p>7pm Men's Basketball @ TLS</p>	<p>30 Mark 4</p> <p>6:30 pm Adult Instruction Class</p> <p>7pm Women's Bible Study @ TYM Square</p>	<p>31 Isaiah 50:4-9a</p> <p>6am Men's Bible Study @ TYM</p> <p>9 am Quilting</p> <p>7pm Elders Mtg.</p> <p>7pm Bible Study w/ Rev. Zagal (zoom)</p>	<p>ACOLYTES:</p> <p>Saturday: McKenzie Keller</p> <p>Sun. 8:00: Anna Keinath</p> <p>Sun. 10:30: Tennasyn Hernandez</p> <p>ALTAR DUTY: Rietta & Wil Malsom, Cyndy Opsal</p> <p>Trinity Worship Services on Community 7</p> <p>8am Sundays & 5pm Tuesday</p>	<p>ELDERS:</p> <p>Saturday: Neal Wagenman</p> <p>Sun. 8:00: Tom Koepfel</p> <p>Sun. 10:30: Ted Loomans</p> <p>CHURCH: 406-245-3984</p> <p>SCHOOL: 406-656-1021</p> <p>www.trinitybillings.org</p>		

Financial REPORT

January 2026 Finances		
Income		221,139
Expenses		213,949
Net Margin		7,190
2025-2026 Finances		
	YTD - Actual	Target
Offerings	548,168	590,816
Total Income	1,701,862	1,687,669
Total Expenses	1,588,740	1,671,700
Net Margin	113,122	15,970

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Heading into December our offerings were tracking with our year-to-date giving goal. However, in December and January our offerings did not hit our budgeted numbers, resulting in a sizeable year-to-date offering deficit of over \$42,000. Because we have received a portion of our school tuition income in advance, it hides the fact that we are running behind where we should be to meet our ministry obligations. This is not a time to panic, but rather to seek the Lord and ask that He continue to move us toward growing generosity in our first fruits giving. Thank you for making this a matter of personal prayer and consideration.

MEMBERS TRANSFERRED

Jim & Cam Browne have been given a peaceful release of membership per their request.

Carol Mueller has been given a peaceful release of membership as she is now attending Peace Lutheran Church.

Julie Wilke has joined Trinity via a transfer from St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Lodi, CA.

Jennifer Wilke has joined Trinity through affirmation of faith.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A service was held for **Tom West** at Trinity Lutheran Church on February 6, 2026. He passed away on January 30, 2026.



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

LWML NEWS

Meeting on Monday, March 16, at 6:30pm

Opening Devotion & Hostesses: World Friendship Guild

Program: Jared's Boxes

HELP US STOCK THE SHELVES IN TYM SQUARE AS THEY FEED THE YOUTH WEEKLY:



- 8" & 10" paper plates
- Paper bowls
- Paper towels
- Large box of plastic forks
- Large box of plastic spoons
- Smaller size plastic water cups

Thanks for helping the LWML support our Trinity Youth Ministry in this way during March!



Montana District LCMSS Camps 2026

**Save the date to join us at
Lion's Camp in
Red Lodge, June 2026**

Youth Retreat: June 22-25

Family Camp: June 26-28

Church Worker Retreat: June 29-July 3

Registration and cost information will be available from the District Office, March 2026.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. Psalm 90:2

Special Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Canvass TLC Neighborhood @ 12:45pm
Chapel at TLC @ 2pm

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 4, 11, 18, & 25

Lenten Dinner @ 5pm
Lenten Worship @ 6:30pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

Daylight Saving Time Begins

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

Trinity Moms Group @ 9am

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

Caregivers Group @ 2pm
Trivia Night Fundraiser @ 6:30pm

MARCH 17-26

Uganda Mission Trip

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

Palm Sunday Worship @ 8am & 10:30am
Sunday School Celebration @ 9:30am
Cradle Roll Easter Party @ 9:30am



News



ORDER TODAY!

Butter Braids are back!

On sale in the Fellowship Hall
February 14-March 15

Delivery is currently scheduled for
MONDAY March 23, TIME TBD

A portion of each sale benefits
**Trinity Youth Ministry's
Summer Trips Fund**

Loved by Christ to Live for Christ