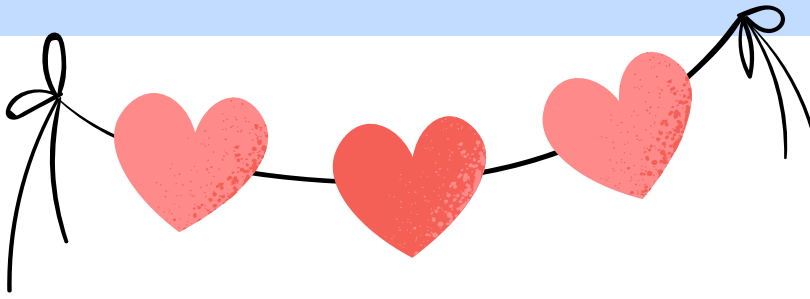


TRINITY LUTHERAN

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Hymn of the Month "You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" ACS #954

You, who walk each day beside us, sit in power at God's side. You, who preach a way that's narrow, have a love that reaches wide. You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our pilgrim guide.

Worthy is our earthly Jesus! Worthy is our cosmic Christ! Worthy your defeat and vict'ry; worthy still your peace and strife. You, the everlasting instant; you, who are our death and life.

We Pray For

We pray for Scout Riediger (new daughter of Austin and Haley Riediger); Kenny Stroman; Barb Kunkel; Carla Boggs; Barb Allner; Diane Riediger; Bill Nagel; Ed Kunkel; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

For those battling cancer: Jayme Webb –breast cancer; Jeni Aman.

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From the Pastor

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.
Matthew 5:16

My Dear Siblings in Christ,

The days are getting longer. There is more light each day. For those of us from northern European heritage, who suffer from seasonal affective disorder (SAD), we are finally starting to feel better.

We are getting serious that spring will be here soon. We even have this odd little holiday where we impart on a rodent the ability to prognosticate when spring will come. (Ground Hog's Day is one of Kymberly's favorite holidays.) With spring, comes the time to start planning for summer. What trips and activities will we go on? Part of that means thinking about summer camp. This summer, we would like to invite more youth to come to Lutheran Lakeside. Please talk to me if you would like to go or to send your children to camp this summer. Early registration ends this month!

When I was younger, I went to Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center (LOMC) in Oregon, IL. There I learned a song, Pass it on. Below is the first verse.

It only takes a spark, to get a fire going
And soon all those around, can warm up in its glowing
That's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it
You spread His love to ev'ryone, you want to pass it on.

This verse and the Bible verse above have a common theme. God has given us a gift of a spark, a light. It is the gift of God's love in our life, a gift we received before we were born, a gift reinforced through the gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism. Once we've experienced God's love, we want to, we need to, we're driven to share that with others.

This Lent our midweek services will be different. We are planning a dinner church. Ash Wednesday will be a traditional service, but the Wednesdays after we will enjoy a meal together while we worship. Invite others to come and experience something new. It will be an experiment in God's love. We will share more information as we get closer.

Remember that you are loved, go and love others.

Blessings and Peace,
Rev Ed

Birthdays

1 - Roy Dimmitt

Lisa Rippke

2 - JoAnn Jahn

Amy Coulter

3 - Konnor Brosamle

9 - Kara Koehn

Marissa Molland

Vicky Phillips

Phillip Sanderson

11 - Nikolas Collins

Sadie Stratton

Clay Zellmer

18 - Bailey Kennedy

Maylle Lloyd

19 - Alise Brockhaus

Susan McElrath

24 - Julie Davidson

Alyssa Orlando

25 - Andrew Henschen

26 - Teren Davidson

Ivy Rogers

Thank you!

-January Worship Assistants

-Ruth Chartier for playing beautiful music for us during worship

-Roger Christiansen, Cory Steffen and his father, and Pastor Ed for ensuring our sidewalks and parking lot are cleared of snow and ready for all our events.

February Worship Assistants

Organist: Ruth Chartier

Altar Guild: Rotating

Scripture Reader: Liz Wahlberg

Offertory Accountants: Blake & Sadie Stratton

Tech Assistant: Rebecca Brockhaus

What's going on at TLC?

2025 Annual Meeting

The 2025 Annual Meeting was held on January 25th following worship. The slate of nominations was confirmed along with the constitutional changes and 2026 budget.

Souper Bowl Sunday

On Sunday, February 8th we will be collecting cans of soup or other canned goods as a part of "Souper Bowl Sunday." All canned goods will be donated to the Community Basket here in Merville. This is a wonderful, easy way to support our community. If you are unable to attend church on the 8th but would still like to donate, let the church office know and we will make arrangements!



Western Iowa Synod Assembly

The Western Iowa Synod Assembly will be April 17-18 at the Nativity Parish Center in Sioux City. The congregation can send up to 4 voting members, 1 lay male and 1 lay female, 1 youth (under 18) and 1 young adult (18-30). We are looking for people who might be interested in serving for this Assembly, there will be many officers of the Synod elected and an election of Synod Bishop. Please let Pastor Ed know if you are interested.

If you are interested in serving on a committee of the Synod or on Synod Council, please talk with Pastor Ed.

Tuesday, February 17 at 1:00pm will be the Living Waters Conference, we should have 2 lay members present to represent the congregation. (Ideally these would include those attending the Synod Assembly.)

TLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

Date: Sunday, Dec. 7 , 2025

Present: Pastor Ed, Blake Stratton, Jill Stratton, Sonia Locke, John Ringkob, Lynn Morgan, Nick Wahlberg, Deb Wilcke, Roger Christiansen, Denny Bain, Gloria Healy, Peggy Hopp

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Blake Stratton at 10:17AM. Opening: Pastor Ed led prayer

Pastor's Report

Announce:

- Synod / ELCA updates
- Additional announcements
- Christmas Program is Dec 14. Men's Group will serve breakfast following - -Christmas Eve Service - Dec. 24th at 5 PM
- Kidzone will be done after Dec 17th and will resume February 4th
- Confirmation class sign-up - January - April
- End of year giving - reminders about direct deposit and retirement accounts as well as Tithely.
- Community Action Agency donations will be collected through the end of 2025.

Discuss/Follow-Up:

- Church building / Parsonage
 - Parsonage Roof Update - Insurance is going to come and look at damage
 - Keys - will order 12 more
- Church Directory Update
- Secretary Position
- Budget Meeting - Meet and finalize by Jan 11
- Fellowship Committee Revamp / Reinstate visitation committee: Establish a sign up sheet for volunteers to help on these- positions will not be part of the ballot.
- Annual Meeting - January 25 Reports due to Sadie by January 11th
- January 18th - review / discuss annual reports

TLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

- Decide:
- ● Motion made by Roger Christiansen, seconded by Denny Bain, to approve November Council Meeting Minutes; motion passed unanimously.
- ● Motion made by Denny Bain, seconded by Roger Christiansen, to approve the November Treasurer's Report; motion passed unanimously.
- ● The January Council Meeting is set for January 11, following worship.
- In the near future:
- ● Souper Bowl of Caring
- ● February - Backpack Program
- Adjourn: Motion made by Denny Bain, seconded by John Ringkob, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:04AM.
- Closed with the Lord's Prayer
- Respectfully Submitted,
- Jill Stratton, Council Secretary

FEBRUARY 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 AA Meeting 7:00 PM	4 KidZone 3:30-5:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 - 7:00 PM	5	6	7
8 Council Installation 9:00 AM Council Meeting 10:15 AM Souper Bowl Sunday of Caring	9	10 AA Meeting 7:00 PM	11 KidZone 3:30-5:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 - 7:00 PM	12	13	14
15	16	17 AA Meeting 7:00 PM	18 KidZone 3:30-5:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 - 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday 7:00 PM	19	20	21
22	23	24 AA Meeting 7:00 PM	25 KidZone 3:30-5:00 PM Confirmation 6:00 - 7:00 PM	26	27	28