

Trinity Highlights

April 2025 Newsletter

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Rev. Mark Drews ~ 701-390-6073

Stewardship Report:

General Fund Report:	February	Year to Date	Year to Date
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 21,140	\$ 35,964	\$41,974
Expenses	<u>26,479</u>	<u>47,659</u>	58,002
(Deficit)/Surplus	(5,339)	(11,695)	

Giving in February was very close to that which was projected but remains \$5,831 off year to date. Expenses were lower than budgeted due to little expenses being incurred on the Parsonage bathroom renovation.

Work has begun at the parsonage to renovate the two bathrooms. Expenses will be incurred but have been included in the budget presented and approved in January. These expenses will show up in March and April.

The General Fund balance at the end of February was 251,187.65.

Let us give thanks to the Lord for His continued blessings and pray that we may continue to be faithful stewards until the day of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Rob Fornoff
Chairman - Board of Finance

Palm Sunday Processional Sunday, April 13

On Palm Sunday we will have a Palm Sunday Processional, beginning at the Pekin Public Library and processing to the church. We will meet at the Pekin Public Library at 8:30 a.m., distribute the Palms and proceed to the church for Palm Sunday worship! If there is inclement weather, we will meet at the church in the Fellowship Hall.

Easter Breakfast: The Board of Elders will host an Easter breakfast, **Sunday, April 20 at 7:30 a.m.** Breakfast includes egg casserole, pastries, coffee and juice.

The Lutheran Witness keeps you updated with news from the Synod and teaches you how to interpret the world from a Lutheran perspective. The cost of an annual subscription is \$21.00. If you wish to renew your subscription or start subscribing, please use your Lutheran Witness envelope in your offering envelope box or mark a pew envelope and return it to the church no later than Sunday, April 27.

Camp Cilca Spring Work Day: There will be a Spring work day at Camp Cilca on **Saturday, April 5 from 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.** There's a job for everyone! They need to sweep out buildings, rake leaves, open the beach shed and more! Lunch will be provided.

From the Pastor's Desk

"And Mary said, 'Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.' And the angel departed from her." Luke 1:38

Dear Members of Trinity,

Easter, or the Feast of the Resurrection, is just around the corner. So you might very well be wondering, "Why does Pastor Drews think that we are celebrating Christmas?"

Good question!

Actually, by the time you get this Newsletter, we will have just passed a different church festival that will probably be closer than Easter is. You see, on March 25th of every year, the church celebrates the Feast of the Annunciation to Mary,

"What's that?" you may very well ask. What is the Annunciation to Mary? The Annunciation is the date when the Angel Gabriel "announced" to Mary, the Mother of Jesus, that she would be the Mother of God... And nine months later (the amount of time most women are pregnant before they deliver a baby)... we celebrate Jesus birth.

Mary was given the glorious, good news that she was going to have a baby and name Him "Jesus" or savior. This wasn't just good news for Mary. It's good news for us all! We know that the birth of the Messiah is good news to us. But we don't just celebrate His birthday. And it's certainly not the most important thing we celebrate, either.

Throughout the season of Lent, we observe a time of repentance and renewal as we look forward to the Passion of our Lord. We follow our Lord to His entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, when He instituted the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, we watch Him suffer hell and death on the cross on Good Friday, and wait in Vigil on Holy Sunday. We also need to remember that all of these things: Jesus' birth, His Passion, His death, mean absolutely nothing without the Resurrection of our Lord.

Perhaps that's why this seemingly small and insignificant feast of the Annunciation is more important than we might think. Here's why:

Did you ever wonder why the Church have lilies on Easter? Originally, in the early Christian Church (before there were labels like "Catholic", "Orthodox", or even "Lutheran"), they would celebrate the Annunciation to Mary by placing "Madonna lilies" on and around the altar to celebrate the festival. As you may know, Easter is NOT celebrated the same time every year (it's quite late this year). At times, Easter can fall as early as March 23. So when people came to worship on Easter, but didn't realize that the Annunciation of Mary was being celebrated some time around Easter, they saw the lilies and began to associate them with the Easter season.

Whatever the reason for why we use lilies, we can certainly use them as a reminder of BOTH of these holy days. We can rejoice with the Apostles' Creed that our Lord was "conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and buried." And especially, as we do every Lord's Day, we can celebrate a "mini-Easter" day when we gather at the Lord's Table. May we do so often.

In Christ,

Pastor Mark R. Drews

Trinity's Service Volunteers - April 2025

ACOLYTES

04/02 6:00 p.m. Will Brown
04/06 9:00 a.m. Lexi Brown
04/09 6:00 p.m. Emily Anton
04/13 9:00 a.m. Emily Anton
04/17 6:00 p.m. Ella Spaeth
04/18 6:00 p.m. Ella Spaeth
04/20 9:00 a.m. Lexi Brown
04/27 9:00 a.m. Will Brown

BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

Pick-Up Donuts:

04/06 *Open* 04/13 *Open*
04/20 Easter Sunday
04/27 *Open*

Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:

04/06 & 04/13 Julie O'Conner
04/20 Easter Sunday
04/27 Julie O'Conner

ALTAR GUILD

04/06 Lynn Brown / Lauren Juergens
04/17 Kara & Kylie Cutting / Cori Spaeth
04/19 Melissa Deverman
04/20 Melissa Deverman / Debbie Fornoff

USHERS

04/02 6:00 p.m. Brad Juergens, Chris Whitley
04/06 9:00 a.m. Owen Miller, Dave Harms
04/09 6:00 p.m. Mike Seidell, Dave Harms
04/13 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Chris Whitley
04/17 6:00 p.m. Owen Miller, Chris Whitley
04/18 6:00 p.m. Mike Seidell, Dave Harms
04/20 9:00 a.m. Brad Juergens, Dave Harms
04/27 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Owen Miller

ALTAR FLOWERS

04/06 Dave & Theresa McDonough
04/13 Palm Sunday
04/20 Easter Sunday
04/27 Rob & Debbie Fornoff, *for their 50th wedding anniversary.*

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS / READERS

04/06 Eric Spaeth
04/20 Brad Juergens

READERS

04/13 Owen Miller
04/27 Mike Seidell



**ORDER
DEADLINE
Sunday, April 13**

Name _____
No. of Lilies _____ Amt enclosed _____
In Memory Of: _____

In celebration of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ, we decorate our sanctuary with Easter lilies. The cost is \$15.00 per plant.

Please return this form and money for the lily in your offering envelope marking it "Easter Lily."

April Birthdays

April 1

Leah Brown

April 4

Rich Janson

April 5

Christi Gillis

April 6

Brittany Olt
Sheila Schumm

April 7

Kasondra Garber
Jennifer Givens

April 8

Krista Egli
Jennifer Look

April 10

Gary Gillis
Bob Mattheessen

April 14

Pam Buerkett

April 17

Brandon Risinger

April 20

Demi Burke
Betty Ingrassia

April 22

Alyssa Hand
Raegan Zevnik

April 23

Marilyn Alexander

April 24

Robin Thompson

April 25

Jodi Fuchs
Kelly Hubbs
Nancy Portillo

April 28

Franklin Spaeth

April 29

Carol Maloney
Denise Risinger

April 30

Jaymie Gordon-Townzen

April Anniversaries

April 5

Matt & Melissa Deverman

April 7

Brad & Kim Cordts

April 14

Andrew & Amanda Erickson

April 21

Craig & Debra Cooney

April 26

Rob & Debbie Fornoff
Happy 50th Anniversary!

If your birthday or anniversary was omitted or a date is incorrect, please contact the church office so we can update our records.

Current Dollar for Missions Project Update

At the end of February 2025, Dollar for Missions is well underway on its first project for this year. The project is masonry and tuck pointing work at University Lutheran Church, Champaign. In fact, after two months of 2025 this project is over halfway toward completion. The target amount is \$25,000. At the end of February, DFM has \$13,849.91 toward this project. Plumbing, painting, and yes, tuck pointing, need to be done periodically if CID is to continue providing this place where the Gospel has been preached and the sacraments administered on the University of Illinois campus for more than 70 years. Your dollar for missions has a good purpose here, impacting the lives of countless university students and others with the forgiving love of Christ.

Lenten Fellowship

We are having cookie fellowship after each midweek Lenten service, *beginning with Ash Wednesday*. Trinity members are asked to bring one dozen cookies to the church kitchen before 5:30 p.m. on the Wednesday under which your name is listed below.

April 2

Schmidt - Zevnik

April 9

Boards of Christian Service & Evangelism

Easter Greeting

As we greet each other on Easter Sunday, the greeting you should offer is **“He has risen!”**

The proper response is **“He has risen, indeed!”**

Let’s continue this tradition as we share in the joy of Christ’s resurrection! **“The Lord has risen indeed...!”** Luke 24:34

ALLELUIA! He has Risen



April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6 PM BOARDS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE - EVANGELISM	2 4:45 PM HANDBELL PRACTICE 6 PM LENTEN SERVICE 7 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	3 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	4	5
6 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	7	8 6:30 PM GSLS BOARD	9 4:45 PM HANDBELL PRACTICE 6 PM LENTEN SERVICE 7 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	10 1:30 PM CONCORDIA	11	12
13 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 8:30 AM PALM SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	14	15	16 5 PM HANDBELL PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	17 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 6 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	18 <i>Good Friday</i> 6 PM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	19 <i>Holy Saturday</i> 6 PM HOLY SATURDAY SERVICE
20 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 7:30 AM EASTER BREAKFAST 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION	21	22	23	24 6 PM BOARD OF TRUSTEES 7 PM BOARD OF ELDERS	25	26
27 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	28	29	30			





TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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APRIL



Holy Week Schedule

- | | |
|---|--|
| Mid-Week Lenten Services | Wednesdays, April 2 & 9 - 6:00 p.m. |
| Palm Sunday Worship | Sunday, April 13
Processional - 8:30 a.m. - Worship - 9:00 a.m. |
| Maundy Thursday Service <i>With Holy Communion</i> | Thursday, April 17 - 6:00 p.m. |
| Good Friday Service | Friday, April 18 - 6:00 p.m. |
| Holy Saturday Service | Saturday, April 19 - 6:00 p.m. |
| Easter Sunday Worship | Sunday, April 20
Easter Breakfast - 7:30 a.m.
Easter Worship - 9:00 a.m. |