

Trinity Highlights

February 2025 Newsletter

309-346-1391 ~ www.trinitypekin.com

Rev. Mark Drews, Pastor ~ 701-390-6073

Stewardship Report:

General Fund Report:	December	Year to Date	Year to Date
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 28,722	\$257,439	\$263,172
Expenses	<u>24,126</u>	<u>233,565</u>	263,786
(Deficit)/Surplus	4,597	23,873	

Giving in December was close to projections and finished \$5,733 less than what was projected. Expenses were on budget and finished \$30,221 less than budgeted for the year. Year to date giving exceeded expenses by \$23,873 resulting in a General Fund balance at the end of December of \$266,571.

Estates and Bequests

At the January 9, 2025 Voters Assembly the gift received from the Donald Wahls estate was distributed as follows - 10% to Good Shepherd Lutheran School, 20% to the Endowment Fund and 70% to the General Fund. The Voters Assembly also approved a budget of \$360,921 of which \$50,000 was approved to refurbish the bathrooms in the parsonage. Approximately \$65,000 of General Fund reserves will be needed to fund the budget deficit.

Endowment Fund

At the end of 2024, the Endowment Fund balance was \$141,013 of which \$31,543 is available to distribute. In 2024, \$4,000 was distributed to: Christ Lutheran School in Streator - \$1,000; Camp Cilca 75th Anniversary - \$1,000; and LC-MS Disaster Relief - \$2,000. With the action taken at the January 9, 2025 Voters Assembly, \$11,200 will be moved to the Endowment Fund from the Donald Wahls estate bring the balance to \$153,213.

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

CID Small Church Summit to be held on Saturday, February 22 at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sign-in starts at 9:30 a.m. Opening devotion will commence at 10:00 a.m. Adjournment will be at 2:30 p.m. that afternoon. Before lunch, there will be a presentation on Witnessing Helps. Lunch will be provided. In the afternoon, interest sessions will include: further conversation about the Witnessing Helps, a session with Mr. Trip Rodgers of CID staff on various available resources, a session with CID President Michael Mohr on record-keeping in smaller churches, especially during pastoral vacancies

The Small Church Summit is free and available to all congregations of not only CID but also the Southern Illinois District. You need not be from a small church to attend. The deadline to register is Tuesday, February 11. You can register at <https://forms.gle/iwHhyL2kXhnAAsHV8>

Congratulations to: Emily Anton, Edith, Ella, Mabel & Oliver Spaeth and Henry Stout for having perfect Sunday School attendance during the month of January.

From the Pastor's Desk

*"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word;
For my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."* Luke 2:29-32

Dear Members of Trinity,

Do the above verses seem familiar to you? They should, especially on a Communion Sunday, right? Our prayer in the Nunc Dimittis (Latin for "now you are letting") is for the Lord to allow us to "depart in peace" along with Simeon because we have beheld our salvation in the body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. These are also the words from the Gospel lesson for the Purification of Mary and the Presentation of our Lord observed on February 2nd.

Coming during Epiphany, always forty days after December 25 (February 2), this feast reminds that God is with us in the infant flesh of Jesus to be a sacrifice for our sins. As Mary obeys the law of her purification (Lev 12:6–8), Jesus is also presented at the temple as the firstborn to be redeemed (Ex 13:11–15). Jesus kept the law required of "the children," "his brothers," "in every respect" so that, as the Epistle for this day teaches, he could become our high priest and win the victory over death and the devil by his once-for-all-time sacrifice (Heb 2:14, 17).

I admit that I smile and chuckle a little bit when a visitor comes to Trinity on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and they look at our Nativity Scene in room 10 and ask: "Why are the Wise Men so far away?" I usually answer quite simply "Because they haven't arrived yet!" When movies like "The Star" try to do all sorts of twists and turns in order that the angels, shepherds, wise men, and especially Jesus, Mary and Joseph all get to the manger at the same time, you may want to scratch your head.

But the feast that we celebrate on February 2nd (not Groundhog's Day) shows us that the Wise Men didn't arrive at Jesus' *house* (not stable) until at least 40 days after Jesus birth. Mary and Joseph were faithful to the Law on Jesus' behalf. When He was 8 days old, Jesus was circumcised even if he didn't need to be. He was "fulfilling all righteousness" by keeping the Law—including the ceremonial—even though He was the perfect Son of God. On His 40th day (Feb. 2nd) Joseph and Mary once again fulfilled the Law by coming to the temple to offer sacrifices (two turtledoves) for Mary's purification and to present Mary's first-born child and son.

While this particular feast day of the Church is not very well known in most Christian congregations, it is nevertheless important to note that Jesus (and His parents) "fulfilled all righteousness" from His birth until His death and resurrection. We rejoice with Simeon every time we gather at the Lord's Table and depart in peace. May we use those gifts that God so freely gives us as we enter each week into the mission field, and may we tell others of the marvelous thing that He has done.

In Christ,

Pastor Mark R. Drews

Trinity's Service Volunteers - February 2025

ACOLYTES

02/02 9:00 a.m. Ella Spaeth
02/09 9:00 a.m. Lexi Brown
02/16 9:00 a.m. Will Brown
02/23 9:00 a.m. Emily Anton

BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

Pick-Up Donuts:

02/02 Mike Seidell
02/09 *Open*
02/16 *Open*
02/23 *Open*

Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:

02/02 Julie O'Conner
02/09 *Open*
02/16 *Open*
02/23 *Open*

ALTAR GUILD

02/02 Melissa Deverman / Cori Spaeth
02/16 Lynn Brown

USHERS

02/02 9:00 a.m. Owen Miller, Dave Harms
02/09 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Chris Whitley
02/16 9:00 a.m. Brad Juergens, Dave Harms
02/23 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Owen Miller

ALTAR FLOWERS

02/02 *Open*
02/09 *Open*
02/16 BonnyLou Schmidt, *for BonnyLou's 92nd birthday on February 20.*
02/23 *Open*

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS / READERS

02/02 Eric Spaeth
02/16 Brad Juergens

READERS

02/09 Owen Miller
02/23 Mike Seidell

Annual Report: The deadline for turning in reports for the Annual Report is **Sunday, February 23**. All chairpersons of boards should turn in a report. If you are in doubt as to whether you need to submit a report, please contact the church office.

Camp Cilca News

Summer 2025 Camp registration is open. In celebration of Camp Cilca's 75th anniversary, all program sessions for summer 2025 will be available for \$75.00 if you register before April 1. Trinity once again has an anonymous donor who would like to pay for any child attending camp, just contact the church office.

Act Like Men Woodcutters: February 28 - March 1 Cutting trees, splitting wood, fellowship with other men, good food, and time in God's Word are all great ways to get started in this endeavor. You do not have to be skilled in using a chainsaw, hammer, or tractor to come to this event. Strong backs and eager hands are just as helpful. The study sessions will cover topics relevant to men navigating life in the modern age.

Camp Cilca exists to strengthen and foster faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting.

February Birthdays

Feb. 2

Katie Daniels

Feb. 3

Marcella Harms

Lisa Prather

Feb. 4

Alexzandra Hoehn

Jeanine Meyers

Feb. 5

Vicki Egli

Feb. 6

Debra Brock

Feb. 10

Samantha Durbin

Feb. 12

Nicholas Kreager

Feb. 14

Lynn Wyatt

Feb. 15

Gage Cutting

Dakota Harms

Feb. 16

Lauren Juergens

Les Schultz

Feb. 17

Tabitha Mattheessen

Feb. 19

Nevaeh May

Hailey Weyhrich

Feb. 20

BonnyLou Schmidt

Feb. 24

Brad Juergens

Casey Whitley, Jr.

Feb. 25

Austin Ewing

Ella Spaeth

Feb. 26

Carrie Whitehead

Feb. 27

Brian Maquet

Cody Zevnik

Feb. 28

Loraine Weyhrich

February Anniversaries

Feb. 18

Nicholas & Emma Sizemore

Feb. 25

Robert & Sarah Johnson

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

Dollar for Missions

The current Dollar for Missions project is \$25,000 for masonry repair and repointing at University Lutheran Church in Champaign. The all-brick church and student center has been next to the University of Illinois campus for over 70 years. Some portions of the brick and concrete are in need of immediate attention. This project will fund this targeted work to ensure the building remains in good shape and always open for the Word of Christ to be shared and preached to the 60,000 students of the U of I.

Trinity's Shut-Ins

Shut-in's look forward to getting mail. Valentine cards are a great way to remember our shut-ins and brighten their day. Listed below are Trinity's shut-ins. Please mail a Valentine card to one or more of our shut-in's.

At Charter Senior Living of Pekin:

Norma Rebuffoni

2700 S. 14th St.

Loraine Weyhrich

2700 S. 14th St., Room 201

At Lutheran Hillside Village:

Barbara Glick

6901 N. Galena Rd., Peoria IL 61614

Villas of Holly Brook:

Marilyn Alexander

2720 S. 14th St., Apt. 5

Karalyn Garber

2720 S. 14th St., Apt. 6

At Home:

Pennie Adkins

500 S. Third Ave., Apt. B

Canton, IL 61520

Don Maskel

1320 Executive Ct., Apt. 224

Delores Shafer

2210 Sunset Dr.

Robin Thompson

17298 Lake Knolls Rd.

Keith Warwick

705 Buckhaven St.

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	3	4 6 PM BOARDS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE - EVANGELISM	5 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	6 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	7	8
9 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	10	11 6:30 PM GSLS BOARD	12 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	13 1:30 PM CONCORDIA	14	15
16 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	17	18 6 PM BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	19 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	20 6 PM BOARD OF TRUSTEES	21	22 9:30 AM SMALL CHURCH SUMMIT AT TRINITY
23 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	24	25	26 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	27 7 PM BOARD OF ELDERS	28	



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 S. Fourth St.
Pekin, IL 61554

Non-Profit Organization

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Pekin, IL

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Small Church Summit

Saturday, February 22, 2025

To be held at

Trinity Lutheran Church

Details Inside