

# Trinity Highlights

January 2025 Newsletter

309-346-1391 ~ www.trinitypekin.com

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

## Stewardship Report:

<b>General Fund Report:</b>	November	Year to Date	Year to Date
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 20,556	\$228,716	\$238,645
Expenses	<u>21,912</u>	<u>209,439</u>	239,057
(Deficit)/Surplus	(1,357)	19,277	

Giving in November was close to projections but remains off approximately \$9,900 year to date. Expenses were also on budget and remain significantly lower that year to date budget. Year to date giving has exceeded expenses by \$19,277 resulting in a General Fund balance at the end of September of \$260,786.

## Stewardship

In lieu of the fall food drive, \$970 was collected in November and sent to Christian Civic Outreach.

It's not too late to submit a pledge for 2025. Only 26 pledges have been received to date. If you cannot locate your pledge card, one can be picked up at the church office.

## Estates and Bequests

An unrestricted gift of \$56,000 was received in November from the Donald Wahls estate. The Church Council will recommend to the Voters Assembly in January regarding distribution of the gift.

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

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**Voter's Assembly - Thursday, January 9 - 6:00 p.m.:** All communicant members of the congregation, 18 years of age and older, are encouraged to attend. This is an excellent time to be brought up-to-date on what is going on at Trinity.

**Small Church Summit:** Trinity will host the Small Church Summit on **Saturday, February 22, 2025** (bad weather date: Saturday, March 1) Anyone is invited to attend. CID Evangelism Executive Ken Schurb will be the speaker before lunch. There is no cost to attend. More information in the next newsletter.

**2025 Offering Envelopes:** 2025 offering envelopes are on the table in Room 10. If you don't have offering envelopes and would like some, please contact the church office.

**2025 Flower Chart:** The 2025 flower chart is up on the bulletin board in the hallway by the 4th Street entrance. Simply sign your name by the date you wish to donate flowers. A form will be sent to you when your date is near. Dates are chosen on a first come first serve basis.

## From the Pastor's Desk

*“And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. Luke 2:4-5*

Dear Members of Trinity,

Have you ever looked into your family tree? It can bring some interesting discoveries. It seems that if you look back far enough, everybody can find a king or a martyr or someone who came over on the Mayflower. My family came from Pommerania, which had been part of Germany, but is now part of Poland. I had a friend in California whose wife was a descendant of Martin and Katie Luther! Finding somebody great or famous in your family tree seems to validate you as someone important too. That, of course, is why Luke reminds us that Jesus' family was of the line of David (Lk 2:4).

Jesus' place in his family tree is different, though. Most of us feel validated by someone great who came *before* us. But David is actually validated by the one who came many generations *after* him. David—a mighty warrior, king, inspired poet, a man about whom a couple books of the Bible are written, for whom both a great city and a little town are known—is nevertheless actually remembered only because of the tiny baby born this day. So now when we do look back, we look no further. Jesus validates us.

We enter the New Year still celebrating the Christmas season and the birth of Jesus Christ. The Twelve Days of Christmas (remember the song?) begin on Christmas Eve and go until January 5<sup>th</sup>. The 12 days of Christmas are not twelve days BEFORE Christmas, but AFTER Christmas.

As we look forward to 2025, let us continue to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child. January 6<sup>th</sup> brings us to the season of Epiphany (called the “Gentile Christmas” by the Orthodox Church). As we celebrate Epiphany, we continue to celebrate how this Christ Child continues to be revealed to us from the star which the Magi followed, to Jesus' Baptism, to His first miracle at Cana, to His continued ministry healing the sick and even raising the dead.

Christmas and Epiphany are great seasons to spend time with our Savior in Church and worship, family and personal devotions, spreading the ever growing Light of the World who is none other the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Merry Christmas to all of you, and may God bless us all in the coming year.

In Christ,

*Pastor Mark R. Drews*

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## Trinity's Service Volunteers - January 2025

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### ACOLYTES

01/05 9:00 a.m. Will Brown  
01/12 9:00 a.m. Emily Anton  
01/19 9:00 a.m. Lexi Brown  
01/26 9:00 a.m. Ella Spaeth

### BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

#### **Pick-Up Donuts:**

01/05 *Open*  
01/12 *Open*  
01/19 *Open*  
01/26 *Open*

#### **Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:**

01/05 *Open*  
01/12 *Open*  
01/19 *Open*  
01/26 *Open*

### ALTAR GUILD

01/05 Lynn Brown / Cori Spaeth  
01/19 Lynn Brown / Lauren Juergens

### USHERS

01/05 9:00 a.m. Owen Miller, Dave Harms  
01/12 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Chris Whitley  
01/19 9:00 a.m. Brad Juergens, Dave Harms  
01/26 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Owen Miller

### ALTAR FLOWERS

01/05 *Open*  
01/12 *Open*  
01/19 *Open*  
01/26 Delores Gresham, *in memory of Bob Speck.*

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS / READERS

01/05 Eric Spaeth  
01/19 Brad Juergens

### READERS

01/12 Owen Miller  
01/26 Mike Seidell

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**Please Join Us** on **Sunday, January 5** at **after Sunday School** to take down the Christmas decorations. With your help this shouldn't take much time. We appreciate all the volunteers that help with this!

**Pennies for Life:** Peoria Area Lutherans for Life is asking our area Lutheran church members to thank God for the life He has given each of us by contributing a penny for each year of life on Sunday, January 19, 2025. These donations will be used during 2025 to provide pro-life educational materials in our churches and schools and support for Peoria area pro-life organizations. Thank you in advance for your donation.

**Giving Tree:** Thank you to everyone who donated to the Giving Tree Fund. The total donated was: \$1,773.00! Your donations make it possible to keep this important ministry going to provide coats to so many underprivileged children in our schools.

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation.*

*The old has passed away;  
behold, the new has come.”*  
2 Corinthians 5:17



# January Birthdays & Anniversaries

## Birthdays

Jan. 3

Nicholas Prather

Jan. 5

Steven Seidell  
Cori Spaeth

Jan. 9

Darren Upchurch

Jan. 10

Jeremy Egli  
Carol Spaeth  
Cameron Speck  
Connor Speck  
Lindsey Watters

Jan. 11

Lannette Speck

Jan. 12

Kaydi Steele

Jan. 14

Michael Seidell

Jan. 15

Pennie Adkins  
Jeff Hemp

Jan. 16

Jenna Owens

Jan. 17

Curtis Egli  
Rylie Staker

Jan. 18

Lori Kincaid  
Zander Seidell

Jan. 21

Sloan Grosch  
Zelene Grosch

Jan. 23

Linda Wolters

Jan. 26

Betty Robinson

Jan. 31

Seth Cooney

## Anniversaries

Jan. 1

Brad & Christi Juergens

Jan. 17

Michael & Jaymie Townzen

Jan. 20

Mike & Sheryl Jones

Jan. 24

Dave & Lynn Wyatt

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

## December Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Emily Anton  
Edith Spaeth  
Ella Spaeth  
Mabel Spaeth  
Oliver Spaeth  
Henry Stout

## Camp Cilca

2025 marks the 75th anniversary of outdoor ministry at Camp Cilca. To celebrate this milestone, they are offering all its summer programs for **\$75 per camper per week!** Camps are filling up fast, so make sure and register early.

## Dollar for Missions

CID's Dollar for Missions has completed its list of modest projects for 2024 as follows:

1. \$1,800 for weekly mileage for Pastor David Dunlop for prison visits.
2. \$300 for Spanish-language hymnals for St. John, Beardstown.
3. \$2,100 for Pastor Pablo Dominguez to conduct Spanish language services.
4. \$10,000 to continue prison ministries begun in 2024 or to start ministry in prisons not currently being so served.
5. \$11,572 for furnace replacement at Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb.
6. \$5,000 for new water heater and new toilets at University Lutheran Church, Champaign.

Here is the list of projects which Dollar for Missions projects across our churches in Central Illinois to fund in 2025:

1. \$25,000 masonry/tuckpointing at University Lutheran Church, Champaign.
2. \$2,600 parking lot closure devices and camera installation, Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb.
3. \$1,000 water heater for Cristo Rey, East Moline.
4. \$6,000 refurbish seating in library and game room and technology in game room, Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb.

*Prayer: O Lord, open the hearts of your people to support the proclamation of the Good News about Jesus in ways large and small. Bless the Dollars for Mission that support mission work in unusual ways. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

# January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	3	4
5 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 11:00 AM TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS	6 <i>Epiphany</i>	7 6 PM BOARDS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE - EVANGELISM	8 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	9 1:30 PM CONCORDIA 6 PM VOTER'S ASSEMBLY MEETING	10	11
12 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	13	14 6:30 PM GSLS BOARD	15 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	16 6 PM BOARD OF TRUSTEES	17	18
19 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	20	21 6 PM BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	22 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	23	24	25
26 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	27	28	29 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	30 7 PM BOARD OF ELDERS	31	



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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**JANUARY**



**Voter's Assembly**

Thursday, January 9

6:00 p.m.

