

# THE TRINITARIAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM

Divine Service 10:15 AM



**FEBRUARY 2026 -- VOLUME 61 No. 2**

## **LENT – THE BODY OF CHRIST**

During this 2026 Lenten Season, our theme will be: **The Body of Christ.**

Lent is a season of repentance and renewal, a marvelous opportunity to meditate on our Savior's passion – His suffering and death – so that we might more deeply appreciate His sacrifice that saved us and grow spiritually into a deeper relationship with Christ our Lord.

Feet, hands, mouth, ears, eyes, heart, blood – the body of Christ crucified for our redemption. Christ crucified and resurrected in body and soul is the focal point of our worship and the source of all our spiritual and physical blessings. Without the passion of the Lamb of God, His willingness to sacrifice his own body on the tree of the cross, we would have no share in God's kingdom of grace, the Church, and no spiritual life today and no eternal life in heaven. But thanks to God, Jesus willingly surrendered His body on the cross to purchase our forgiveness and our place in God's everlasting kingdom.

With His **feet** He walked from one village to another, so that **hands** could heal. His **mouth** proclaimed the Word of God, the law and the blessed Gospel, announcing the forgiveness of our sins for those who put their faith and trust in Him. His mouth reminded us that we have a loving and gracious Father in heaven who cares about our every need. His **ears** were tuned to hear the cries for mercy from those who were hurting and in need of the life He came to bring. His **eyes** were open to see their misery and looked to share His compassion. His **heart**, full of compassion and love, again and again prompted Him to use His divine power to heal and comfort people with the forgiveness of sins, even to the point of raising the dead! His blood and body was given in the blessed meal of Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday. His blood was poured out on the cross and His **whole body crucified** on Good Friday for the life of the world. At Easter His disciples celebrated with great joy, **the risen Christ** in body and soul – and we celebrate also!

As members of the body of Christ, won't you come and join us to hear this blessed message of the body of Christ, given into death, to secure your eternal life?

Pastor John Flamme

## **LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE AND MESSAGES**

Feb. 18, 2026	Ash Wednesday	<b>The Feet of Christ</b> - Luke 7:36-50
Feb. 25, 2026	Lenten Midweek 2	<b>The Hands of Christ</b> – John 8:1-11
March 4, 2026	Lenten Midweek 3	<b>The Mouth of Christ</b> - Luke 4:14-22a
March 11, 2026	Lenten Midweek 4	<b>The Ears of Christ</b> – Mark 7:31-37
March 18, 2026	Lenten Midweek 5	<b>The Eyes of Christ</b> - John 9:1-11
April 2, 2026	Maundy Thursday	<b>The Blood of Christ</b> - Luke 22:7-20
April 3, 2026	Good Friday	<b>The Body of Christ Crucified</b> - John 19:17-30
April 5, 2026	Easter Sunday	<b>The Risen Body of Christ</b> - Luke 24

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## **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH LIBRARY**

**By Nora Sotak, Librarian**

Thank you, Stacy Johnson for taking care of our church library and now passing the position on to me.

Stacy and I discussed whether or not we should purge the library of its novels. Probably half the library is taken up with novels, most of which only appeal to women. Tuesday morning Bible Study class said a resounding “No!” So, for the time being, the novels will remain.


Popular authors in the library include Jan Karon, Karen Kingsbury, Beverly Lewis, and many more. Jan Karon has a new Mitford book out My Beloved, I purchased it and it should be in the library soon.

There are no due dates for any of the books in the library, but I may give you a reminder call if you have a book checked out for longer than six months. No library card needed either. Just fill out the checkout card in the book with your name and date and put the card in the check-out box.

Looking for something to read on these cold winter nights? Visit the church library.

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## **LWML MEAL FOR MITES**

With a for  Mission the LWML is hosting their annual Meal for Mites on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> immediately following the worship service. The meal will be provided and all donations will be turned in for Missions that have been approved for the 2025-2027 Biennium. (There is a copy of the Missions being supported on the LWML bulletin board.) Please come and join us!



## EVANGELISM

**Tract of the Month: The Small Catechism by Dr. Martin Luther** Pick up a pocket-sized 16-page pamphlet version of the “The Small Catechism” published by CPH St. Louis. Contains The Ten Commandments, The Apostle’s Creed, The Lord’s Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, The Office of the Keys and Confession, The Sacrament Of The Altar, and the Morning and Evening Prayers – all with explanations.

**Mission for January / February:** Ysleta Lutheran Mission Care, El Paso; From their website at <https://ylm.networkforgood.com/projects/66129-mission-programs>: “There is no deeper need than to know the God who created all things and who has addressed the problem of sin, evil, and death. YLM works in partnership with 11 affiliated mission sites/congregations in 13 distinct communities across El Paso and Northern Mexico. Our network of missions and churches exist to bring spiritual healing, by grace in Jesus Christ. Classes, pastoral counseling, hospital visitation, jail visitation, and other services are provided by the congregations affiliated with Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care.”

**Effective Outreach:** The Evangelism Committee recently adopted a 4-part article written by Reverend DRM. Mark Wood that discusses what “Effective Outreach” is and should be, and how to achieve it. With the aid of this and upcoming Trinitarian issues, the committee would like to share what we have learned with the congregation. What follows is an introduction to ‘effective outreach’ within the church.

**“What is ‘effective’ outreach?”** “ Some may think it has to do with numbers, but numbers can be deceiving since numbers alone don’t tell the true story. According to Rev. DRM. Mark Wood, “Effective outreach begins with a good understanding of what outreach is.” He says he finds “that people often confuse *outreach* and *witness*.”

Definitions:

**Witness** – what individuals do “to share the Good News of Jesus with people in our everyday lives.” Think of this work as the “Church scattered.” (individuals alone)

**Outreach** – “what we do as a congregation to engage the non-churched people in our community as an organization to make disciples.” Outreach is the work of the ‘Church gathered’” (church as a whole).

According to Rev. DRM. Mark Wood, “Effective outreach is the ‘planting and watering’ (cf. 1 Cor 3:5-9) through which a congregation intentionally engages non-churched people in ways that

1. provide the congregation with means of continuing contact with the non-churched people,
2. foster relationship-building between non-churched people and the congregation’s members, and
3. offer appropriate and appealing entry points (other than worship services and traditional Bible studies) that encourage non-churched people to participate in the Word and Sacrament ministry of the congregation.”

In upcoming issues of the Trinitarian, we will explore means and ways to engage in ‘effective outreach’.

**Other communication from the Evangelism Committee:** The Evangelism Committee will meet again on Monday, February 9th, at 5:30 pm.

Your servants in Christ,  
The Evangelism Committee

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## **TRINITY STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY**

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in every person for the good of all.” (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

Christian stewardship is spiritually grounded in God’s Word. All that we have spiritually and materially as His redeemed people belongs to God, and He gives them to us to build up the mission and ministry of His church through the Heavenly Father’s love lavished upon us in Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 tells us “You are not your own, you were bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

God gives us the ability to use the gifts He gives us ~ time, talents, and treasures ~ mainly to proclaim the mission and ministry of His church at Trinity, but also in the vocations He's placed us in ~ in our families, our church, our friendships, work places, neighborhoods, and society, etc.

The Stewardship/Evangelism ministries meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 5:30 pm. You are welcome to visit or become part of this ministry.

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."  
(Hebrews 10:24)

In Jesus Name

Lola Albeidinger, Stewardship Chair

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### **LWML**

As a group we undecorated the church on Saturday, January 10th and then went to Pizza Patio for lunch and fellowship. Thank you to Norbert and Bob for removing items from the tops of the trees so we didn't have to climb on th2 ladders. While we were putting up Christmas items, the Education committee plus families were redoing the nursery. It is a very pleasant room for children during church or church activities. Along with that we were able to organize our Christmas decorations and everything is now stored in the bell room.

Looking ahead, there will be a LWML meeting on Saturday morning the 14th which will include getting ready for our Meal for Mites on Sunday, February 15th immediately following the service. Meal will be provided and all donations will be given to LWML for the approved missions for 2025-2027 biennium. (A list will be posted on the LWML board.) Come and join us for good food and fellowship!

We will appoint a nominating committee for our upcoming elections for President and Treasurer on that Saturday.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Angel tree with the gifts for Christmas!

Yours in Christ.

Vicki



## **BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**



Hopefully you've begun saving your change for those baby bottles for the start of the campaign on January 18<sup>th</sup>, Sanctity of Life Sunday. In case you don't know much about the campaign, it is a fundraiser for Pregnancy Resources Plus. They offer three main services: pregnancy testing, limited ultrasounds and the building blocks exchange. The Building Blocks Exchange allows expectant parents to take classes on parenting, finance, etc. and earn credits toward baby supplies at the PRP store. They offer Bible studies and classes for post-abortion patients and post-miscarriage patients. All services are provided at no cost. This year funds are being raised to launch a marketing campaign with a new marketing firm. The marketing will be aimed at the younger generation who seem to get their information from social media. You may pick up a baby bottle after church on January 18<sup>th</sup> for your change and bills. You may also write a check to Southern New Mexico Outreach and place it in the envelope provided on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please do not contribute through our church collections.

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## **NO REGRETS**

If you've ever regretted a big purchase and wondered if you could return it, you're familiar with the nagging feeling of buyer's remorse. Thankfully, our Redeemer never experienced that. As a church sign proclaims, "When Jesus bought you, He never had buyer's remorse. And He never will!" To Jesus, the payment of suffering and death was well worth the payoff. "For the joy set before Him he endure the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2,NIV)

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## **FEBRUARY 2026 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST**

### **ELDERS**

Feb. 1 Dick Dommers  
Feb. 8 Matt Clark  
Feb. 15 Bob Klose  
Feb. 18 Bob Klose(Ash Wednesday)  
Feb. 22 Dick Dommers  
Feb. 25 Dick Dommers (Midweek Lent)

### **SERMON**

Feb. 8 Bob Klose  
Feb. 22 Matt Clark

### **LITURGIST**

Feb. 8 Matt Clark  
Feb. 22 Dick Dommers

### **TELLERS**

Feb. 1 Susan Kelly & Sandy Klose  
Feb. 8 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon  
Feb. 15 Yvonne Steeby/Becky Worley  
Feb. 18 Vicki Leonard/Merry Zumwalt  
(Ash Wednesday)  
Feb. 22 Dick Dommers/Merry Zumwalt

### **HOSTS**

Feb. 1 Jim & Diane Kline  
Feb. 8 Vicki Leonard  
Cheryl Sandenaw  
Feb. 15 Robert & Susan Rentschler  
Feb. 22 Glen & Chris Schlehuser

### **USHERS**

Feb. 1 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer  
Larry & Bev Van Duyn  
Feb. 8 Susan Kelly, Norbert Sanchez  
Glen & Christine Schlehuser  
Feb. 15 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson  
Bob Thede, Tammy Thede  
Feb. 22 Gerald Moore, Sandy Klose  
Cameron Maltz, Irvin Torres

### **SOUND TECH**

Feb. 1 Vicki Leonard  
Feb. 8 Sheri Cortez  
Feb. 15 Matt Anderson  
Feb. 18 Matt Anderson (Ash Wednesday)  
Feb. 22 Jim Kline  
Feb. 25 Jim Kline (Midweek Lent)

### **FEBRUARY FLOWERS**

Feb. 1 Rick & Nora Sotak  
Feb. 8 Juli Bailey  
Feb. 15 Bob & Jan Thede  
Feb. 22 Ray & Sandra Krueger

### **MUSIC**

Michael Cortez

### **FEBRUARY ALTAR COMMITTEE**

Robin Haymes  
Susan Rentschler

### **FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE**

Cheryl Sandenaw

### **God's Love in Action —**

#### **Valentine's Week**

"We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19, NIV). This month, let's share God's love in simple ways — a kind note, a prayer, a helping hand. Look for ways to bless someone around you!



