

# The Epistle

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Our Mission Statement

*Trinity Lutheran Church is a place to gather, refresh the faithful, and reach out with word and service to all others through the Holy Gospel.*

## February 2025



### THANK YOU FOR OUR WELCOME!....

What a wonderful welcome our new family at Trinity Lutheran Church has given my family and me. So many of you have expressed gratitude already for the work and worship we have

already shared. Everyone has offered to help show me where things are, fill me in on Trinity's local traditions, and even warned me about Carl before my first Children's message. With each committee meeting I discover more and more what a vibrant, diverse, and self-sustaining body of the faithful Trinity is. By the time I attend all of them I might even know how it all works. For now I am here whenever you need me in prayer, in leadership, and counsel.

Of possibly greater importance to me on a personal level, the Trinity Family welcomed Jessica, Qin, and Maxwell. Jessica has already started to develop a rep as Director of Learning Peace Camp, a longarm quilter, and an organized girlboss in general. Qin has not had a chance to attend yet due to PLU schedules, but will be back for Spring Break and Summer, and the congregation has given each of the rest of us stories of support and solidarity for her. Maxwell believes in the spiritual but has not yet decided if he trusts religion. He has not only been welcomed by the people here, but also already tied into the community by being asked to help out.

**SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING** – There will be a special meeting of the congregation on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, immediately after church service. The focus of this meeting is to review and vote on the purchase agreement submitted regarding Trinity New Hope. Please make plans for being available to attend this meeting.

### NEWS FROM CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



#### DECEMBER NOISY OFFERING

What an amazing way to end 2024! December's noisy offering brought in \$392.05 plus donated items. So a grand total of items being taken to

West Valley Animal Shelter for senior citizen's to be able to keep their pets in their home: Cat food (30 bags and cans, Dog Food – 25 bags and 20 cans, Cat Treats – 9 bags, dog treats – 7 boxes, blankets and beds – 11, litter – 7 containers, toys - 4). Thank you for your generosity!

**DID YOU KNOW?** – That 220,990 Idahoans (1 in 9 people) experienced food insecurities in 2023? How many children go hungry in Idaho? That would be 67,590 ( 1 in 7)! So, what percentage is that you ask? It is 11.4% of the state's population. How can we help? Church in Community is sponsoring "Souper Bowl of Caring" on Super Bowl Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. You can bring in a can of soup or chili or donate \$1 and the food/money will go to Trinity's food pantry!

**FEBRUARY NOISY OFFERING** on Sunday 2/23/25 will go to Trinity Gardens under the guidance of Paulette Blaseg. Seeds and fertilizer for both Trinity Gardens and Phocas. Through the help of volunteers, they grow produce that helps many people in Canyon and Ada counties. The produce goes to several shelters, people in need and food banks. Please keep this worthy project in mind. Church in Community

Thank you for another great year here at Trinity Lutheran Church! Due to your generosity, we were able to participate in and accomplish 19 different projects. We had \$3,853.63, in kind donations, and two Thrivent Action cards to work with. (see in office for in kind donations list)

As a church, we also helped raise money for: Canyon Country Crop Walk and ELCA World Hunger Day. Thanks again for making our projects and activities a Success. Church in Community Committee

January 28 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity Emergency Fund	\$222.62
	Thrivent Care Project	Fruit and Blessing
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Super Bowl of Caring	\$35.00
		More than 60 cans of soup
Feb 25 <sup>th</sup>	Trinity Community Garden	\$158.70
March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Trinity New Hope	\$289.11
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Learning Peace Camp	\$240.11
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	National Alliance for Mental Health	\$185.22
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Nampa Bike Project	\$259.64
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Duck Valley Indian Reservation	\$415.32
	School Supplies	Many types of school supplies
Aug 25 <sup>th</sup>	The Shoe that Grows	\$566.72
Sept 29 <sup>th</sup>	West Middle School Teacher Appreciation	\$231.74
	God's Work Our Hands Project	Thrivent Card and Trinity New Hope Bushes
Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	The Family Justice Center	\$237.02
	Canyon County Crop Walk	Participated
Nov 24 <sup>th</sup>	Valley Women's & Children Shelter	\$297.37
		In Kind Donations

	Thanksgiving Baskets	5 baskets filled
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	West Valley Shelter	\$392.05
		Pet Supplies donated
	Christmas Food Boxes	6 boxes filled
	ELCA World Hunger	\$323.00

**THRIVENT ACTION PROJECT** – Thank you to all members that helped with this New Hope project! With so many packers and deliverers, the project went quickly. And thanks to Thrivent Financial for the funds to purchase healthy food. Each New Hope Family received 4 pounds of oranges and apples, 3 pounds of bananas and healthy granola bars. The bags were very full. Trinity has truly touched many lives! – Church in Community



The **Women's Lunch** is Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 11:30am. Additional details will be made available as we get closer to the date. Please look in the Sunday Service bulletins for this information.

**LUTHER HEIGHTS UPDATE** - The Connecting for Generations Campaign, launched by Luther Heights in 2023. Luther Heights Ministry is an important ministry - remaining important for raising up leaders and passing on faith in the future for all ages, even as life in the church changes. We seek to update and enhance this sacred space for future generations. We value our partnership as a member congregation with Luther Heights. The council has approved that we move forward as one of the voting congregation members and participate in the Connecting for Generations Campaign. We will take the next six weeks to investigate the reasons we should support this effort and give more time for you to make your personal commitments. Yes, we have a line-item budget for Luther Heights Bible Camp, and they use this generous gift for operating expenses. As you will see below this campaign is for capital improvements for the following items:

- Upgrade and bury power lines (completed September 2023)
- Construct a maintenance facility which includes staff housing
- Remodel the Health Center

Remodel the old infirmary into staff housing  
Remodel White Cloud Lodge  
Build an endowment for long-term care of the ministry

For this vision to become a reality, Luther Heights is working to raise at least \$2 million. Generosity has already been demonstrated for this appeal, and this is a goal that we can achieve together. During the next six weeks, you will learn more about this important effort. We pray that your commitment to ministry and places where God is made more fully known will encourage you to become involved and excited about the "Connecting for Generations Campaign".

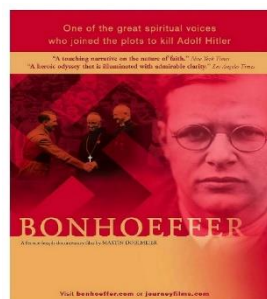
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**MONDAY MIDWINTER MOVIES** - Our film series kicked off in January and, with Ash Wednesday not happening until March, we still have all the Mondays in February to gather at Tami Robinson's home and view movies together. Tami is located at **818 W Oakmont** in Nampa, very near the new roundabout at Midland and Iowa. We gather at **6:15 pm** to chat and get snacks, allowing us to start the film at 6:30. With the possible exception of the Bonhoeffer documentary on 2/3, the rest of our films are suitable for all ages. Here's what's still on our schedule:

**January 27th – Hoosiers** (1986) Inspired by the Milan High team that won the 1954 Indiana State Championship, this film tells the story of a small-town basketball team with only 7 players. Characters include a new coach with a spotty past (Gene Hackman) and the town drunk (Dennis Hopper).



**February 3rd - Bonhoeffer** (2003) – this is a documentary – giving us another perspective on Bonhoeffer's life and times. For those who have spent more than a few moments wondering how the impressive intellectual and cultural

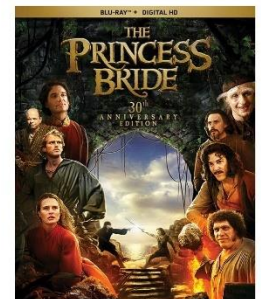


powers of Germany in the '30's and '40's could have "allowed" Hitler to wreak the genocide and destruction that he did, this is enlightening.

**February 10th – Inside Out 2** (2024) Set two years after **Inside Out**, 13-year-old Riley is now entering high school. Her personified emotions—[Joy](#), Sadness, Fear, Disgust, and Anger—now oversee a newly formed element of Riley's mind called her "[Sense of Self](#)", which houses the memories and the feelings that shape Riley's beliefs. Joy, aiming to fill the Sense of Self with only good memories, has created a mechanism that launches bad memories to the back of Riley's mind. But there are (of course) complications!



**February 17th – The Princess Bride** (1987) A grandfather (Peter Falk) reads a novel to his sick grandson, who initially dismisses the story (*kissing = yuck*). The book is about Buttercup, a girl living on a farm who falls in love with a farmhand named Westley. He leaves to seek his fortune overseas so they can marry. However, his ship is attacked, and Westley is presumed dead at the hand of the Dread Pirate Roberts, and Buttercup is forcibly betrothed to bad Prince Humperdinck. Great adventures ensue as the plot moves toward her rescue and an unlikely happy ending.





## February 24th – Driving Miss Daisy (1989)

It's 1948 and Miss Daisy, a 72-year-old wealthy, [Jewish](#), widowed, retired schoolteacher, lives independently in [Atlanta, Georgia](#), with help from her housekeeper. When she accidentally drives her car into her neighbor's yard, her 40-year-old son buys her a different car and hires 60-year-old Hoke Colburn to be her chauffeur. Morgan Freeman, Jessica Tandy and Dan Aykroyd star. This is the most recent PG rated film to win Best Picture Oscar.



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### ANNUAL TRINITY CAMPOUT - JULY 25 - 27, 2025

- We now have a date for our annual campout at the Ward property in Donnelly. Each year we gather on Friday night with a potluck ice cream social. On Saturday potluck for breakfast, happy hour and dinner, and we worship around the campfire afterwards. And there is plenty of time during the day to swim/kayak in Lake Cascade, go shopping in McCall, play board games at camp, chat, or take a nap. Our campers bring RVs or tents or hammocks to string between the trees. Some stay in their own Valley County homes or a local motel. Some drive up for the day on Saturday. And each year we include a number campers who are not Trinity members - all are welcome! So clear your calendar and plan to join us.

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### DONNELLY PUBLIC LIBRARY

- After gifting used books and DVDs to the Cascade Public Library for several years, the library in Donnelly will be the recipient of our **CampOut offering** in 2025. Here are a few things you should know about this amazing library.....It serves 3100 people (most of whom work in McCall) and their families; Donnelly is the more affordable bedroom community for McCall. It has just 1024 square feet. The 2024 Idaho Legislature passed laws restricting children's access to more adult materials; this has been a challenge for small rural libraries with only one room and/or limited floor space. Donnelly Library is holding its children's programs outdoors in teepees. Those programs include an after-school program (M-F 3:00-6:00pm) and a summer program (M-F 7:30am - 6:00pm). The summer program includes

instruction in Latin and Greek (thanks to a retired teacher with those skills!!) in addition to art and activities related to the theme "Color Our World". Trinity's plan is to support this library by collecting crayons and *HEALTHY SNACKS* during Lent, and by collecting a monetary offering at the CampOut. Be watching for more information and a **very specific list** of items to donate in the March Epistle. This is NOT the time to clear out your pantry by donating expired food! Food service expert Tami Robinson will create a list of items that are acceptable as healthy snacks. Who knows, if your 2025 Lenten discipline is to buy snacks for Donnelly Library when you buy snacks for yourself, perhaps your eating habits may become healthier too!

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## 2025 - TRINITY'S YEAR OF GRATITUDE.

Have you heard that word being used more often during our Sunday worship? During the prayers of the people? During the sermon? Have you noticed people using words like "grateful" instead of "thankful"? Have you started using terms like "I appreciate...." or "I am grateful for....." when in the past you might have just mumbled "thanks"? Have you expressed your gratitude to someone you didn't know? To someone in your family?

One first formal "gratitude" activity was viewing the film **Pollyanna** on Monday 1/13. This orphan (both parents died) of missionaries (who had never worn store-bought clothes since all her clothes came in barrels of stuff donated to the mission) found herself living with her very rigid rich aunt in a stuffy attic.....but she still found reasons to be glad and grateful. She illustrated that gratitude does not come from the abundance of our circumstances but from the attitude of our hearts, and that gratitude brings us a joy that infects the people around us. Be watching for more gratitude activities as the year progresses.

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## TUESDAY STUDY GROUP



**"Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith**

**World" on Tuesdays from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Join us every Tuesday as we read this book by Brian McLaren. It's never too late to jump in.

Copies of the book are available. We are learning how to be strong in our own faith as Christians and still respect our friends and neighbors of other faiths or no faith.



**THANK YOU!** Thank you to everyone who served on the Call Committee working with me, Phil Misner, and Bishop Megan to make my transition into the IMWS so smooth and comfortable.

**THANK YOU!** - Thank you to Karissa Armbrust for being the Call Committee contact, getting all my documentation, getting me up to speed on the music for the liturgy and always answering number questions.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Dean Metzger for making it so I know what I am doing in the office each day.

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to Pastor Barb for all the wonderful notes and notebooks that organize everything so that I don't have to organize it and can focus on ministry.

### **Statistical Comparison for December - January**

<b><u>2023/2024</u></b>		<b><u>2024/2025</u></b>	
<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>
12/13 (Advent 2)		12/15	50
12/17	66	12/18 (Advent 3)	40
12/20 (Advent 3)		12/22	56
12/24	43	12/24	75
12/25	15	12/25	12
12/31	39	12/29	47
1/7/24	49	1/5/25	53
1/14/24	19	1/12/25	47
1/21/24	35	1/19/25	37
1/28/24	45	1/26/25(not available)	



### **OFFICERS/COMMITTEE LIAISONS 2024**



**President** Larry Mills (25)

**Vice-President** Sarah Henthorn (24)

**Secretary** Sierra Armbrust (25)

**Treasurer and Accounts Payable Coordinator** Karissa Armbrust (renewable)

**Financial Secretary** Kristina Radke (renewable)

#### **COUNCIL TEAM ASSIGNMENTS**

**Christian Education/Youth:** Sierra Armbrust (25)

**Church in Community:** Lloyd Kellar (26)

**Communication:** Dean Metzger (24)

**Gospel and Growth:** Edith Hannett (24)

**Hospitality:** Edith Hannett (24)

**Property:** Darrell Miller (25)

**Stewardship:** Phil Cronk (26)

**Trinity New Hope:** Sierra Armbrust (24)

**Worship & Music:** Bryce Quarve (26)

**Mutual Ministry:** Sarah Henthorn (24)

#### **CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

**Audit:** Karen Bair (26), Cathy Winwood (25)

**Endowment:** Larry Mills, (24) Jeff Henderson, Edith Hannett

**Memorial:** Kallie Ziemer (25), Joyce Becht (26), Lloyd Kellar (24)

**Nominating:** Edith Hannett, Dean Metzger, Steve VanAtter, Penelope Smith

**Mutual Ministry:** Sharon Jones, Carl Radke, Sarah Henthorn

**Synod Assembly Voting Members:** Jerry & Karissa Armbrust

**Luther Heights Reps:** Janet Metzger & Cathy Winwood



## IN OUR PRAYERS

<b>For healing:</b> Colton	(Fran & Elwood's grandson – brain tumor)
Jony	(Linda Dombeck's son – health)
Rylee Bentley	(Emily Bentley's cousin – health issues)
Sharon Jones' nieces	(Alzheimer's)
Monica Perez	(friend of Edith Hannett – in need of a kidney)
Di Seba	(cancer treatments)
Kim Edwards	(from Sharon Jones)
Trent Glover	(Relational Healing)
Angel Bray	(Margreta Spady's granddaughter – cancer)
Abby	(Fran & Elwood's granddaughter – seizures)
Eileen Warner	(Received pacemaker. Kristina Radke's Mom)
Sherry Swim	(Knee replacement recovery in process. Mary B. cousin)
Frank Hobden	(Recovering from blood clot – Carl Radke's Uncle)
Chris Koons	(Successful surgery – husband of Anita Koons)
Tina Zielinski	(Broken leg & ankle daughter of Randy & Martha Miller)
Chris Koons	(Positive pathology results – Anita Koons)
Cody	(Youth with heart condition – Emily Bentley)

<b>For Andrew</b>	(Elizabeth Schnabel)
<b>For Berger Family</b>	(mourning loss of daughter from Mary Helen & Gail)
<b>For Klayton Hanson</b>	(from Karson Hanson)
<b>For Chloe</b>	(grieving a death in the family)
<b>For Freedom</b>	(from Sarah Braudrick)
<b>For Dez &amp; Niko</b>	(from Steve, Julie, & Alexa)
<b>For Steven &amp; Angela</b>	(grieving a death in the family)

### **People in the Armed Services:**

Brett Collins	(grandson of Helen Collins – Marines)
John C. Collins II	(Helen Collins' grandson – Navy SEAL)
Bill MacDonald	(Navy)
Amanda Love	(Cathy Winwood's Niece – Army)

*Prayer concerns will be removed after two months on the list  
unless you let the office know otherwise*

# Trinity Servants For February 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church Servant Assignments (please find your own replacement and notify office if you can't serve)

	<b>February 2</b> Epiphany 4	<b>February 9</b> Epiphany 5	<b>February 16</b> Epiphany 6	<b>February 23</b> Epiphany 7	<b>March 2</b> Transfiguration
<b><u>Assisting Minister</u></b>	Bryce Quarve	Mary Braudrick	Mary Braudrick	Kim Mills	Kim Mills
<b><u>Crucifer</u></b>	Giada Armbrust	Cedar Hilger	Jason Mills	Aldwin Kellar	Steve VanAtter
<b><u>Acolyte</u></b>	Karson Hansen	Aggie Klahn	Abigaill Radke	Elizabeth Schnabel	Zander Radke
<b><u>Reader</u></b>	Abigail Radke	Steve VanAtter	Amanda Hansen	Kristina Radke	Tami Robinson
<b><u>Children's Message</u></b>	Jason Mills	Penelope Smith	Sierra Armbrust	Steve VanAtter	Sarah Henthorn
<b><u>Music</u></b>	Karissa Armbrust	Karissa Armbrust	Karissa Armbrust	Karissa Armbrust	Karissa Armbrust
<b><u>Audio/Streaming</u></b>	Larry Mills & Sarah Henthorn	Elizabeth Schnabel & Larry Mills	Bryce Quarve & Elizabeth Schnabel	David Sheriff & Bryce Quarve	Andrew Hanson & David Sheriff
<b><u>Greeters</u></b>	Steve & Julie Ward	Karen Bair & Penelope Smith	The Hanson Family	Ardelle O'Bryan & Julie Haugen	Tami Robinson & Joyce Becht
<b><u>Ushers</u></b>	Tami Robinson & Kim Mills	Steve & Renee VanAtter	Steve & Julie Ward	Lloyd & Judy Kellar	Darrel & Peggy Miller
<b><u>Altar Guild</u></b>	Kim Mills	Cathy Winwood	Kristina Radke	Peggy Miller	Beth Rasgorshek
<b><u>Offering Counters</u></b>	Lloyd Kellar & Darrel Miller	Larry Mills & <b>TBD</b>	Sierra Armbrust & Sarah Henthorn	Sarah Henthorn & Edith Hannett	<b>TBD &amp; TBD</b>
<b><u>Fellowship</u></b>	Sarah Henthorn	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	The Carr Family	<b>TBD</b>
<b><u>S. S. Teacher</u></b>	Larry Mills	Larry Mills	Larry Mills	Larry Mills	Sierra Armbrust
<b><u>Flowers</u></b>	<b>TBD</b>	Jeff & Nancy Henderson	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b><u>Wine</u></b> Randy & Martha Miller	<b><u>Eternal Candle</u></b> Randy & Martha Miller	<b><u>Communion Bread</u></b> Tami Robinson	<b><u>Church Cleaning</u></b> Randy & Martha Miller		

## Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar for **February 2025**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> Office Closed
<b>2 – Epiphany 4</b>  9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	<b>3</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:15pm – Midwinter Movie @ Tami Robinson's	<b>4</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group  6:30 Mutual Ministry	<b>5</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>6</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>7</b> Office Closed	<b>8</b> Office Closed
<b>9 Epiphany 5</b>  9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time	<b>10</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:15pm – Midwinter Movie @ Tami Robinson's	<b>11</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group	<b>12</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>13</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  2pm Gospel & Growth 6:30 pm Stewardship 6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>14</b> Office Closed	<b>15</b> Office Closed
<b>16 Epiphany 6</b> 9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion 11 am Fellowship Time <b>11:15am Special Congregation Meeting regarding Trinity New Hope</b>	<b>17</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  <b>9:00 am Epistle Articles Due</b>  6:15pm – Midwinter Movie @ Tami Robinson's	<b>18</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group  7 pm Church Council	<b>19</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>20</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>21</b> Office Closed	<b>22</b> Office Closed
<b>23 Epiphany 7</b> 9 am – Intergenerational Sunday School 10 am Worship and Communion (Noisy Offering) 11 am Fellowship Time	<b>24</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:15pm – Midwinter Movie @ Tami Robinson's	<b>25</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  11:30am Women's Luncheon  Noon - Al-Anon 2-4 pm Study Group	<b>26</b> Office 8:00 – Noon	<b>27</b> Office 8:00 – Noon  6:30 pm Al-Anon	<b>28</b> Office Closed	<b>1</b> Office Closed



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TO:

