

TRINITY

Lutheran Church

504 S. Westnedge Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

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www.tlckzoo.com

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Worship Services

Sundays at 8:30 and 11am

and Live-Streamed on YouTube

January 2025

ANNUAL REPORT

Non-Profit Organization
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Permit # 575
Kalamazoo, MI

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Announcements

Scripture and Sandwiches Online Bible study is Back! Due to popular demand, Pr. Jake is bringing back Scripture and Sandwiches for an eight week walk through the Sermon on the Mount! We'll meet each Thursday from 12-12:30 beginning on January 9th for a bit of bible study and conversation over lunch. The meetings happen via Zoom so you can join in from wherever you are! Use the Zoom info below or follow the link provided in the weekly emails to join! Meeting ID: 821 5743 3849 Passcode: Lunchtime

Meeting of the Men! Meeting of the men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation and a great opportunity to get to know one other guys who call Trinity home! We'll plan to gather at O'Duffy's Pub near Trinity in the Vine Neighborhood on Wednesday January 22 from 5:30-7:00pm for a relaxed Jme of fellowship and conversation!

Bike repair workshop for El Sol Elementary School! Trinity is once again repairing bicycles to be donated to students and families at El Sol Elementary School! We have an abundance of donated bikes and we're partnering with Open Roads to make sure that the bikes are in top notch condition before passing them on to the students. The repair day at Open Roads will be on February 8th from 11-3ish and we're looking for 8-10 volunteers who are willing do the repairs. No experience is necessary as the staff of Open Roads will be there to teach and guide us along the way! Sign up in the fellowship Hall by Feb 2nd to be a part of the crew!

Family Ministry: Our Family Loves Roller Skating Together!

Sunday, January 26th 12:20pm-3pm

It's time to get our groove on and boogey on down to Roller World for an afternoon of roller skating! We will meet at Trinity for lunch at 12:15pm and then caravan over to Roller World to be there from 1pm-3pm. We hope you'll join us for this fun experience. Cost is \$5 per person, paid to Heidi (checks can be made out to Trinity, memo: Family Ministry). If you're already out and about, you can meet us there at 1pm. Let me know if you are able to join us by emailing me (hmfuerst@aol.com) or sign up on our Facebook page (TLC Family Ministry). Please sign up by Friday, January 24th.

From the staff at Trinity:

Thank you all so very much for the incredibly generous Christmas bonuses! We all feel very fortunate and blessed to work with and for such a considerate congregation.

Thank you very much!!

**The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 2 between services
from 9:45-10:45 in the Fellowship Hall**

Stew and Brew Chili Cook-off and Homebrew Competition! Saturday February 22 from 4:30-6pm is Trinity's second annual Stew & Brew Chili Cook-off and Homebrew competition! Bring your favorite homemade chili, cornbread, show off your homebrewing skills or just come out and enjoy some warmth and fellowship on a cold winter day! Cooks and brewers are invited to arrive around 4:15 with the tasting beginning around 4:30. This will be a people's choice competition, so all styles of chili and home-brewed beverages are welcome! Contact Harry Jachym (hjachym@gmail.com) with any questions!

Green Resolutions The holidays are over and the New Year has begun! It's the perfect time to think about adding a few "Green Resolutions" to your New Year Habits. At Trinity, we collect Styrofoam and plastic bags, so maybe set a resolution to keep those out of your trash bins at home? Are you looking to purge clothes or household items to clear some space for those new Christmas gifts? Then drop your old clothes at Trinity's clothes closet and look for where your other items can find a new owner! There are lots of little things we can all do that when added together make a big difference! During the month of February, the green team will have some informational displays and ideas out to help us all focus on our care for creation, so be sure to look out for this and consider how we can care for God's good earth together!

Family Ministry February Event: Parents' Night Out - Friday, February 14th from 5:30pm-8:30pm. Time to celebrate love and have a night out with your partner. Bring the kiddos over to church and our Youth Group members will watch them for you. We'll have dinner, make something special, and play games. This is a fundraiser for the youth group, so it will cost \$10 for one child, \$20 for 2 or more children. Children 1 year-5th grade are welcome to join us. If you are able to come, please sign up by Wednesday, February 12th by emailing Heidi or our Facebook page.

Youth Lock-In And Parents' Night Out During the month of February, we'll have a two-fer—a fundraiser and something fun for you! Join us on Friday, February 14th from 5:30pm-8:30pm and help us care for the kids in our church while their parents enjoy a night out. We'll have dinner, make something fun, and play games. THEN, stay until the wee morning hours (aka, 8am) for an awesome lock-in! We'll play our own silly games, watch movies, play video games, eat junk food, and run around the church. Sign up by Wednesday, Feb. 12th if you can join us.

**The Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, February 2
Following the 8:30 service (9:45-10:45)
In Fellowship Hall**

All members are encouraged to attend the meeting to hear about the many accomplishments that have taken place in the past year at Trinity and voice their vote for council positions.

Please bring this report with you and make every effort to participate in this important meeting.

Dear Friends in Christ,

What a wonderful year it has been at Trinity Lutheran Church!

This was my first year as Council President and I thought it would be a lot of learning...but it is some learning and a lot of doing! It has been great fun for me to get to know many of you for the first time and expand my relationship with those I already knew. We have been blessed with new members who have quickly volunteered for different Ministries. Your commitment to Our Lord Jesus Christ inspires me to do more every day!

Thank you to our pastors who lead us every day with spiritual direction and hard work. Pastors Ken and Jake have such compassion for our congregation and community. Thank you to our dedicated staff that delivers every day. Together we have retained strong financial governance. Tina Adams and Terri Schmidt seamlessly completed their first year as Trinity's Treasurer and Bookkeeper, respectively. Thanks to both of you! Thank you to our enthusiastic volunteers who freely give

their time and talent! Finally, thank you to our members. Together we joyously participate in worship and fellowship as part of the body of Christ.

2024 was a busy and productive year at Trinity. Our Council initiated a visioning plan (the “Vision”) to provide strategic direction for the next 5 years. Our Vision will be updated annually to add new goals and remove completed tasks. Initial Vision projects include updating the electrical system servicing our physical facility. Our Vision is also reviewing current ministries. We have created a partnership with El Sol (the bilingual school serving the Vine neighborhood). Our Christian Education ministry increased congregational participation with a “Big Vacation Bible School” delivered in August 2024.

Our ministries would not be possible without dedicated volunteers. Our volunteers deliver food and clothes for the needy through the food pantry and Christ’s Clothes Closet. This is rewarding but challenging work which our volunteers deliver with smiles, understanding and positivity. Following services on a Sunday in January, we will place our ministries on display in Fellowship Hall. Check them out – new volunteers are always welcome!

Thank you to everyone for your energy and passion in 2024. As you consider New Year’s resolutions, consider how you might do God’s work through participation at Trinity. Sing, Lead, Create, Worship!

Love in Christ,
Julie Peterson
Council President

The name of the month January comes from the Roman God Janus. Janus is often depicted with two faces, one looking back, looking forward. Hence the opportunity at this time of year to reflect on the past year, and also look forward to new beginnings.

I would like to express tremendous thanks to Pr. Jake, Katie (office), Nate (organist), Megan (Vicar/Intern), Heidi (Dir. Fam. Min. & Dir. Youth Min.), Terri (bookkeeper), Margaret and Bob (hospitality & Custodial), Bill (organist/pianist) Maryann (nursery), the Church Council, and all the volunteers who provide thousands of hours of dedicated ministry and service!

The ministry at Trinity is ever evolving and adapting. This past year we welcomed the opportunity to work with Vicar Megan Floyd as our intern; thank you for your encouragement and support of her ministry with us. Our attendance if one includes in person and online has been stable. Easter and Christmas attendance have been very robust and growing in a positive trajectory. Some statistics from 2024:

Baptisms 6
Confirmands 2
New members 7
Weddings 2
Funerals 6

This year (specifically December 4th, and celebrated December 8th) we commemorated the 120th anniversary of Trinity. What a milestone in this day and age! A time to honor and reflect on the past, fervently plan for the mission of Christ in the present and attempt to discern God's will for the future. Just think of all the challenges throughout those years. The generations rising and passing away. Hopes and visions fulfilled, dreams deferred. But through it all, Jesus Christ has been the same. Our rock, our redeemer, our light along the way!

Thank you for being able to serve Christ in a very blessed, often fun, and creative environment!

May the peace of Christ be with you always!
Pr. Ken

“Therefore, Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith”

-Hebrews 12:1-2a

More and more I find that my call as a pastor is a call to build connections and relationships. Some of those are natural connections between those who worship at Trinity while others are less obvious or easy connections; such as connecting congregations in our community or throughout our synod, or connecting people of a variety of social standings or backgrounds. This is a significant part of my call because it's important and I would say even vital to recognize that as a congregation and as individuals of faith, we are not alone, but rather we are part of a great cloud of witnesses...and the more we can build relationships and collaboration with others, the stronger that cloud becomes.

In the past year, at Trinity, we have been working to do this in countless ways. We continue to build relationship with God and one another through rich worship opportunities both in person and online. Our worship is enriched by the wonderful work of our Director of Music, Nate, and by the tremendous talents of guest musicians and gifted members throughout the year. We build connections in our community through the efforts of the Christ Clothes Closet, the Food Pantry, multiple blood drives with the Red Cross, and many other special service efforts and events. We give thanks for the incredible work and dedication of the volunteers who give so much to make these things happen! In addition, we serve our neighbors and build up our community by opening our building to groups such as the Center for Transformation, VASA, Sons of Norway, Swell, PEO, the Kalamazoo Pipe Band, and others. In our efforts to keep people housed and warm, our Good Samaritan fund has given away nearly \$10,000 this year in rent and utility assistance and as a way to be more effective in this effort we have connected with Kalamazoo Housing Advocates, a neighborhood organization that walks with those in need in a way that we cannot. We also build community through a variety of fellowship and small group opportunities including Meetings of the Men & Women, Beer & Hymns, Scripture & Sandwiches, Oktoberfest, and the Men's and Women's Retreats. And to top it all off, we are blessed with a wonderful staff, a thriving Youth and family ministry, and an abundance of children!

All this and more makes it a true blessing to be a part of this particular “cloud of witnesses” at Trinity as we share relationship with one another and continually reach out to build connections in the community and beyond!

Finally, I must add that I am continually and deeply grateful for the wonderful relationships that I am blessed to be a part of at Trinity especially among the staff. They are each a crucial part of building this blessed community with all those who call Trinity home. Thank you to Pr. Ken, Katie, Margaret, Nate, Heidi, Bob, Bill, Terri, Maryann and to all of you who make Trinity a wonderful place to serve!

*Yours in Christ,
Pr. Jake*

REPORT OF THE TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

I am happy to provide this report on behalf of the Directors of the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Foundation. Members of the Board, in addition to me are: Pastor Johnson, Pastor Lehman, Gary Kent-Bracken, Tina Adams, Julie Bosley and Keith Peterson. We continue to also receive guidance and support from Jerry Molitor, whose expertise continues to be a vital part of the success of our program.

Despite the continued prevalence of inflation and the highs and lows of an election year, the Foundation balance sheet has continued to grow, serving as a continued source of income for the church; as of the end of the year the Foundation was working with assets in excess of \$1,700,000. We have made some adjustments to the holdings of the Foundation over the last year, altering our holdings to reflect funds that have been more effective recently, as well as working to manage our asset allocation to reflect a healthy mixture of stable funds and growth. We continue to use a disciplined, non-reactionary approach based on long-term goals. Our increase in assets has allowed the foundation to increase their quarterly contributions to the church - over the last year the Foundation has contributed \$40,000 to the general fund.

The Trinity Foundation continues to be a bedrock of stability for the church, allowing our congregation the financial freedom to carry out its mission within the community while being able to rely on the continued impact of the generous gifts of those who have made the Foundation exist. At this point in its existence the Foundation has made distributions of over \$1,190,000 for the continued mission of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Contributions of over \$1,100,000 have been made to Trinity Lutheran Church. Included in these contributions are:

- Over \$690,000 to the Annual General and Building funds, for support and expansion of ongoing ministries at Trinity.

Significant support for Special Projects, Including:

- Brick repair and replacement
- Purchase and Installation of the original elevator
- Construction of the Handicap Restroom
- Renovation of the Kitchen
- Repair and Expansion of the Organ
- Replacement of the Boiler
- Renovation of Fellowship Hall
- Purchase and removal of Cedar Street House
- Roof and Window Repair and Replacement (several times)
- Re-surfacing of the Parking Lot (twice)
- Repairs to Rental Property prior to Donation
- Repair of the Stained Glass Window in the Organ Loft
- Funding Support for Sabbaticals (Ongoing)
- Support of several Capital Campaigns including Enter, Elevate and Gather
- Scholarship support through “Lutheran Graduate Study” fund
- Support of the Summer Concert Series
- Renovations in the Parsonage

The gift we received from Elva Lovell over twenty-eight years ago, along with the many additional contributions we have received, (over \$300,000) has had a significant and positive impact on our congregation and the expansion of our ministry. In many cases, the projects noted above could

not have been undertaken without the support provided by the Foundation. I believe we have indeed been Good Stewards of these gifts.

One of my responsibilities as a Director of the Foundation is to seek additional contributions to the Foundation. I would therefore be remiss if I didn't ask: "Have you considered a gift to support the future of Trinity Lutheran Church through your Foundation?" Please consider this possibility and especially consider providing for Trinity in your Estate Planning as Elva Lovell so unselfishly did.

There are many ways you can include Trinity in your current and future financial and estate planning. Providing for the Trinity Foundation directly in your Will is the most common method. There are however many other ways, including: Charitable Gift Annuities, Deferred Payment Charitable Gift Annuities and Charitable Remainder Trusts, to name just a few. If you would like more information about these programs, please feel free to get in contact with one of the members of the Foundation Board or one of the Pastors, and we will be happy to give you any guidance that we can..

We give thanks for these wonderful gifts and pray for God's continued guidance and blessing as Good Stewards of them.

Yours,
Ben Bakalyar

Annual Report of the Organist/Director of Music

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the lands; Serve the Lord with gladness!
Come into his presence with singing! Psalm 100: 1-2*

I am honored to have been called to provide the worship music as Trinity's Organist & Music Director for the past three years. It continues to be an amazing experience for me!

I ended my 2023 report by saying that my goal for 2024 was to get more of God's people involved in the music of the church. With His help and the help of so many of the good people of Trinity, I am pleased to say that we have

succeeded! I accompanied four of Trinity's high school students in playing their instruments for church services and two of them also played their instruments with the choir. Debbie Harding and Jennifer Gatz have provided music for the 8:30 a.m. services during the year. Don Anderson led the sung liturgy for midweek Lenten Vespers. Negar Afazel and her husband Jon Barnes played the violin and cello during the year. This past spring, Negar received her doctorate in violin performance from the Peabody Music Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Trinity is blessed to have these talented musicians who are eager to praise the Lord with their God-given gifts.

Trinity's choir had another busy and successful year. We provided music for regular Sunday services during the year. In addition to Sunday services, we presented a Good Friday Choral Tenebrae and Advent/Christmas Lessons & Carols services. Even during the summer, we stayed busy with a "pick-up choir" on two Sundays. Our "pick-up choir" met immediately before each of the two services for a short rehearsal. Unfortunately, our choir is half the size that it was before the COVID pandemic. We have fourteen on our roster and our average attendance is eleven. While our numbers are small, I am pleased to say that our choir is made up of committed Christians who sing their hearts out to praise God! I want to recognize and thank every single one of them:

Don Anderson

Ben Bakalyar

Curtis Cleveland

Carrie Cook

Eric David (*deployed with the U.S.*

Coast Guard Reserves this past fall)

Will Fitzgerald

Marianne Fuerst

Mary Johnson

Carol Knoch

Anna Lane

Carol Malmud

Deb Mattson

Jon Thurn

Holly Wohlfert

We reconfigured the organ loft during the year to add flexibility to serve our needs better than previously. We are using instruments with the choir more frequently than we had in the past so we removed the pews on the north side of the loft to accommodate instruments (brass quintet, strings, etc.). New chairs specifically designed for choirs were donated by a generous choir couple and were placed near the center of the loft, to the south of the organ console. Having many of the choir members in chairs, rather than in pews, gives us additional flexibility. Come up to the loft and take a look at the new setup!

Musical highlights of 2024

- The choir provided music for the Ash Wednesday service.
- Don Anderson and I led the music for the mid-week Lenten Vespers services.
- Negar Afazel & Jon Barnes continued leading a student string ensemble, performing several times during the year, including Palm Sunday.
- The choir presented the Good Friday Choral Tenebrae service and Bruce Uchimura performed cello works by J.S. Bach.
- Jesse Lemons provided musical strength and beauty with his trumpet for our three Easter Sunday morning services and our choir sang for two of the Easter services.
- Negar Afazel received her doctorate in violin performance in May.
- The choir sang for Sunday morning services through June 23
- Deb and I hosted an end-of-the-year choir picnic at our home on June 23.
- The choir sang on two summer Sundays as a “pick-up choir.”
- After a restful summer, the choir resumed on September 8.
- The organ was tuned and serviced on December 4.
- The West Michigan BrassWorks provided music for our 120th Anniversary service on December 8.
- The choir presented the Lessons & Carols services on December 15, singing several anthems and the cantata “In Dulci Jubilo” (Now Sing We, Now Rejoice) by Dietrich Buxtehude at each service.
- The choir sang for the 7:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve’.
- Deb and I hosted a Christmas party for the choir on January 3, 2025.

I want to thank Pastors Ken & Jake for their leadership and support during the year. Also, a special thank-you goes to my predecessor, Bill Musselman, for his counsel and friendship as well as his playing the organ and piano for many of our worship services. Many thanks to our choir members who have spent countless hours at the church practicing for our worship services. Many thanks to so many of God’s people here at Trinity who have enriched our worship services by sharing their God-given musical talents.

My goal for the New Year, 2025, is to get even more of God’s people involved in singing and playing music in praise of Him who gives us something to sing about in Jesus Christ our Lord!

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan Mattson

Music Director / Organist

Family Ministry 2024 Annual Report

We began the year busting our boredom with our annual Winter Break Boredom Buster event. We played games, made crafts, and watched a movie. A great way to start off the year. Later in January, we made our very own mosaic pieces of art, in memory of my father, Gerhard Fuerst, who loved mosaics. Everyone was very creative and we had families of all ages join us. During the month of February, the weather did not cooperate for a sledding event, so we made our own fun with silly Winter Games 2024. We had relay race with snow balls, played Cold Potato with an ice cube, and had a snowball fight with fake snowballs. In March, we attended a concert at Miller Auditorium with wonderful music. Our Prayer Stations event got canceled due to low numbers.

In April, we had a super fantastic evening of Food and Games. We had a Cake Walk where everyone was a winner and also managed to squeeze in a few rounds of Hide n Seek. On a hot day in May, we decorated flower pots and planted beautiful flowers. Many of the creative planters were delivered by Pastor Ken and Vicar Megan to people in our Caring Ministry. Family Ministry took a break during the months of June and July.

During the month of August, the Christian Ed team and Family Ministry worked together on three weeks of Vacation Bible School. The theme was VBS Olympics and many families participated. All of our Trinity volunteers and youth group members were especially helpful during the event. We ate yummy dinners, crafted, had a fun bible study, and of course played many games. So much fun!

We began the school year with a Fall Fun and Games event. We colored beach balls and played lots of silly games. In October, we worked with our hands and had an awesome Clay event. It was super sticky stuff, but we managed to make beautiful creations. Unfortunately I was sick for our

November event, but we lumped it in with our popular Parents' Afternoon Out. For this event, we watch the children while their parents go out Christmas shopping and enjoying a break. We made our Car Care Kits, created cards for our Caring Ministry members, and decorated candles. We also played lots of games, ate cookies, and watched a silly Minions movie. It was a busy afternoon, but it's always worth it.

Many thanks to Thrivent members who wrote special Thrivent Action Team grants that helped provide funds for our Vacation Bible School and our service projects.

A big heartfelt thank you to the many Trinity members who support this ministry with their behind-the-scenes assistance, including but not limited to: Pastor Ken, Pastor Jake, Katie Grubaugh, Margaret Stevenson, Bob Koenes, Jim & Joyce Magerlein, Christian Ed Team, Youth Group members, VBS church member volunteers, and the Family Ministry parents.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Albertson
Director of Family Ministry

Youth Ministry 2024 Annual Report

Youth Ministry began the year with Lindsay Casey as the Youth Director, however, she regretfully resigned during the month of March. I took over the reins as Youth Director once more in the month of April.

In April, Pastor Jake led the youth with a movie night, complete with a game of Sardines. They were also invited to the Family Ministry Game Night. In May, the youth traveled to Fennville and went horseback riding, which was so much fun on a beautiful day!! Due to low numbers, we canceled our Gaming Day activity in June, but vowed to have one again soon.

We had seven youth and children attend Stony Lake Lutheran Camp in June. Four of our youth attended the first week and Vicar Megan took three youth to camp at Stony Lake Lutheran Camp during the second week. At the end of May and beginning of June, we took orders for new Trinity t-shirts. The shirts look cool and the income helped our youth group budget. The shirts were distributed in June. Extras were ordered, so more were sold in the fall and winter. Also in June, the youth collected a "Noisy Offering" to purchase batteries for the National Youth Gathering. We collected a few hundred dollars and were able to purchase many batteries that went into Hurricane Relief Kits for people living in New Orleans.

And speaking of New Orleans, three youth traveled down with me to the Crescent City and attended the National Youth Gathering in July. It was very HOT, but we had a fantastic time surrounded by 16,000 of our closest friends from around the USA and Puerto Rico. The theme was Created To Be and each day we talked about how we are created to be Brave, Authentic, Free, Disruptive, and Disciples. It was an amazing time and positively impacted our faith.

In August, the youth helped the Christian Ed and Family Ministry with the Vacation Bible School. They helped guide the families, helped with preparing and serving meals, and with clean up. In September, we had a Youth Group Planning Meeting and planned out our coming year. We decided to have

separate meetings for our Middle School and High School youth for many of our meetings. We started that in October with each group working through group building activities. Then we had a bonus event at Harvest Moon Acres where we ran around the corn maze and had a campfire.

In November, youth from Trinity, Prince of Peace, and St. Peter's traveled up to Traverse City for the Living Water Ministries Charge event at Great Wolf Lodge. We had 12 youth and 3 brave adults make our way up north for an amazing weekend of singing, listening to speakers, small group time, praying, and of course water park time!! It truly was a fun time and we are all looking forward to next year.

In December, the youth helped with the Parents' Afternoon Out. They assisted the children with playing games, making crafts and cards, and running around the church. Always fun and their help is always appreciated. Our final event for the year was the Progressive Dinner. We decided to visit the homes of some of our youth group friends again this year. It was a wonderful night of eating, singing, eating, presents, and more eating. 😊

Thank you very much to Pastor Jake, Pastor Ken, Vicar Megan, Lindsay, and all of the parents of our youth. You help to make us great.

Looking ahead to 2025:

*Mission Trip in Duluth, MN

*Youth and Family Ministries retreat at Double JJ Ranch

*Summer camp at Stony Lake Lutheran Camp

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Albertson, Director of Youth Ministry

2024 Annual Report of the Women of the ELCA,
Trinity Kalamazoo Unit

The purpose of the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America(W/ELCA): "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy

Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.”

Our W/ELCA unit continues to work to meet our purpose as outlined above. Esther-Mary circle members continue to lead the Christ’s Clothes Closet, which is a shining example of Christ’s love engaged in ministry and action for our society. Rebecca Circle continues to meet and study God’s word and grow in faith. During the summer, we co-sponsored a women’s retreat with Vicar Megan, featuring Kara Haug as the leader, which focused on affirming our gifts, supporting one another and promoting our wholeness. As part of the annual Thankoffering Sunday activities we sponsored a visit from members of the Kalamazoo Valley Gleaners organization to support ministry in action and promoting healing in the world.

On-going discussions and planning for future discipleship opportunities include the possibility of offering a meditative type Bible study, and participating in additional women’s fellowship opportunities such as the Advent Tea. If you have any suggestions, ideas, or are willing to lead an opportunity, please contact any of the WELCA board members. Make sure to watch for further information in future weekly emails or editions of News & Notes.

President: Holly Wohlfert

Vice-President: Connie Ruch

Secretary: Judy Sherrod

Treasurer: Kathy Aivars

Esther-Mary: Sandy Wallace, Leader

Rebecca: Linda Ward, Leader

Our treasury report is attached. We continue to look forward to all our Lord has planned for us in the coming year. If any of you, male or female, have ideas for programs or to increase participation of Trinity W/ELCA, please share your ideas with any of the board members! We encourage and are grateful for your participation and support. Please watch for more updates in the months to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly A. Wohlfert

President, W/ELCA of Trinity, Kalamazoo

W/ELCA - DECEMBER 31, 2024

INCOME		BUDGET	1/01/24 -06/30/24	07/01/24 -12/31/24	TO DATE
QUARTERLY/CIRCLE OFFERINGS		\$ 1,400.00		\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00
THANKOFFERINGS	QUARTERLY	\$ 1,500.00		\$ 756.00	\$ 756.00
KAL YOUTH MINISTRY--OPE	JAN	\$ 50.00			\$ -
JAIL MINISTRY	FEB	\$ 50.00			\$ -
DOMESTIC ASSAULT	MAR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
MINISTRY WITH COMMUNIT	APR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SHEPHERD'S CENTER	MAY	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SEITA SCHOLARS	JUNE	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KALAMAZOO DROP IN CEN	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KAIROS DWELLING	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
COMMUNITY HEALING CEN	SEPT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
ROCKY BOY	OCT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SWELL	OCT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
WHAT SO EVER FREE BEI	NOV	\$ 50.00			\$ -
LOVE OFFERING	QUARTERLY	\$ 100.00			\$ -
COOKBOOK SALES					\$ -
VBS/SUNDAY SCHOOL	JUNE				\$ -
TOTAL			\$ -	\$ 806.00	\$ 806.00
DISBURSEMENTS					
SYNOD REGULAR OFFERIN	QUARTERLY			\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
SYNOD THANKOFFERING	QUARTERLY				\$ -
W/ELCA EXPENSES					\$ -
CIRCLE GUIDES					\$ -
CONFERENCE EXPENSES					\$ -
SUBSCRIPTIONS					\$ -
KAL YOUTH MINISTRY--OPE	JAN	\$ 50.00			\$ -
JAIL MINISTRY	FEB	\$ 50.00			\$ -
DOMESTIC ASSAULT	MAR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
MINISTRY WITH COMMUNIT	APR	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SHEPHERD'S CENTER	MAY	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SEITA SCHOLARS	JUNE	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KALAMAZOO DROP IN CEN	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
KAIROS DWELLING	JULY/AUG	\$ 50.00			\$ -
COMMUNITY HEALING CEN	SEPT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
SWELL	OCT	\$ 50.00			\$ -
WHAT-SO-EVER FREE BEI	NOV	\$ 50.00			\$ -
LOVE OFFERING					\$ -
MISCELLANEOUS					\$ -
CHURCH WOMEN UNITEI	JAN	\$ 30.00			\$ -
SAMARITAS					\$ -
KATY'S FUND ENDOWMENT					\$ -
THANK OFFERING SUPPI	NOV				\$ -
EL SOL ELEM SCHL	MAR		\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00
WOMEN'S RETREAT FOC	AUG			\$ 187.35	\$ 187.35
WOMEN'S RETREAT MILE	AUG			\$ 105.19	\$ 105.19
TOTAL			\$ 100.00	\$ 492.54	\$ 592.54
BALANCE ON HAND, DECEMBER 31, 2024			Respectfully submitted,		
WELCA	\$ 986.00				
SYNOD	\$ 50.00				
THANKOFFERING	\$ 756.00				
COOKBOOKS	\$ 255.00				
WELCA CONFERENCE	\$ 180.00				
LOVE	\$ -				
EXPENSES	\$ (592.54)				
TOTAL	\$1,634.46				
		7	Kathy Ellis-Aivars Treasurer		

Annual Report of Christian Education

2024 began with the re-election of Ashley Wineland as a co-chair on the Christian Education team. Sally Morris continued to serve with Ashley. Youth Director Lindsay Casey stepped down from her role to focus on her new full-time job, so Heidi Albertson agreed to expand her work as the Director of a combined Family & Youth Ministry. Vicar Megan Floyd was also an integral part of our team during her internship.

The weekly adult bible study met in the lounge on Sunday mornings, and the Men's Bible study on Wednesday mornings. "Scripture & Sandwiches" met via Zoom throughout the winter and concluded a multi-year study of each book of the Bible.

In conjunction with Pr. Jake's Sabbatical, the congregation hosted two Visiting Theologians in June. Amy Lindeman Allen hosted 7 different talks: A Christmas in June intergenerational Study on Luke 2; the discussion *Reading the Bible with and for Children*; a Theology on Tap *Whose Kingdom is it anyway? Jesus and the Little Children* (also offered in a second session with root beer for families); men's bible study *Generations of Fisherfolk: James, John and Zebedee*; women's bible study *Generations of Service: Mary and Martha at the feet of Jesus*; a Scripture & Sandwiches *Children in the Bible and its Contexts*.

Tim McNinch visited the following week. He hosted the men's bible study *Political Theology: How can we read political scriptures in our political season?*; Theology on Tap "*The Bible is a Perfectly Poured Guinness*"; Scripture & Sandwiches "*Dining in the Dark*" *Explore the meaning of the darkness at Jesus' Crucifixion*; Women's bible study *Casual Conversation about feminist interpretation of the Hebrew Bible*; a 3 session Bible Dig-In on the book of Ruth; and a Sunday School class on how to get the most out of the Bible as adult readers.

Many of our children attend Living Waters Ministry Camp at Stony Lake in June. Trinity assisted with paying 50% of each camper's fee. Men from our congregation joined in a retreat at Camp Arcadia. Trinity hosted a women's retreat on a Sunday afternoon in August led by Kara Haug, focused on building relationships. Heidi Albertson accompanied 3 Youth to the National Gathering

in New Orleans. Youth also attended the Living Waters Charge gathering in Traverse City in November. The Vacation Bible School theme was 'Olympics' and held over three Wednesday nights in August. Thank-you to all the many volunteers who prepared food and shared crafts, songs, and games.

A Rally Sunday Hello & Jello Party in the new gathering space kicked-off the 2024 Sunday School programming year in September; we have over 40 children enrolled. A sincere thank you to all our many faithful teachers and classroom helpers. Emily Wright is teaching the preschool/kindergarten class, assisted by Bess Fitzgerald and Jennifer Greenman. Ashley Wineland teaches the elementary schoolers, assisted by Jim Magerlein. Pr. Jake Lehman holds Confirmation Class for the middle schoolers during the Education hour, while Jason Grubaugh holds bible study for the High school youth. Heidi Albertson hosts a Parent Small group in the Family Ministry room every other Sunday. Her Infant/toddler Group was not as well attended this fall, and has been discontinued for now.

Increased Sunday school attendance meant the need for more classroom space this year. Working with the librarians, we were able to combine the supply closet and library processing room, allowing us to move the Preschool class upstairs to the third floor. The bathrooms on this level were then equipped with toddler seats and stepstools so the children could be comfortable with these facilities. Thank you to Maryann Hubble, Mary Bittner, and Katie Grubaugh for all their hard work with this project.

Reformation Day was celebrated with a combined Sunday school class party celebrating our Lutheran roots. Thank you to Deb Mattson for demonstrating her printing press for us and letting the children experience making their own prints.

The children's Christmas program in December shared the good news of the season during the 11am worship service, replacing the Sermon for the morning. Youth helpers also took the lead on different roles – greeting, playing music, and ushering. Thank you to Jim Magerlein for stage direction and Deb Harding for piano accompaniment.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Morris and Ashley Wineland

2024 Annual Report of Congregational Life

The Congregational Life committee oversees groups and activities that concern the members of Trinity's congregation and how we help, interact and share with each other. This year provided opportunities to repeat past activities and introduce new ones. Many members worked hard to stay connected and provide a welcoming atmosphere for both old and new congregants.

- In January, the Stew and Brew competition was held.
- The Youth hosted a Pancake Breakfast in February.
- March found us enjoying a soup/salad supper. It was well attended, and many cooks provided delicious food.
- The Easter breakfast was well attended after all services. Thank you to all who helped with it!
- We held a Plant Exchange in May. This was the second year and its becoming a popular event.
- July found us hosting a BBQ after church. Because of the weather it had to be moved inside to the Fellowship Hall. Everyone seemed to enjoy it!
- In August we had a Women's retreat at church. Vicar Megan Floyd organized a speaker and activities. About 25-30 women attended and enjoyed the speaker, activities and fellowship.
- Oktoberfest was held again. Donna Gardner, and her team, prepared a wonderful meal. Many enjoyed the food, fellowship and games.
- We also had a presentation in October by Pastor Jake Lehman sharing the details of his sabbatical. It was paired with delicious regional food that was catered by his friend.
- Trunk or Treat was a popular event this year due to the nice weather and being scheduled the same night as the Vine Neighborhood event. Over 500 people filled our parking lot! Thank you to all who helped and provided trunks!

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Sportel and Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino

2024 Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Facilities Report.

Significant facilities highlights from 2024:

1. Shaun Wright completed a feasibility study and cost analysis for **upgrading our electrical system**. The council and congregation voted to approve the \$49,645 cost to move forward with the upgrades. We are currently reviewing additional quotes and options from more electrical firms to ensure we are moving forward with the best option for the church. The primary needs for an upgraded electrical system are:
 - a) **Increased capacity**. We have been told by several electrical firms that our system is maxed out and cannot take any new, significant electrical loads. This is particularly important as we investigate opportunities to install central air conditioning in the education wing. No such installation can be considered without first upgrading the church's electrical system.
 - b) **Risk mitigation**. Our current breaker panels are so old that it would be difficult or impossible to replace a breaker if/when one goes bad.
2. Our **solar panel system** is on track to generate ~22kWh for the year 2024. With the system now paid off, this generation translates to ~\$3,500 in savings on our electric bill (this savings essentially cuts our bill in half). 22kWh of generated solar power saves ~18,500 lbs of CO₂.
3. **Oct 12th workday** was extraordinarily productive. Highlights include: Paula and Chuck deep cleaning/refreshing the fellowship hall; Judy and Laura leading a team to garden and clean our outdoor spaces; Rodney, Steve, Nate, Larry, and Dave knocking out a plethora of handyman tasks to include winterizing the window air conditioners; and a team of men led by Rodney carefully relocating a pew over the side of the choir loft and down to the basement.

What to expect in 2025

1. **Roof work over the Sacristy.** Significant water leaking started coming in from the roof over the Sacristy. We are currently executing a minor contract to patch the leak (under \$1k) but will explore options to conduct more long-term repairs in the spring (long term roof repairs cannot be conducted in the winter).
2. **Continued work on our repair list.** Please continue to add repair needs as you see them to the lists in the fellowship hall and next to the office. These lists get digitized regularly and are the primary documents used when executing workdays. At a minimum we will have another spring and fall workday but will also target to have minor word days to attack these repairs.
3. **Digitizing our facility's needs, history, and schedules.** The purpose of this repository is to:
 - a) Allow any member of the congregation to step into the facilities team and quickly gain an understanding of how our facilities are managed, what the needs are, and who the resources are for addressing those needs.
 - b) Connect facilities needs with our talented and capable members of the congregation willing to work on those needs.

Respectfully Submitted,
Max Wineland

2023 SERVICE MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT

Guided by God's call to love and serve our neighbors, the Service Ministry team shall lead the congregation in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of people of all ages and socioeconomic status in our local community and globally.

- **Salvation Army Angel Tree**-- We donated 23 gifts, 2 bicycles with helmets and 10 gift cards to children who otherwise may not have had a bright Christmas.
- **Christs Clothes Closet**— The clothes closet is serving, on average 40 families a week with first time clients coming every week. The winter coat giveaway was a great success. We had 78 people come, representing 196 family members. The need for personal care items is also great. In December we gave out 4 or more items, depending on what was donated, to 67 people.
- **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes** - I am pleased to report that we were able to send off 59 shoeboxes this year. We had a lot of help and I want to thank these helpers especially: Margaret Stevenson, Teri Barrett, Becky Matyas, Marie Belleville, senior youth group Kaitlyn, Elyse, Kiley, Miryam and Jaxon. There were so many helping with shoeboxes and funds that I can't possibly name them all! The gifts are on their way and need our prayers that the children feel the love of God and want to continue to learn about Jesus through "The Greatest Journey". Blessings too to all who will be doing the delivering. Christmas joy to you all! - Linda Ward, coordinator
- **Bingo at Ministry with Community** - Monthly Bingo at the Ministry with Community homeless drop-in center continues thanks to faithful volunteers and Scripts donations. We gather 6-7 totes of prizes and set up on the second Tuesday of every month. This year we have had 14 to 24 participants and friendly play. Winners choose snacks, reading glasses, toiletries, crossword books or art supplies to take with them. I am grateful for time face-to-face with poor neighbors and a window into another world at the corner of Ransom and Edwards streets. I will continue to lead the effort (by making a monthly trip to the Dollar Tree and joining one of four rotating volunteers each month) through May of this year. Please consider putting your time toward this work of the church in the future. - Bess Fitzgerald
- **SCRIP Program** (*gift cards*) - In 2024 profits from the sale of gift cards were used to continue to purchase BINGO prizes for Ministry with Community, to match the \$404.25 donated by Trinity for batteries for the Youth Gathering, to provide Meijer cards for the refugees, to support the Christ Closet, and to assist individuals and families with various needs. In addition to sales, we received several donations. We are grateful for your support!

- **S.W.E.L.L.** *Sharing With Everyone Lutheran Love

(Area Lutheran churches supporting Samaritas foster care)

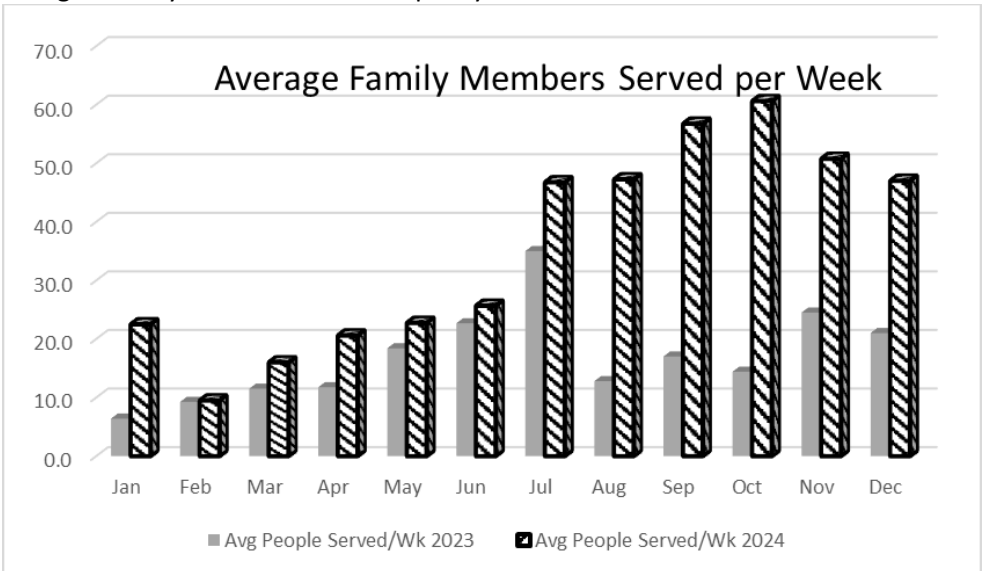
We are a volunteer group sponsored by area Lutheran churches and other generous donations. Our purpose is to support our local foster care program through Samaritas (formerly Lutheran Social Services of MI - LSSM) and others in our community. Although this year Samaritas was going through a major transition, SWELL was still able to give each child in their foster system a birthday card and a gift card. Former foster care youth now living independently but still supervised by Samaritas (ILP) were also included in our budget for their special needs. We donated \$250 for meals for Seita Scholars at WMU who were on campus during Christmas break. We also provided clothing, diapers and other items as requested.

Special note: Again this year Trinity's Service Ministry Team furnished backpacks filled with school supplies and toiletries for all high school, middle school and elementary students in Samaritas' care. These were very welcome. Thanks to all who donated!

- **Book Cart at MWC** - The Ministry with Community book cart is continuing each week. Connections this year with other D.O.C.C. churches and the Friends of the Library Bookstore have helped to supply some of the nearly 500 books that were checked out this year!
- **Prison Ministry** - The prison ministry has grown again this year. Regular communication has continued with nearly three dozen incarcerated individuals and an additional 25 were added this year. 22 of the incarcerated individuals are from Kalamazoo, mostly in state correctional facilities and two in the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Communication is maintained with electronic JPay messages, cards and letters, phone calls from the facilities and video visits with a Kalamazoo woman at the women's facility in Ypsilanti. The communication specifics were as follows: 267 messages sent, 270 received, 10 letters sent, 20 letters received, 38 birthday cards sent, 10 phone calls received and 2 visits were conducted. One Thrivent grant submitted by a Trinity member this year enhanced the prison ministry. It supplied much sought after, but often too expensive to order, art/craft supplies for five individuals. Each recipient was truly grateful. One was a former student who had his artwork on display this spring at the Prison Creative Arts Project at U of M. Another Kalamazoo woman used her yarn to crochet me a gift of thanks. – Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino

- Quilters** - The quilters had a great year!! No snow days!! Our faithful crew of 10-16 met every fourth and fifth Thursday, except November and December. We were blessed with some great donations of fabric from folks who are closing down their quilting hobby. Tim Kilma was especially amazing in converting much of this yardage into squares for the quilts. Maridel Greer faithfully sewed up the smaller scraps into beautiful quilt tops. We always accept donations of cotton and cotton/polyester fabric that is at least 11 inches wide. In October, Dave Grubaugh helped to transport 134 quilts to St. Michael for shipping to Lutheran World Relief. Thanks to all (and my apologies to anyone I missed): Naomi Frisbie, Marianne Fuerst, Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino, Maridel Greet, Jeannie Grubaugh, Kathy Hall, Betsy Kelly, Lisa Kenz, Joyce Magerlein, Judy Morison, Sharon Padgett, Kim Tilma, Sandy Wallace, Margaret Stevens, Becky Matyas and Carol Malmud.

- Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry** - This has been a year of both good and bad for Trinity's Kalamazoo Loaves and Fishes pantry. The good news is that we were able to serve many more customers than in previous years, while the bad news is that there always seem to be more of our neighbors with unmet food needs. As shown in the accompanying graph, our service numbers have significantly increased over the past year.



In total, we provided food to 1668 individuals in 2024 compared to 792 in 2023. When we look at the number of repeat customers and the high percent

of our customers who walk, it appears that we have established a very loyal neighborhood clientele.

A big thank you from our pantry team and all of our clients to the congregation for your generous support. With your assistance, we are able to supply our customers with food items that are frequently unavailable through KLF, including eggs, a selection of cereals, and a variety of snack items.

Trinity Pantry Team

Let us continue to be a blessing to others. Thank you all for sharing your time and talent!

Respectfully submitted, Sandy Wallace & Rasma McMullen

Stewardship and Finance Annual Report 2024

Dear Members:

This past year seems to have passed by a hurry, and we would like to share some highlights. The Stewardship and Finance Committee members developed and reviewed Trinity's budget and finances, presented our Annual Stewardship Pledge Drive and provided support for Trinity's facilities Managers with "volunteer workdays".

We thank Committee members Jerry Molitor and Tina Adams, who developed, monitored and reviewed our church budget. We appreciate their support, effort and deliberation on this process, which helps Trinity to continue our missions and ministries of Faith, Worship, Service and Fellowship!

In this past year, the "Mission Moments" for our 2025 Pledge Drive highlighted Trinity's ministries of Mission/Service and Faith Development. We thank both Rasma McMullen and Elyse Albertson for sharing their stories of ministry and faith with our congregation!

In collaboration with Facilities Managers, Shaun Wright and Max Wineland, Stewardship days were scheduled in May and October. Members helped repair, clean, adjust and improve Trinity's facilities.

Landscaping, cleaning the outdoor areas, removing pews and repairing the choir loft, cleaning Fellowship Hall, and air conditioner installation/removal were among the tasks completed. We thank our helpful and hard-working volunteers!

We thank our Stewardship and Finance Committee members Dave Grubaugh, Bill Sherrod and Keith Peterson, Jerry Molitor and Tina Adams for their help with the Pledge Drive. We also thank Julie Peterson and Katie Grubaugh for their help, and for keeping us on track. Finally, we thank our Congregation for their time, talent, and resources to help Trinity and our many missions thrive!

We are planning to have a Stewardship Information Day in early 2025, and will discuss and describe the many opportunities to enjoy and support our Church and its ministries. We will also schedule more Stewardship workdays, which help improve our facilities and promote fellowship.

In Christ,

Steve Morris and Steve Bittner, co-chairs

Worship & Music Annual Report 2024

I am grateful to be serving on council as Worship and Music Chair for another year. Thank you to Pastor Ken and Pastor Jake for their continued guidance and leadership. We were fortunate to have Vicar Megan Floyd serving at Trinity for her internship through the end of August. I also thank all who serve our church community in the many areas of worship, especially our Worship and Music Team Leaders:

Acolytes and Worship Assistants: Beth Latshaw / Rachel Fowler

Altar Guild: Teri Koretsky

Decorations: Sharon Kokales

Flowers: Katie Grubaugh

Lectors and Welcome Team: Julie Peterson

Organist and Director of Music: Nathan Mattson

After many years of serving Trinity as the scheduler of Acolytes and Worship Assistants, Beth has decided to step down and train a successor. Rachel Fowler has graciously agreed to take over this role. Thank you Beth, and welcome Rachel! We are grateful to Nate and our adult choir members who bless us with their musical gifts during worship. Those who serve as Lectors, Acolytes, Worship Assistants or on the Welcome Team share their gifts and enhance the worship experience for all at Trinity. Julie schedules our Welcome Team and Lectors.

Katie manages the sign up and ordering of flowers for weekly worship and special flowers for the holidays. Teri organizes our Altar Guild members who prepare communion elements and care for the altar, candles and paraments. Sharon leads our Decorations team to enhance our worship with seasonal décor. We thank our volunteers who put up the Christmas trees and to those who helped hang garlands and wreaths and place the Christmas decorations.

Our Sunday morning worship service times remain at 8:30am (live-streamed) and 11:00am. During the summer (July through Labor Day weekend), we shift to one Sunday service at 10:00am which provides the opportunity to worship together as one community. On December 8, we celebrated the 120th anniversary of Trinity with brass musicians and Bishop Satterlee preaching.

During Wednesdays in Lent, our evening worship started at 6:30pm with a soup and salad supper beforehand. For Advent, our Wednesday services started at 6:00pm with special music featured each week. After some discussion in the spring, we decided to discontinue the weekly Wednesday worship services that are not during Lent or Advent.

If you feel called to serve our congregation in any of these areas of Worship and Music, please contact the team leader for more details or to be placed on the schedule. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Gatz
Worship and Music Chair

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Report of the Financial Secretary
Annual Meeting 2025

Attached is the year end Contribution report by fund for 2024. Again we have been gratified by the continued faithfulness of our members who have continued to support our mission during the year. Total unrestricted income was under budget by 1.8% and was mostly offset by higher investment income.

We continue to see a steady increase in members using either Vanco Payment Solutions or their own Bank's on-line banking program to make regular automatic contributions to Trinity. Automatic payments provide a convenient way to make steady contributions, and helps us even out our cash flow. There is a link "Giving" at the top of our church webpage www.tlckzoo.com Clicking on that link will take you to the Vanco page linked to Trinity where you can set up a profile and donation schedule. Please feel free to contact me, if you have any questions concerning any of our on-line giving options.

Respectfully submitted
Jerry Molitor

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Report of the Financial Secretary
Year to Date December 2024

Fund Description	Designation	December	Designation	YTD December
Fund Description				
100 General Fund		41,016.27		416,166.53
102 TLC Foundation		10,000.00		40,000.00
103 Loose Offering		603.00		5,640.03
105 Sunday School		0.00		3.52
106 Income to Foundation		0.00		5,800.00
107 Ash Wednesday		0.00		442.00
108 Lenten Offerings		0.00		977.69
109 Maundy Thursday		0.00		269.00
110 Good Friday		0.00		304.69
111 Thanksgiving		0.00		420.00
112 Advent		755.69		755.69
113 Christmas Eve		2,941.00		2,941.00
114 Christmas		0.00		0.00
200 Worship Service Flowers		465.00		2,763.00
202 Fair Trade		0.00		24.00
203 Youth Fund Restricted		400.00		3,099.75
211 Subscriptions		0.00		0.00
213 Youth Deposits		0.00		1,640.00
300 ELCA Benevolence		846.24		16,466.00
302 World Hunger		0.00		0.00
303 Food Pantry		125.00		2,101.50
304 Good Samaritan Fund		90.00		1,420.53
305 Quilters		0.00		1,500.00
311 Lutheran World Relief		0.00		5.00
312 Ministry with Community		0.00		0.00
317 Loaves and Fishes		0.00		0.00
318 Personal Care Kit		0.00		0.00
319 Non-ELCA Restricted		112.75		1,882.75
	CROP Walk	10.00	65.00	
	Special Projects Anna Lane	0.00	150.00	
	Oktoberfest	0.00	100.00	
	Shoe Box Project	0.00	20.00	
	El Sol	0.00	145.00	
	Refugee Suport	102.75	102.75	
320 ELCA Restricted		0.00		0.00
321 Christ's Closet		125.00		2,751.50
400 WELCA Offering		0.00		50.00
402 Thankoffering		0.00		756.00
403 Campus Ministry		1,375.00		14,666.66
404 Family Ministry Deposits		0.00		125.00
407 Director of Youth Ministry		0.00		0.00
409 SWELL		500.00		3,715.00
500 Building and Maintenance		276.38		3,061.56
503 Music Fund		50.00		5,568.28
505 Columbarium Fund		0.00		500.00
506 Youth Fundraiser		359.00		2,849.89
507 Special Holding Fund		0.00		0.00
509 Funeral Lunch Fund		0.00		800.00
510 Staff Christmas Gifts		5,215.00		5,215.00
512 Enter Elevate & Gather		0.00		620.00
513 Electrical Upgrades		0.00		10,000.00
600 Lutheran Graduate Study		0.00		0.00
601 Sabbatical		0.00		0.00
700 Memorials/Honorariums		100.00		19,765.00
800 Social Ministry		0.00		50.00
802 Evangelism/Fellowship		0.00		0.00
2000 Transaction Fee		-199.03		-1,893.42
		<u>65,156.30</u>		<u>573,223.15</u>

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Report of the Treasurer
 (as of December 31, 2024)

Assets		
Bank Accounts		
Checking Accounts		-4,931.66
Savings Accounts		5,045.20
Short Term Investments		<u>403,846.89</u>
<i>Total Assets</i>		<u><u>403,960.43</u></u>
Liabilities		
Pass-thru Contributions		
Staff anniversaries		<u>653.59</u>
<i>Total Liabilities</i>		653.59
Net Assets		
Unrestricted Assets		86,606.35
Restricted Assets		<u>316,700.49</u>
<i>Total Equity</i>		403,306.84
<i>Total Liabilities and Equity</i>		<u><u>403,960.43</u></u>

Respectfully submitted
 Tina Adams, Treasurer

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Income and Expense Summary
(as of December 31, 2024)

	December	YTD	YTD Budget	YTD Difference	Annual Budget
Income					
Unrestricted Income					
Unrestricted Income	44,886.65	429,302.64	437,200.00	(7,897.36)	437,200.00
Banking Interest	1.11	67.69	100.00	(32.31)	100.00
Investment Income	1,526.84	20,126.93	15,900.00	4,226.93	15,900.00
Misc Inc	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Foundation	10,000.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	40,000.00
Transfer to/from Restricted	3,679.32	31,168.86	54,963.00	(23,794.14)	54,963.00
<i>subtotal: Unrestricted Income</i>	<u>60,093.92</u>	<u>520,666.12</u>	<u>548,163.00</u>	<u>(27,496.88)</u>	<u>548,163.00</u>
Restricted Income					
Foundation	8,678.68	102,805.77	48,400.00	54,405.77	48,400.00
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<u>8,678.68</u>	<u>102,805.77</u>	<u>48,400.00</u>	<u>54,405.77</u>	<u>48,400.00</u>
<i>Total Income</i>	<u>68,772.60</u>	<u>623,471.89</u>	<u>596,563.00</u>	<u>26,908.89</u>	<u>596,563.00</u>
Expenses					
Operating Expenses					
Pastoral Staff	23,980.66	287,767.97	286,691.00	1,076.97	286,691.00
Support Staff	6,419.54	104,030.36	130,459.00	(26,428.64)	130,459.00
Taxes/Workers Comp	468.19	9,024.65	11,000.00	(1,975.35)	11,000.00
Administrative Expenses	3,597.18	29,605.34	29,300.00	305.34	29,300.00
Buildings and Grounds	5,349.46	53,106.45	65,650.00	(12,543.55)	65,650.00
Benevolence	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Committees	398.64	5,231.13	5,100.00	131.13	5,100.00
Christian Education	1,430.14	16,277.59	17,950.00	(1,672.41)	17,950.00
Music	4,494.33	5,982.29	5,500.00	482.29	5,500.00
Ministry	(128.62)	6,154.57	6,000.00	154.57	6,000.00
Misc Exp	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00
Transfer to restricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other-Misc Exp.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<i>subtotal: Operating Expenses</i>	<u>46,009.52</u>	<u>517,280.35</u>	<u>557,650.00</u>	<u>(40,369.65)</u>	<u>557,650.00</u>
Restricted Expenses	10,435.08	177,881.51	48,400.00	0.00	48,400.00
<i>subtotal: Total Expenses</i>	<u>56,444.60</u>	<u>695,161.86</u>	<u>606,050.00</u>	<u>(40,369.65)</u>	<u>606,050.00</u>
Net Income	<u>12,328.00</u>	<u>(71,689.97)</u>	<u>(9,487.00)</u>	<u>67,278.54</u>	<u>(9,487.00)</u>
Summary					
Unrestricted Income	60,093.92	520,666.12	548,163.00	(27,496.88)	548,163.00
Operating Expenses	46,009.52	517,280.35	557,650.00	(40,369.65)	557,650.00
<i>subtotal: Operating Income</i>	<u>14,084.40</u>	<u>3,385.77</u>	<u>(9,487.00)</u>	<u>12,872.77</u>	<u>(9,487.00)</u>
Restricted Income	8,678.68	102,805.77	48,400.00	54,405.77	48,400.00
Restricted Expenses	10,435.08	177,881.51	48,400.00	129,481.51	48,400.00
<i>subtotal: Restricted Net Income</i>	<u>(1,756.40)</u>	<u>(75,075.74)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(75,075.74)</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Income (Loss)	<u>12,328.00</u>	<u>(71,689.97)</u>	<u>(9,487.00)</u>	<u>(62,202.97)</u>	<u>(9,487.00)</u>

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
RESTRICTED FUND ACTIVITY-YTD
December 31, 2024

	BEGINNING BAL			ENDING BAL	
	December, 2023	RECEIPTS	TRANSFERS	DISBURSEMENTS	December, 2024
Benevolence - Mich Synod	0.00	16,466.00		16,466.00	0.00
Benevolence -designated	810.00	1,682.75		2,225.00	267.75
Building Fund	473.87	10,000.00		473.87	10,000.00
Campus Ministries	3,053.07			3,053.07	0.00
Christ's Clothes Closet	323.46	2,751.50		1,572.70	1,502.26
Columbarium Fund	8,520.03	500.00		1,162.17	7,857.86
Eisleben Church	2,050.00				2,050.00
Endowment to Foundation	0.00	5,800.00		4,800.00	1,000.00
Enter Elevate & Gather	-4,074.64	4,074.64			0.00
Family Ministry	38,022.89	125.00		6,773.22	31,374.67
Flower Supplement Fund	585.00			585.00	0.00
Foundation designated	0.00				0.00
Good Samaritan Fund	6,093.10	5,167.56		9,893.75	1,366.91
Internship	823.57			823.57	0.00
Landscaping	137.67			137.67	0.00
Lutheran Graduate Study	19,097.33	823.57		17,220.00	2,700.90
Lutheran World Relief	0.00	5.00			5.00
Memorial Library	564.90				564.90
Memorial Music	13,125.42	5,568.28		11,852.28	6,841.42
Memorial Regular	30,012.17	20,565.00		6,880.24	43,696.93
Octoberfest	556.41	100.00		420.23	236.18
Organ Fund	3,653.67				3,653.67
Parsonage Renovations	1,992.00			1,992.00	0.00
Pastor's Sabbatical	79,387.75	105.19		59,406.45	20,086.49
PPP Forgiven	3,948.00				3,948.00
Property Acquisiton Fund	100,000.00				100,000.00
Quilters	20.00	1,500.00		143.81	1,376.19
Sacristy/Coat & Restroom	120.00			120.00	0.00
Sanctuary Repair	16.14			16.14	0.00
Seasonal Offerings	2,938.69	3,169.07		4,906.38	1,201.38
Small Group Ministry	9,327.62	3,053.07		642.89	11,737.80
Service Ministry	7,579.76	150.00		1,213.34	6,516.42
Staff gifts	149.99	5,215.00		5,365.00	-0.01
Sunday School Contribution	191.98				191.98
SWELL	8,571.67	3,715.00		3,004.69	9,281.98
Thrivent Choice	2,746.78	1,772.00		1,401.44	3,117.34
TLC Food Pantry	1,011.82	2,101.50		195.20	2,918.12
W/ELCA	5,226.89	831.65		618.19	5,440.35
Youth Ministry	10,692.93	7,589.64		7,266.04	11,016.53
Youth Ministry- Director	33,197.75			6,448.28	26,749.47
	390,947.69	102,831.42	0.00	177,078.62	316,700.49

Trinity Lutheran Church 2025 Budget			
		2025	2024
Income			
Unrestricted Pledged and Expected		450,300	437,200
Investment Interest		15,000	16,000
ELCA Benevolence Restricted		18,000	18,000
Restricted Fund Dir of Family Ministry		11,806	11,607
Restricted Fund Dir of Youth Ministry		17,016	13,256
Other Restricted Pledged and Expected		46,850	44,500
Foundation Unrestricted		40,000	40,000
Foundation Sabbatical		10,000	0
Foundation/Restricted Fund Intern		0	16,000
Total Income		608,972	596,563
Expense			
Senior Pastor Salary and Benefits		154,553	150,831
Associate Pastor Salary and Benefits		140,397	135,860
Director of Music		28,199	27,378
Musician		1,500	2,500
Bookkeeper		6,430	6,243
Financial Secretary		1,000	2,158
Office Administrator		27,583	26,780
Custodian/Sexton		17,653	17,139
Hospitality Host		8,397	8,150
AV Director		1,781	1,729
Nursery Staff		2,595	2,519
Dir of Family Ministry		6,806	6,607
Dir of Youth Ministry		17,016	13,256
Intern		0	16,000
Payroll /Workers Compensation		11,000	11,000
Total Compensation		424,910	428,150
Administrative Expenses		42,900	29,300
Building and Grounds		67,750	65,650
ELCA Benevolence Designated		18,000	18,000
Benevolence Designated & Directed		31,250	30,400
Committees		4,500	5,100
Christian Education		17,250	17,950
Music Expense		5,000	5,500
Ministry Expense		6,000	6,000
Total Other Expense		192,650	177,900
Total Expense		617,560	606,050
Net Income (Loss)		(8,588)	(9,487)

Trinity Staff

Pastor Rev. Ken Johnson
Outreach Pastor Rev. Jake Lehman
Organist/Director of Music Nathan Mattson
Office Administrator Katie Grubaugh
Director of Family Ministry & Heidi Albertson
Director of Youth Ministry Margaret Stevenson
Hospitality Host Terri Schmidt
Bookkeeper Bob Koenes
Custodian Maryann Hubbell
Nursery Staff

Trinity Foundation Members

Ben Bakalyar
Christina Adams
Julie Bosley
Keith Peterson
Gary Kent-Bracken
Rev. Ken Johnson
Rev. Jake Lehman

Library

Mary Bittner
Maryann Hubbell
Joyce Magerlein

Church Council

President Julie Peterson
Secretary Holly Wohlfert
Treasurer Christina Adams
Financial Secretary Jerry Molitor
Christian Education Ashley Wineland & Sally Morris
Congregational Life Paula Sportel & Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino
Facilities Max Winlead
Service Ministry Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace
Stewardship & Finance Steve Morris & Steve Bittner
Worship & Music Jennifer Gatz

Missionaries

Eisleben Church, Germany
Coraley Vong, Cambodia
Christina Horning, Germany