

# THE SCROLL

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



**TRINITY**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

A united vital force in our community sharing the love of Jesus.

**JANUARY 2026**

## Table of Contents

Congregation News &  
Announcements

Page 2

President's Corner

Page 3

Church Council Minutes

Page 4

Christian Education

Board Page 5

Trinity Giving Tree

Page 6

Lutheran Women in  
Mission & LMWL Grants

Page 7

Getting Involved at

Trinity Page 8

Leadership Directory

Page 9

Trinity Events Calendar

Page 10

Birthdays &  
Anniversaries

Page 11

## WORDS FROM THE PASTOR

Just want to say thank you!

Thank you all for welcoming Shoko and I so kindly.

Thank you for putting up with me for six months (*especially the Wednesday Bible study group*).

Thank you for encouraging me.

Thank you for partnering with me in ministry, sharing the love of our Savior.

And thank God for you!

A pastoral vacancy can be a trying time. It can be discouraging... challenging...but it can also be a time of excitement and wonder. It can be a time of stretching, both personally and as a community.

What does God have planned for you?

What new ministries does he have in store?

What new people is he planning to bring to your doors?

Look for good things.

"God's mercies are new every morning."

**Happy New Year!**  
**Pastor Gary**

## TRINITY STAFF

**Rev. Gary Hagen**  
*Pastor*

**Kay Lynch**  
*Office Manager*

## **CONGREGATION NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ELDERS UPDATE**

Pastor Hagen's Vacancy Pastor agreement with Trinity went through the end of December 2025. Because of other commitments, he will not be able to continue as Trinity's Vacancy Pastor into 2026. We are very thankful that he has been able to serve at Trinity these past six months.

Our Circuit Visitor, Pastor Sprengle, said that he is not aware of any other pastors that would be able to fill in as a Vacancy Pastor at this time. Several other area churches are in the same position as we are, without a pastor and no Vacancy Pastor available. So we will be without a full-time or Vacancy Pastor for the foreseeable future.

Most churches in this position have different retired pastors fill-in to preach on Sundays from week-to-week. Trinity will do the same for now. We are blessed that Pastor Ted Engelbrecht, who retired in June, and Pastor David Keil, who has filled in at Trinity in the past, are both willing to help with the preaching duties at Trinity at least through April. So we will use them from January through April.

We are also blessed that Northwest District President Michael Von Behren will be with us on Sunday, January 4, to deliver the sermon and meet with the congregation for a short time after the fellowship time to answer any questions congregational members might have and to offer encouragement to us as we travel through this journey.

Pastor Engelbrecht and Pastor Keil will only be preaching on Sundays. They will not be doing any other duties that Pastor Hagen has been doing as our Vacancy Pastor. So the other duties, such as visiting sick/homebound/hospitalized members, will be need to be done by Elders and other members of Trinity. If you or someone you know needs a visit starting in January, please contact the church office. Elder Dave Wilson will be coordinating those needed visits. Contact any of the Elders if you have questions or concerns.

The preaching schedule for January will be:

January 4 - President Von Behren

January 11 - Pastor Keil

January 18 - Pastor Engelbrecht

January 25 - Pastor Engelbrecht

### **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Call Committee has requested a new list of pastors from Northwest District President Michael Von Behren, and once we receive a new list we will set up interviews with pastors who the Call Committee thinks would be a good fit for Trinity and who are willing to talk with us about our position. Because we have already submitted our Self-Study, we hope that the process will go a little more quickly this time around. Please continue to pray for Trinity and our search for a new pastor.

**Jeff Allen**

Head Elder

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER - NEW OPPORTUNITIES

January, the first month of our calendar year! A New Year begins. What are we going to do with it? Are we going to be open to change or will we be satisfied with the status quo? Are we going to sing or complain? Are we going to extend ourselves outside our 'comfort zone' to bring more of our neighbors to know Jesus or are we going to assume someone else will do that? Change is in our future. The wisdom of the ages suggests that we start with prayer. *"I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."* Psalm 121:1

As Elder Jeff Allen has reported, we are beginning again on our search for the pastor God wants to serve at Trinity. Please keep the Church Council in your prayers as they review options.

On January 25, we will have a Special Congregation Meeting to elect a lay delegate to cast our vote for LCMS President for the coming three years. Cary Martensen has agreed to run for this position. Also, as part of the 'housekeeping' that the Council has undertaken in the past year or so, a revised version of the Bylaws is being prepared for your review and vote on the 25th. A review copy will be available soon; you are invited to submit comments to the Church Council before the meeting. No changes are proposed in the Trinity Constitution.

There are opportunities at every turn. To offer a kind word, provide a helping hand and support one another. On Sunday afternoon, December 28, Trinity hosted the congregation of the Reformation Covenant Church (RCC), Oregon City, for their worship service. Their church building, (*trinity's old building downtown*), suffered a serious fire on Christmas Day.

They expressed many a 'Thank You' to Trinity for making a space available for them to come together to worship and pray after their loss. Many said that Trinity felt very comfortable and familiar as they remarked on the banners in the Narthex being like the windows in the old church.

Trinity served coffee and Safeway and Albertsons donated desserts for a time of hospitality after the service. It will take some time to return their building to useable condition; RCC is considering renting space from Trinity during reconstruction. It was good to be able to offer this support to our Brothers and Sisters in Christ during their time of need.

**Sheila Wahl**  
Council President  
971-998-6481



## **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **Council Members**

President: Sheila Wahl  
Vice President: Pam Seelye  
Treasurer: Connie Adams  
Secretary: Ronda Corless

Elder: Jeff Allen  
Property Board: Herb Meissel  
Christian Education: Carolyn Stucky  
Pastor: Gary Hagen

## **NOVEMBER SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

- Elder's suggested the 3rd Sunday service in December be Christmas carols.
- The Giving Tree will be going up in the Narthex.
- A \$1,000 donation was made for the steps going down to the park area.
- Pastor Duley was Called, it will likely be 4-6 weeks before we hear from Pastor Duley whether or not he will accept the Call.
- A volunteer is needed to head up the Alter Guild.
- Pastor Kasting sent a thank you letter regarding Sue's memorial service.
- A volunteer is needed to head up the Christmas decorations.
- Next council meeting will be January 20th at 6:30pm.
- There will be a special Congregation meeting January 25th to go over Bylaw changes and vote on our lay voting delegate for the Synod President.

### **Ronda Corless**

Council Secretary



## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD NEWS**

### **SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

We thank Jim Clack for leading a class in November and December. We continued to learn more about King David. God was gracious, loving, guiding, and forgiving to David just as He to each of us. In January come to the Library after Worship Service and meet a new facilitator. Everyone is welcome to participate in a new study.

### **CONFIRMATION**

Our three students, Ayla, Sophia, and Jacob, have been studying with Pastor Gary. Beginning in January the Elders and the Board of Education are searching for a replacement. These three youth are looking forward to continuing their confirmation study. Please pray - are you the one who could lead these friendly 8th graders as they continue their journey growing in their faith in our Triune God?

### **LIBRARY**

Ron Mehl has three books on the gray Library cart waiting for you to "take a look" for new insights. We are always happy to help you search for any other books as well. There are many books in the Library to catch your interest and enjoyment.

### **YOUNG ADULTS**

College and job wise our young adults are taking new steps in their lives. Take time to hear about their classes and their jobs when you see them. We want them to know they are prayed for by their Trinity Family. When they need prayers for guidance, encouragement, endurance, and caring, please let Carolyn and Henrietta that you will pray for them. We will share names and addresses with you. Nothing is too big or too small for God!

### **YOUNGER STUDENTS**

At this time we are not aware of any Sunday School age (K-5th grade). If we have missed or are not aware of any possible students, please let Carolyn or Henrietta know and we will make contact with the family. The Staff is fully prepared to teach lessons.

God bless You in the New Year!



Many blessings,

**Henrietta Brooks**

Christian Education Board



## TRINITY GIVING TREE

The holidays were a little brighter for 40 adults and children because of your generosity.

We had so much fun getting all the gifts ready for the Parrott Creek *Elves* to come pick them up! When they arrived, there were carts loaded with beautiful quilts and presents waiting for them.

There were lots of hugs and laughter as the gifts were loaded... enough to fill four vehicles!

Thank you for your kindness and caring.

Christmas Blessings,

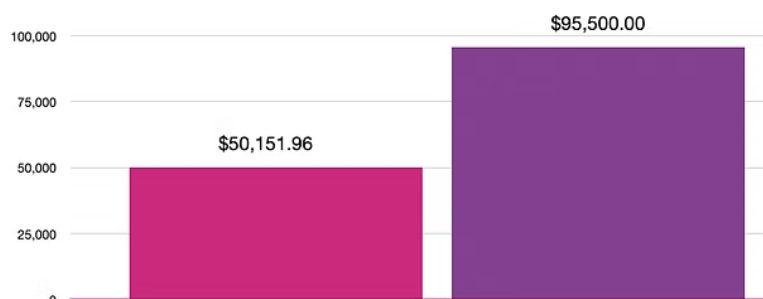
**Beth Wilson**  
Dorcas Guild





*There are eight grants that still need funding in the coming months. Four of them are featured below. We will feature another group next month.*

*Thank you for your generosity thus far!*



Mites received for Oregon District Mission Grants this biennium through December 27, 2025: \$50,151.96

### #1 Proclaiming The Gospel-Serve with Mercy, \$5000

The LCMS Office of National Mission extends its mission outreach, education, and mercy work through independent Recognized Service Organizations (RSOs) whose programs are in harmony with the Lutheran doctrine and practices of the LCMS. RSOs serve the needs of all God's people and may sometimes need assistance with resources to proclaim the Gospel. They may also receive requests for resources such as Bibles, devotional materials, and resources for their leadership team. This grant will purchase needed resources and provide ministry training to support their Lutheran identity in Word and Sacrament.



### #3. Life-Changing Care for People Living with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities-\$6500

The LCMS started mission work in the Dominican Republic in 2005 with a specific emphasis on improving the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) by providing spiritual, physical, and emotional care as Children of God. This home allows residents to remain in their Dominican community while interacting with neighbors, friends, church members, and visitors as they grow in Jesus's love and His Word.



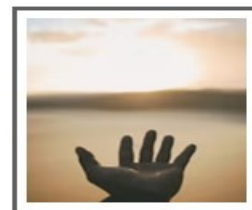
### #6. Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide-Concordia Seminary, \$6500

Most countries have a significant shortage of Lutheran pastors with advanced theological education. The global proclamation of Christ's love and the message of eternal salvation through faith in Christ continues to be paramount. Theological education is one of the critical priorities of the LCMS Synod. This grant will offset international students' educational costs that are not covered by other contributions.



### #9. Oregon District Unequally Yoked Workshop, \$4000

This grant aims to educate the leadership, congregations, and especially college-aged young women of the Oregon District with a better understanding of the Islamic doctrine to prevent them from being wooed away from the Christian faith. This POBLO training, consisting of a workshop and training kits, has been developed to sharpen the distinction between the identity and mindset of Disciples of Christ in contrast to Islam's carnal/spiritual view.



Blessings,  
**Carolyn Stucky**



## GETTING INVOLVED

If you would like to become involved in any area of service here at Trinity OC, feel free to make a note on the Communication Card on the back of the Sunday Worship Service Bulletin.

	Greeters
January 4	Elders
January 11	Elders
January 18	Elders
January 25	Elders

	Communion Set-Up
January 11	Carol Cameron/Steve Cameron
January 25	Carol Cameron/Steve Cameron

	Lectors
January 4	Dave Wilson
January 11	Julie Handy
January 18	Contemporary Service
January 25	Stanette Rosenberger

	Flowers for Worship
January 4	Flowers Purchased
January 11	Flowers Purchased
January 18	Flowers Purchased
January 25	Flowers Purchased

## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

*We are in search of a coordinator for our Outreach Committee.* Please contact Shelia Wahl to discuss this opportunity.



## SO MANY WAYS TO GIVE!

There are many ways Trinity can receive additional donations as you go about your busy days.

## FRED MEYER COMMUNITY REWARDS

Register Fred Meyer Community Rewards [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards), Non-Profit Organization number SA 112.

## THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Do you have a life insurance policy through Thrivent or perhaps an annuity? If so, you may have Thrivent Choice Dollars waiting to be distributed. Thrivent grants amounts to each member quarterly to give away.

You can direct your dollars to the church if you choose to do so, or to an organization of your choice. To direct your funds, login to your account on [Thrivent.com](http://Thrivent.com) or call Thrivent Member Care 800.847.4836

If you have questions, call Connie Adams, 503.631.7446.



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH | OREGON CITY | LEADERSHIP LIST

Additional contact information for the following individuals is available in the church directory.

### BOARD OF ELDERS

Head: Jeff Allen **E, L, T** 206.228.3724 (2025)  
Al Bohr **H, I, J, O** 503.980.8047 (2025)  
Ray Clack **M, N** 503.656.3891 (2025)  
Levi Darnell **A, D, R** 503.631.7559 (2025)  
Cary Martenson **C, G, K, V, Z** 503.632.3879 (2025)  
Craig Nickles **F, W** 971.404.4771 (2026)  
Dave Wilson **B, P, S** 503.459.7365 (2025)

### COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Sheila Wahl (2026)  
Vice President: Pam Seelye (2027)  
Treasurer: Connie Adams (2027)  
Recording Secretary: Ronda Corless (2025)

### PROPERTY BOARD

Herb Meissel (2025)

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Henrietta Brooks  
Carolyn Stucky

### Trinity Office Email Addresses

Office Manager: Kay Lynch  
office@trinityoc.org

### Business Office Hours

Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

### Publications

Bulletin & Scroll Editor: Kay Lynch, Office Manager  
*If you have an article you would like to see published in The Scroll, please feel free to send an email to office@trinity.org or stop by and say hello!*

### Ministry Primary Contacts

#### **Altar Guild**

Altar/Banner: Colleen Brinkert  
Gary Brinkert  
Communion: Carol Cameron  
Steve Cameron  
Flowers: Connie Adams

**Dorcas Guild** - Diane Ledgerwood

**Prayer & Praise** - Henrietta Brooks

**Prayer Chain** - Coordinator: Jacquie Ingalls  
ingalls.rose@yahoo.com

**LWML/Mission Guild** - Carolyn Stucky

**Wednesday Bible Study** - Pastor Gary Hagen

**Audio/Video Technology** - Ahtia Clack

**Facility & Building Use/Security** - Herb Meissel

**Outreach** - [Volunteer Needed](#)

**Quilters** - Sheila Wahl

### Trinity Oregon City Missions and Contacts

#### **Local Outreach**

- **Transitions Projects**

Pat Benjamin

- **Love INC** Office 503.655.4223 ext. 2

- **True Housing** 503.234.8757

- **Lutheran Latino Ministries**

PO Box 293, Mt. Angel, OR 97362

- **Parrott Creek Child and Family Services**

Dorcas Mission Guild & Quilters

#### **National Outreach**

- LCMS Disaster Fund

- LWML

#### **International Outreach**

- Child Beyond International, Guatemala

- Compassion International

Revised 12/2025

Trinity Lutheran Church is a united vital force in our community sharing the love of Jesus

# JANUARY 2026

## TRINITY EVENTS CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 Office Closed	3
			2026 HAPPY NEW YEAR			
4 10am Worship Service Following: Coffee Social / Sunday School  6:30pm Youth Group	5 9:30am CE Board  6:30pm Trinity Volleyball	6  1pm Quilters  5pm NW Elite	7 10:30am Bible Study 10:30am Dorcas  7pm Praise Team	8  5pm NW Elite	9  6pm HOOPS Basketball	10 9am Transition Projects 10:30am Cooking for Homebound
11 10am Worship Service Following: Coffee Social / Sunday School 11am Elder's Board  6:30pm Youth Group	12  6:30pm Trinity Volleyball	13  5pm NW Elite	14 10:30am Bible Study Noon Men's Lunch Stanley's Corner  7pm Praise Team	15  5pm NW Elite	16  6pm HOOPS Basketball	17
18 10am Worship Service Following: Coffee Social / Sunday School Women's & Men's Bible Study 6:30pm Encouragers 6:30pm Youth Group	19 Martin Luther King Jr.  6:30pm Trinity Volleyball	20 9:30am Prayer & Praise  1pm Quilters 5pm NW Elite 6:30pm Church Council	21 10:30am Bible Study  7pm Praise Team	22  5pm NW Elite	23  6pm HOOPS Basketball	24
25 10am Worship Service Following: Coffee Social Special Congregational Meeting 6:30pm Youth Group	26  6:30pm Trinity Volleyball	27 10am Outreach  5pm NW Elite 7pm Canby Bible Study	28 10:30am Bible Study  7pm Praise Team	29  5pm NW Elite	30	31



# JANUARY 2026

Birthdays & Anniversaries

*Happy Anniversary*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Karla Hemphill  Emmett Magenheimer	<b>2</b> Jim Teske	<b>3</b> Kathy Rodwick  Louis Miller III
			<b>2026</b> HAPPY NEW YEAR			
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
					Ted & Jaqueline Engelbrecht	
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Kayle Magenheimer  Willy Weinger	<b>13</b> Eric Lais  Raymond Van Orsow	<b>14</b> Katie Merrill	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Colleen Brinkert  Henrietta Brooks	<b>17</b> Joyce Dull  Rose Turner
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Melissa Scroggins	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Jim Clack	<b>30</b> Charlotte Deyoe	<b>31</b>