

*****Trinity at a Glance*****

- **Help us decorate the Sanctuary for the holidays! Decorating will start today, November 23rd after Service.**
- **Order Your Poinsettias today!** Each year the church is decorated for Christmas with beautiful poinsettias and it's time to start thinking about ordering. If you would like to order a poinsettia (or two or three), a sign-up sheet can be found in Java Junction. You may also place your order by calling or emailing the church office. Dedications made "From", "In honor of" or "In memory of" will be listed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. You may take your poinsettia home following the Christmas Day worship service. **Deadline for sign up is today, Sunday, November 23rd.**
- **Join Humankind Initiative** for a Friendsgiving Potluck is today, **November 23rd 1 pm.** Enjoy a free meal in a friendly setting, and then enjoy some board games and help them decorate trees! The center is located at 1660 N 2501st Rd, Ottawa. Use the following link to sign up and register:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeWj6xz2NwqTykAjhsv8qrZoZQjqqw11OtX-4ELDScTiQMogw/viewform?pli=1>
- As the holiday season approaches, we want to ensure that all families in our congregation have the support they need. **If you or your family are facing challenges this season**, please out to Pastor Phil Potaczek or our parish nurse, Carol Wahlstrom. Our Mission and Outreach committees have resources available and are ready to help where possible. You are not alone. Let's walk through this season together!
- **The Rotary is collecting books and toys for the Salvation Army.** The deadline is **Friday, November 27th.** Please bring items to church. There will be a collection box set out.
- Speaking of the Sunrise Rotary Club...
Trinity extends its gratitude to the Sunrise Rotary club for their GENEROUS donation of a new oven / stove to our Fellowship Hall kitchen. Their generosity ensures that cherished community events like the German Dinner, Lenten soup suppers, and Easter brunch may continue for many more years to come.
- The **Fifth Sunday Meal** will be hosted at Open Table on **November 30th** at Noon.
- **December 2nd, Givebutter** (Trinity's donation platform), **will match 1% of every dollar raised** and stored in Givebutter Wallet. Funds held in TLC's Givebutter Wallet earn 2.5% APY rewards every month, so our donations keep growing. To support Trinity Lutheran Church through Givebutter use your phone's camera to scan the QR code or visit <https://givebutter.com/trinity-lutheran-church-ottawa>.



- **Trinity Evangelical Church in Marseilles will once again be sponsoring a cookie drive.** Cookies will be packaged and distributed to patients of local nursing homes, Veterans home, the Youth Detention Home, Under His Wings, Servant's Heart, Lamb's Fold and other charitable organizations. They will need approximately **6,000 to 10,000 cookies**. Please put the number of cookies on the outside of your package. As in the past, they are looking for assistance in providing cookies and packing them. **Cookies can be delivered to the church on Sunday, November 30th, or brought the day of cookie packing.** Church office: 815-343-5537. **December 3rd 10 am, will be counting and packing day.** They are looking for volunteers to help count and pack. Please note: cookies can NOT contain nuts or fruits. Thank you for helping!

- Come see **The Prairie Singers, 38th Annual Free Christmas Concert Series "Comfort and Joy"**
Dec 2, 6:30 pm Prairie Creek Public Library, Dwight IL (Reservations Required but Free of Charge. Call 815-584-3061)
Dec 6, 7 pm United Methodist Church, Morris IL
Dec 7, 2 pm St. Patrick Catholic Church, Seneca IL
Dec 14, 2 pm St. Columba Catholic Church, Ottawa IL
- **Join us at the Wonder of Winter Gala, Saturday December 6, 7-9 pm.** It will be held at Prairie Fox Books, 719 LaSalle St, Ottawa. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$80 per couple. 21 & older only. There will be live music, an auction, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, & beverages. Wear festive attire! Thank you for supporting Trinity Rose Montessori School! Tickets are available at the Church Office.
- **Star Tree 2025!** Can you help make the Christmas season brighter for our community's kids? **Be a Star Tree Sponsor of a Youth Service Bureau young person.** Gift bags with wish lists attached can be found in the Java Junction area. On the sheet located on the kiosk, please sign your name next to the number found on the gift bag you are taking. **Return the gifts, UNWRAPPED, with the list attached, no later than Sunday, December 7th.** You may wish to go together on a bag with friends or other family members. Thank you so much for spreading the love of the season.

Here's another opportunity to share - the tree in Java Junction will be the collection point for **hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, and socks to help out those in need.** All child/youth/adult sizes are accepted. Thank you for your continuing generosity.

-Mission/Outreach Team

- The next **blood drive** at TLC will be on **December 17th.**
- **The 2026 calendars have arrived!** (\$20). Marj Nelson 815-973-1286 and Kate Reed 815-830-2061 have copies available in Java Junction and in the church office. **Profits go to the Growing Project.**
- Many people in Jamaica and Haiti have been severely impacted by Hurricane Helene. You can give immediate help by giving to Lutheran Disaster Response. At give.ELCA.org/hurricanes, just type in "Lutheran Disaster Response" and select Hurricane Helene and make a contribution. Or send a check to: Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Gift Processing Center, PO Box 1809, Merrifield VA 22116-8009.
- **By the grace of God, we did it!** 700+ cans of pumpkin pie mix were collected for the Community Food Basket by members and friends of Trinity Lutheran Church. So many of our neighbors are sure to have a happy Thanksgiving this year. Your ambitious efforts have made a positive impact in our local community. Thank you for so generously shining your light, Trinity.
- **It is with heartfelt gratitude that we announce the addition of Marv Graunke's name to Trinity's memorial plaque,** commemorating his enduring faith and generous spirit. We celebrate the countless ways his life illuminated our church family and lift our praise to God for this faithful and beloved saint.
- **Lectors Needed!** Please consider signing up to be a worship lector. This is the person who does the readings and the prayer petitions. Those who have done this in the past and new readers are all welcome to sign up for this very worthwhile and fulfilling ministry. Diane emails the readings and prayers four to five days in advance. **Sign-up is in the worship assistants' binder** in the Java Junction area, or call the church office 815-434-0596. Contact Pastor Phil if you have any questions.
- **Interested in getting more involved at Trinity Lutheran?** We have openings on Committees, Council & more! Contact Carol Wahlstrom 815-488-0321 / carolwahlstrom@gmail.com.

● **CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- Oct Income = \$15,391.44 (Income YTD = \$193,397.64)
- Oct Expense = \$18,617.14 (Expense YTD = \$200,114.72)
- Income Less Expense = -\$3,225.70 (Income Less Expense YTD = -\$6,717.08)
- Loan Payment = \$2,943.30
- Principal Payment = \$1,000.00
- Left On Loan = \$6,268.13

● **THIS WEEK @ TRINITY:**

- **Monday (11/24):** 10a Staff meeting
10a Drum Fit (Community Room)
- **Tuesday (11/25):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
- **Wednesday (11/26)** *Office Closed*
No Bible Study
No Choir Rehearsal
- **Thursday (11/27):** *Thanksgiving Day*
Office Closed
No Sit Fit
No Trinity Stitchers
- **Friday (11/28):** *No Sunrise Rotary*
- **Saturday (11/29):** *National Square Dancing Day!* 
- **Sunday (11/30)** First Day of Advent
No Affirmation Class
No Sunday Session
10a Holy Communion
12p 5th Sunday Meal at Open Table

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -

Please sign up using the binder at the back of the aisle.

<p><u>Sunday, November 23, 2025</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: <i>Pearl Manning</i> Ushers: Lector: <i>Griffin Youngstrum</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Jane Goetz</i> Altar Guild: <i>Linda Scott & Katrina Bromann</i> Video Tech: Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In memory of Connie Fultz from Laura, Griffin, & Clifton Youngstrum</i></p>	<p><u>Sunday, November 30, 2025</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: <i>Volunteer</i> Ushers: Lector: <i>Beth Schuett</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Beth Schuett</i> Altar Guild: <i>Ann Enke & Kari Castelli</i> Advent Wreath Lighters: <i>The Reed Family</i> Video Tech: Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In memory of Richard Scott Sr. & Zelpha Scott Grobe from Rick & Linda Scott</i></p>
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