

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

- **Today, November 30th, after Service, we will need help decorating the trees!** Any amount of time you can help is greatly appreciated!
- The **Fifth Sunday Meal** will be hosted at Open Table **today, November 30th** at Noon.
- 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!
- **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.
- **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. For more information, contact the Mission/Outreach Team.
- The next **blood drive** at TLC will be on **December 17th.** Our parish nurse, Carol, needs help hosting the blood drive. Interested volunteers should connect with Carol for more information. Thank you!
- Come join our inter-generational and choral **Christmas program on Sunday, December 21st, during worship, at 10 am.**
- On **Christmas Eve** we are gathering for "**Communion and Carols**" at **5 pm.** All are welcome!
- **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.
- **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.
- **TLC Prayer Requests.**
 - . To submit a *public* prayer request to the congregation, please reach out to Diane (diane@trinitylutheranottawa.com).
 - . To submit a *private* prayer request, connect with Pastor Phil (pastorphil@trinitylutheranottawa.com).
 - . When you submit a public prayer request, please include only the information you are comfortable having printed in the bulletin. We will publish the request as written, but may shorten it for clarity and privacy. If you wish to remain anonymous, please specify.
 - . Each request will appear in the bulletin once. We will publish updates as you provide them.
 - . Even when a request is no longer printed, our whole church family is encouraged to add these needs to their personal prayer lists.

Thank you for holding these requests before God with such care.

- *Pastor Phil*

- Have you seen the **ELCA Good Gifts Catalogue?** It's full of **ways to help people in developing countries.** You can: **Buy animals:** \$10 for chicks, \$50 for a goat, \$20 for honeybees, \$30 for a piglet. **Support health & nutrition:** \$30 for a water filter, \$30 for a child's vaccinations, \$10 for a mosquito net, \$25 for a hygiene kit. **Help in times of crisis:** \$10 for a blanket, \$50 to feed a refugee family for a week. **Agriculture:** \$50 for seeds and gardening tools, \$200 for a community vegetable garden, \$150 to start a fruit tree farm, \$10 for a fruit tree seedling. There's much more! The website is <https://goodgifts.elca.org>.

● **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 (12/1):**
 - 10a Staff meeting
 - 10a Drum Fit (Community Room)
 - 4:40p Mission Meeting (Community Room)
 - 6p Christian Education (Board Room)
- **Tuesday (12/2):** 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
- **Wednesday (12/3)** 1p Bible Study (Community Room)
No Choir Rehearsal
- **Thursday (12/4):**
 - 10a Sit Fit (Community Room)
 - 1p Trinity Stitchers (Sewing Room)
- **Friday (12/5):** 7a Sunrise Rotary (Community Room)
- **Saturday (12/6):** *National Gazpacho Day!* 🍷 🍴 🍲
- **Sunday (12/7)** *Second Sunday of Advent*
 - 9a Affirmation Class
 - 9a Sunday Session
 - 10a Holy Communion

WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE -

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

<p><u>Sunday, November 30, 2025</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: <i>Volunteer</i> Ushers: Lector: <i>Beth Schuett</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Beth Schuett, Kari Castelli, Brad Gromm</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>	<p><u>Sunday, December 7, 2025</u> Crucifer/Acolyte: <i>Madi Perino</i> Ushers: Lector: <i>Shannon Matteson</i> Communion Assistants: <i>Shannon Matteson, Ann Enke, Anne Lauterjung</i> Altar Guild: <i>Ann Enke & Annette Bruce</i> Advent Wreath Lighters: <i>The Manning Family</i> Video Tech: Music Directors: <i>Matt Makeever & Mary Heider</i> Altar Flowers: <i>In honor of Barb Cunningham from the Heider & McGrath Families</i></p>
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