

# the Trinity Trumpet

JANUARY 2025

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The Parish Newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church; Danville, Illinois

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If you're like me, the first thing you do when you get up in the morning is brew the coffee and turn on the news.

If you did that on New Year's Day, January 1, 2025, you woke up to some very bad news. The New Year began with a terrorist attack in New Orleans. A man driving a pickup truck plowed through a crowd celebrating on Bourbon Street in the wee hours of the morning. As of this writing, 15 are dead and 30-some are injured, many seriously. The death toll is expected to rise.

On New Year's Day a car bomb exploded in front of the Trump motel in Las Vegas. Then, in the evening, there was a mass shooting in Queens, New York.

News like that takes the "Happy" out of "Happy New Year." What we've seen so far is a "Horrific New Year." The idea that 2025 is going to be different, better, more peaceful was shot down right out of the chute. We realize that 2025 is not going to be as "new" as we had hoped. Instead, it appears that it will be more of the same old, same old.

What happened in New Orleans, Las Vegas, and Queens may sadden you, but it should not surprise you. It will only surprise you if you believe that the world and the people who inhabit it are, for the most part, good.

But we know that's not true. This world is sinful. Isaiah on Christmas Eve described it as a **"land of deep darkness."**

St. Paul, in Romans 3, writes, **"There is no one who does good, not even one."** We have to stop being surprised by what happened in New Orleans, Las Vegas, and Queens and other things like those. This is the norm for a world steeped in sin and wickedness. This is the norm for hearts that

have been hardened by sin against God and against the neighbor.

Thankfully, we woke up on New Year's Day not only to the first day of a New Year, but to the eighth day of Christmas.

To us who dwell in a land of deep darkness, a light has shined! To us sinners has been born a sinless Savior; a sinless Savior full of grace and truth who went about doing gracious things and speaking the truth.

It's no surprise that on New Year's Eve we heard these words of God from Romans 8, **"In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."**

Jesus loved us. Jesus died for us. Jesus rose again and intercedes for us in heaven. We are more than conquerors through Him.

The "these things" that Paul refers to include tribulation, distress, persecution, famine, nakedness, danger and the sword. The "these things" include terrorist attacks like the one in New Orleans and mass shootings like the one in Queens, and all the other evil we encounter in this sinful world and at the hands of sinners.

That may or may not make this year a Happy New Year, but it certainly makes it a Hopeful New Year. Jesus has conquered sin and death and the grave. Believing in Him, baptized into Him, fed by and with Him in His Supper, we share in His victory. We become conquerors, **MORE** than conquerors through Jesus who loved us.

In Jesus, you can face this New Year whatever happens. In Him you are more than a conqueror whatever happens. In Him you can endure whatever happens. In Him you can help and serve your neighbor whatever happens.

### A VOICE FROM THE PAST

At the Divine Service on New Year's Eve we sang the hymn "O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly." Stanza 4 is a wonderful prayer for all of us as we begin this New Year:

*Jesus, guard and guide Thy members, fill them with Thy boundless grace,  
Hear their prayers in every place.*

*Fan to flame faith's glowing embers; grant all Christians, far and near,  
Holy peace, a glad new year!*

### IN THE WORD: BIBLE STUDY AT TRINITY

<b>Class</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>
-Cafeteria Class	Cafeteria	Sundays, 8:30 a.m.	Gospel of Mark
-Thursday Morning Class	Cafeteria	Thursdays, 9:30 a.m.	Book of Romans

### OFFICIAL ACTS FOR DECEMBER

Baptisms: Mia Buzzone Parke, 12/22  
Funerals: I.R. "Cookie" Anders, 12/6  
Marie Huff, 12/16 (non-member)  
Olive Marie Anders, 12/20  
Calls: 15 (03 HC)

### 2024 AT A GLANCE

At the beginning of a New Year, we reflect on the year just past. We do that as a nation, as families and individuals, and as a congregation. So, here is Trinity's 2024 at a glance.

*Average Attendance:* 111 members worshipped each Sunday on average in 2024, as compared to 112 in 2023.

#### *Members Added to the Congregation:*

- **9 souls** were added to the Holy Christian Church and to our congregation by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.
- **1 soul** was received into the Holy Christian Church and to our congregation through adult confirmation and the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.
- **6 souls** were received into our congregation by transfer from other LCMS congregations and **1 soul** through affirmation of faith.
- All told, **16 souls** were added to our congregation in 2024.

#### *Member Subtracted from the Congregation*

- **7 souls** were removed from our congregation through death but were received into the Church Triumphant in heaven.
- **1 soul** was transferred to another LCMS congregation outside our community.
- All told, **8 souls** were subtracted from our congregation in 2024.
- The net change in baptized membership for 2024 at Trinity was **+8 souls**.

*Pastoral Calls & Other Official Acts:*

- 1 wedding, uniting one couple in the holy estate of marriage, was performed.
- 2 youth were confirmed and received as communicant members.
- 277 pastoral calls were made, 101 of them included the Lord's Supper.

In this upcoming we will continue to be who God has made us to be—disciples of Jesus. We will continue to do what Jesus has called us to do—make disciples of Jesus.

**BULLETS FROM BOPE (Board of Parish Education)**

- Thank you to the Sunday school students who joined their voices to the voices of our day school students for the Trinity Lutheran Children's Service of Lessons & Carols on December 18. It is always a wonderful evening hearing the Christmas Gospel from you and singing praises to God with you.
- We not only celebrate Jesus' birth; we celebrate His sinless life, His atoning death, and His glorious resurrection. Bring your children to Sunday school all year long so they can hear and learn about everything Jesus has done for them.

**SCHOOL MUSINGS**

-The students of Trinity Lutheran School had a busy December. They participated in the Divine Service that began the December 10 meeting of the pastors of the Champaign and Iroquois Circuits. They sang and played for the Eunice Christmas Party on December 12. Last, but not least, they proclaimed the Gospel with their voices and with instruments at the annual Trinity Children's Service of Lessons and Carols on December 18.

-Parents, don't forget, school resumes on Monday, January 6!

-The next "5<sup>th</sup>" Sunday is Sunday, January 26. Hot breakfast will be served, a special Bible study will be taught, the students will sing during the service, and a door offering for the Haack Fund will be received. Please join our students and families for the entire Sunday morning.

**ADULT INSTRUCTION**

Another adult instruction class will begin shortly into the New Year. If you are interested in attending or know someone who might be, let Pastor Tibben know. Those of you who are already members are welcome to attend and will benefit by reviewing what you were taught when you were little whippersnappers! Letters to potential class participants were sent out in December.

**THE TIBBENS SAY "THANK YOU!"**

Each year members of the congregation very kindly remember our family with food and gifts, cards and warm wishes. Again this year we want to thank you for your consistent kindness to and ongoing support for our family. We are thankful to be part of God's family and His household here at Trinity.

**TRINITY'S MISSION STATEMENT:** The purpose of Trinity Lutheran Church is to proclaim Jesus Christ to our members, our community, our world, and to the next generation.

**THE VALUES OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH ARE:** Strong Biblical preaching and teaching; our Lutheran heritage; fellowship in faith and love toward one another; bringing Christ's mercy in Word and deed to the community; and our Lutheran day school.

**TUNE INTO THE RADIO BROADCAST EVERY SUNDAY** on WITY, 980 AM or 99.5 FM and listen to The Lutheran Hour at 10:00 a.m. and Trinity's church service at 10:30 a.m. You may also listen to Trinity's service again at 10:30 p.m. on Sunday evening.

**WORSHIP ANEW** celebrates the new life all believers have in Jesus with a 30-minute broadcast service. Christ's love is shared through weekly Scripture readings, favorite hymns, prayers, and a pastor's message that reveals God's grace and truth. View every program at [www.WorshipAnew.org](http://www.WorshipAnew.org) or tune in Sunday mornings on channel 49 WCIX Springfield at 7:30 a.m., channel 50 CW at 8:00 a.m., or channel 2 WTWO Terre Haute at 8:00 a.m. Eastern time.

**PRAY FOR THESE TRINITY MEMBERS:** Cathy Huff; Bea Hussman; Dennis Huston; Adam Hutchison; Mike & Laura Hutchison; Ryan Hutchison & son, Gavin; Darin Jarling & children, Kailee & Clayton; Greg & Anne Jarling & sons, Conor & Gavin; Sandy Jarling; Jerry Jarvis; Katari Jimson; Jerry & Gayle Jochim; Amy Jones; Warren & Janice Jones & son, Kristopher; Brad & Amber Jordan & children, Gavin, Holden, Gracelyn, Maisie and Payton Gutteridge; Dave & Cherly Kienast; Chris Kienast; David King; Gary King & children, Leo, Gideon, & Emerson; Jerry & Doris King; Jeanne Klage; Mike & Sharyn Klepp; Mark Koch & daughters, Kerri & Kayli; Robert Koch Jr.; Corey Koester; Chelsey Krage; Sandra Krage & children, Jason, Shane, & Amanda; Kenneth Krage & daughter, Trina; Richard Krage; Joe & Kathy Kyle; Audey Lake; Ken Lamar & son, Ayden

**BETHANY BARKS** As the new year begins, we look forward to new beginnings and many things that remain the same. New opportunities to use Bethany to introduce the Word of God, while maintaining existing relationships using Bethany as a tool to help our neighbors in need. As stated on the back of Bethany's business card, "**Bethany is a friend who brings a calming influence and allows people to open their hearts and receive help for what is affecting them.**" That is what we try to do each time Bethany goes on a visit. We offer comfort and help in any way we can. If you think you would like to experience this, we have a "ride-along" program. Anyone from the congregation may come with us and see for yourself. Think about it, pray about it, try it! There is no obligation to join Bethany's team.

# thank you

## **THANK YOU!**

**DAVID COOPER** would like to thank the TLS students and staff for the wonderful Veterans Day supper and program!

**DIANA GERNAND AND SUE BARR** would like to thank all the members whom we have called upon to help with various tasks around the church in 2024. From ushers, elders, sound persons, communion assistants, acolytes, usherettes and their parents, trustees, altar guild, David Drake, Pastor and the congregation, we could not do it without you.

**DIANA GERNAND** would like to thank the Eunice ladies for the Christmas treat bag. It was yummy!

**THE DEADLINE** for submissions for the January newsletter is Friday, January 24, 3:30 p.m.

**SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE IN JANUARY:**

Altar Guild: Don and Sue Barr and Betsy Perkins

Sound Schedule:

January 5 - Laura Hutchison  
January 12 - Dave Tobeck  
January 19 - Teresa Parish  
January 26 - Chris Kienast

Usher Captains:

January 5 - Mike Klepp  
January 12 - Adam Muehl & Alex Muehl  
January 19 - Eric Westfall  
January 26 - Jerry Jochim

Communion Assistants

January 5 - Brian Parke and Terry Mourer  
January 12 - Mark Hamm and Cliff Peak  
January 19 - Brian Parke and Mark Gale  
January 26 - Matins

**LWML-EUNICE NEWS** (information for ALL women in the congregation)

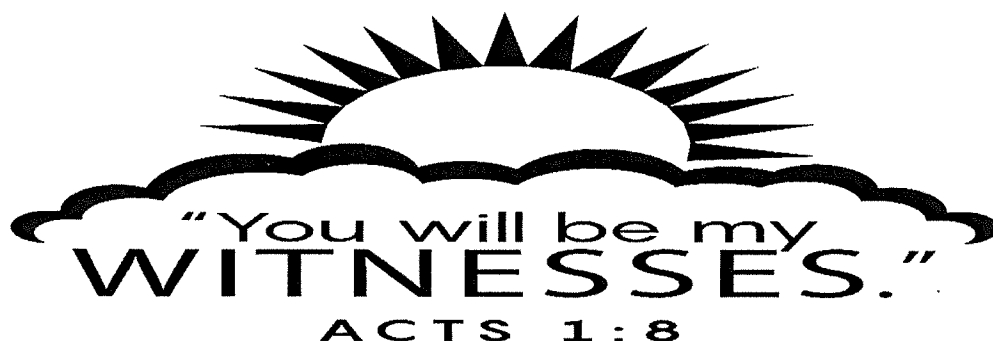
There is no Eunice Society meeting in January. Our next meeting will be Thursday, February 13, at 12:30 p.m., in the cafeteria. The February hostess committee will bring desserts to share. We welcome all ladies of the congregation to join us. There is no obligation to become a member.

**Mites -**

The January Prayer Calendar is included in this mailing. Mites are collected the first Sunday of each month at either entrance, then sent to LWML-Central Illinois District for distribution to the various mission grants, both for our District LWML as well as for National LWML. For more information, view these websites – [www.lwml-cid.org](http://www.lwml-cid.org) or [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

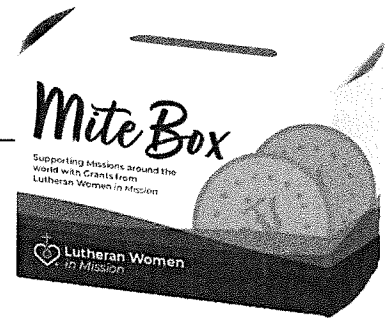
**THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**

**IN MARK 16:15 JESUS TELLS HIS FOLLOWERS TO** “go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.” The newly formed Board of Evangelism is charged with enlisting all of God’s people (congregation members) in the work of spreading the Gospel. We have distributed hundreds of Bible verses along with information about our school and church. Now we are asking for your help to reach more people. There will be a presentation on Sunday, February 23, in Bible class about a training program called “Beyond the Classroom.” This program is intended to teach us how to reach out to the unchurched families in our Lutheran school. We ask that you listen to the presentation and decide if you are interested in attending the training or supporting its implementation. Other ways you can be involved in evangelism are through your daily interactions with family; neighbors and friends; greeting visitors to our church; or helping with the Deaf Ministry. If you have any suggestions about ways to spread the Gospel, please contact Laura Berry to share your ideas. We look forward to spreading God’s Word with you!



# JANUARY

*Use this prayer guide for the month of January. Each day as you pray, please feed your Mite Box in support of district and LWML Mission Grants. What a joy it is to lift these needs to our Father's listening ears!*



1. For God's direction in your life during this new year.
2. For LWML Mission Grant #1.
3. For Afghanistan, one of the 83 countries where LWML has supported a grant.
4. For your pastor.
5. For your LWML District Board of Directors.
6. Epiphany! Thank God that Jesus came to save us!
7. For the country of Angola.
8. For the LWML Texas District.
9. For young people to follow Jesus.
10. For all church workers.
11. For the country of Argentina.
12. For your community and the opportunity to share the Gospel with other people groups.
13. For LWML Mission Grant #2.
14. For our Lutheran Women in Mission President.
15. For the country of Austria.
16. For the LWML Oklahoma District.
17. For all Lutheran Braille Workers and volunteers.
18. For all law enforcement officers.
19. For the Bahamas.
20. For your vocation.
21. For LWML Mission Grant #3.
22. For those who receive needed staples from food pantries.
23. For the country of Bangladesh.
24. Recite the Lord's Prayer today.
25. For the editors of the *Lutheran Woman's Quarterly*.
26. For the homebound in your congregation.
27. For your dear friends.
28. For countries that have not yet heard the Gospel.
29. For the homeless in your area.
30. For the country of Belize.
31. For Sunday school teachers.

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



May all kings  
fall down  
before him,  
all nations  
serve him!  
PSALM 72:11, ESV

# January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 New Year's Day	2 9:30 Bible class	3	4
			TLS CHRISTMAS BREAK			
5 Epiphany of Our Lord 8:30 Bible Class/SS 9:30 DIVINE SERVICE 11:00 Jr Confirmation	6 TLS Resumes	7 9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 6:00 Choir 6:15 Adult Instruction	8 8:30 Chapel 6:00 Stewardship	9 9:30 Bible class 6:00 Elders	10	11
12 Baptism of Our Lord 8:30 Bible Class/SS 9:30 DIVINE SERVICE 11:00 Jr Confirmation	13	14 9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 6:00 Choir 6:15 Adult Instruction	15 8:30 Chapel 6:30 DIVINE SERVICE	16 9:30 Bible class 5:00 TLS Board	17	18
19 Epiphany 2 8:30 Bible Class/SS 9:30 DIVINE SERVICE 11:00 Jr Confirmation	20 MLK Day TLS No School	21 9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 6:00 Choir	22 8:30 Chapel	23 9:30 Bible class	24 1:00 Trustees meeting	25
26 Epiphany 3 8:30 Bible Class/SS 9:30 MATTINS 11:00 Jr Confirmation	27	28 9:00 Knitting & Crocheting 6:00 Choir	29 8:30 Chapel 6:30 DIVINE SERVICE	30 9:30 Bible class	31	
PASTOR AT SYMPOSIA IN FORT WAYNE						
NATIONAL		LUTHERAN		SCHOOLS		WEEK