



JANUARY  
2026

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
499 4th Ave. NW  
Valley City, ND 58072  
(701)845-3837  
"Love God. Love Others."

**Email:**

trinitylutheranvc@bektel.com

**Website:**

www.trinitylutheran-valleycity.org



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

**Worship**

Sundays, 10 a.m.  
Holy Communion on first &  
third Sundays

**Sunday School**

9-9:45 a.m.

**Bible Study**

Tuesdays: 10:30—11:30 a.m.  
@ TLC library;  
Meets @ Bridgeview Est. on  
second Tuesdays of month.

**Pastor:**

Rev. Diane Krumm  
Email: ptlc@bektel.com  
Cell: (701)840-7548

**Office Manager:**

Rochelle Triebold  
Hours: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., M-Th  
Closed on Fridays

**Treasurer/Expenses:**

Kaneaia Kinney

**Offerings Secretary**

Diane Kracht

**Custodians:**

Jerry & Michelle Dahl

# Trinity Tidings



Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life.  
Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and  
whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

John 6:35

For holiday meals, my mom would ask my brother and me to say "grace" – as in the table prayer. As you can imagine, we usually said the word "grace," giggled, and then said the table prayer. We thought we were being clever and funny. But it is true that everything we have, including a holiday meal, is grace – a gracious gift from our Lord.

Martin Luther explained that when we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," we are asking God to help us realize what we have been given and to receive it with thanksgiving. God does not need our reminders to provide for us and His creation. We need God to open our eyes and hearts. We can easily focus on what we don't have and/or take what we do have for granted. We can think that we have procured all of it by ourselves. But daily bread is more than a loaf of bread that we can buy at the grocery store. Luther said that it includes everything we need for daily life – such as food, clothes, house, money, good government, favorable weather, peace, health, and good family and friends. That is a long list, and it barely scratches the surface of what God provides for us each day. So, in praying for our "daily bread," we are asking God to strengthen our faith so that we trust that God is here for us, cares about us, and will provide what we need.

As we approach Christmas, we are mindful of how Jesus is the best gift of all. The one of humble birth in Bethlehem grew to be the one who fed over 5,000 people with a bit of bread and fish. After that miraculous meal, the crowd followed Jesus hoping for another free lunch (John 6). But Jesus offered them even more – himself as the bread of life. We need Jesus every day, too. We need him to offer us forgiveness, life, and salvation. And each and every day, Jesus shows up for us.

During the holidays ("holy days") and every day, may we recognize the blessings we have and thank God for them. May we express our thanks by sharing with others. May we pray "grace" and live it.

Blessings to you this Christmas and for the New Year!

Pastor Diane



### In Our Thoughts/Prayers:

Fam/Friends of Jim Gordon (11/22 funeral @ funeral home); Chad Henningsgard (gall bladder & appendix surgery), , Karen Magnuson, Carol Boucher (Linda Westby's sis), Don Clark (Kathy Brobst's husband), Nicole Wieser, Jenny (Hoefs) Morical (neck surgery); Military men/women; Missionaries; Casa de Fe orphanage; Eastern ND Synod Bishop Tessa Moon Leiseth/ELCA Bishop Rev. Yehiel Curry; Peace.

### November 2025 Memorials

#### GENERAL FUND

In memory of **Clinton Stowman**  
Given by Bernard & Edna Elsner

In memory of **Inez Leigman**  
(Kevin Kamphuis' mom)  
Given by Roger & Rochelle Triebold

In memory of **Jim Gordon**  
Given by Bernard & Edna Elsner

#### ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Janelle Ladbury**  
Given by Jerry & Julie Yokom



**Thank you** to those who helped with Christmas decorating @ TLC on Nov. 23rd: Diane Kracht, Jerry & Julie Yokom, Kevin & Elsa Kamphuis, Pat Larson, Karen Ladbury, Glenn & Judy Torgerson, Kim Wittenberg, Vicki Metcalf, and Rochelle Triebold. Many hands made light work!



There is NO Mission Breakfast for the month of December @ TLC. Thank you to all who support this wonderful mission by attending/helping with these brunches! See you January 11!



Mark your calendar for the Trinity Lutheran Church Annual meeting on **Sunday, Jan. 25th, 2025**, after 10 a.m. Worship. Potluck to follow the meeting. Committee heads/treasurers, please have your reports/financial books into TLC office by **Jan. 12th** for our auditing team.



Thanks to those who gave monetary donations towards the Community Thanksgiving Baskets. A total of \$2105 was given from TLC to this project. A total of over 100 baskets went to those living on income restrictions within our community. Each basket cost approx. \$60 to make, and contained items for a traditional Thanksgiving meal. We met TLC's share of the basket costs. This was a joint effort of Faith, OSLC, and TLC.

### **Bucks \$\$\$ for Bus rides!**

Trinity's Outreach, Stewardship, and Global Missions Committee is organizing a donation drive to purchase transit bus tickets for the clients of Abused Person Outreach Center (APOC). APOC has indicated that bus tickets are especially needed during the winter months. It is challenging to walk in the cold, and tickets can go quickly. For example, a trip to the grocery store for a mother and two children requires six tickets.



Throughout December, a "bus tree" will be displayed in the TLC Gathering Area. To participate, take a paper bus from the tree, attach your donation, and place it in the offering plate. Each book of 10 tickets costs \$20, but all contributions are welcome. We will use the donations to purchase as many ticket books as possible.

Thank you for being part of helping APOC clients move forward with their lives!





## TLC Sunday School



Everyone is invited to the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 7th during worship (10 a.m.). The program features handbells and other bells that will be used to share the Christmas Story. Join us as we “ring in the reason for the season”!

### Mark your calendars:

Dec. 7: Program practice at 9 a.m.; Program at 10 am  
Dec. 14: Christmas Crafts during Sunday School time  
Dec 21, Dec 28, and Jan 4: No Sunday School  
Jan. 11: Sunday School class resumes



## Kids Club for 4th-6th graders Wednesdays, 3:15-5 p.m. @ Faith Lutheran Church

Youth in grades 4-6 from Trinity, Faith, & Our Saviors are invited to this after school program. If you would like your child/children to take part in this fun club, contact Wendi Wilmes (840-3911).



In this season of giving, you can make a difference in the life of someone struggling. Below are ways you can help:

- Monetary donation to a food pantry or trusted charity.
- Volunteer at organizations that provide free community dinners to the hungry.
- Make care kits for people experiencing homelessness.
- Bake for neighbors in need or families going through a tough time.
- Donate unused or gently used items.
- Drive someone without transportation to an appointment or Christmas Worship service.
- Help someone shovel snow or help with chores/errands.
- Pay it forward: pay for someone's groceries, gas, or a meal. Small surprises can mean a lot during the holidays.
- Visit long term care facilities or send cards. Many residents don't have visitors; a card, conversation, or simple presence brings joy.
- Check in on those spending the holidays alone. Call, visit, or invite them to join your celebration.

## Confirmation Corner

**Dec. 2025/Jan. 2026**

**6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesdays  
@ OSLC, Grades 7-9**

**December 3:** Students will go either shopping in Jamestown or pack Christmas treat bags for VCSU students and Open Door clients. Watch for reminder with specific times.

**December 10:** (optional attendance): we will be making Christmas Greetings for Beyond Housing to donate.

**December 17 & 24:** No Confirmation Class



TLC WELCA would like to say “thank you” to everyone who helped with the annual Fall Festival, which was held on Nov. 8th. We appreciate all the organizers, cooks/bakers/kitchen help, basket donators, quilt makers, and customers who came to the luncheon &/or purchased a basket/quilt/baked goods! After expenses, profit totaled \$3,390.

Also, thanks to all who gave a monetary donation on Nov. 16th towards the ThankOffering. A total of \$589.50 was received. Your donation supports the many ministries of our ELCA Women (WELCA) — from helping those in life transitions, healing from domestic abuse, scholarships & job training, and so much more.

Want to shop from the comfort of your home, and support a good cause all while helping someone? Shop ELCA Good Gifts and honor a loved one



this Christmas with a gift that grows the church, fights hunger and transforms lives.

Browse gifts and customizable cards at <https://elca.org/GoodGifts>.



All are welcome to this year's  
Christmas events @ TLC:

**Sunday, Dec. 7th, 10 a.m.:**  
Sunday School Christmas program  
during Worship

**Sunday, Dec. 21st, 10 a.m.:**  
4th Sunday of Advent Worship

**Wednesday, Dec. 24th/Christmas Eve:**  
Candlelight Worship & Holy Communion

**Sunday, Dec. 28th, 10 a.m.:** Service of Lessons &  
Carols



## 53rd Annual Community Christmas Eve Dinner

St. Catherine's Church Dining Hall  
Wednesday, Dec. 24th, 2025  
5:30—7 p.m.

For those who will be alone this Christmas, come  
celebrate Jesus' birthday with other community  
members. If you need transportation, please call  
845-0354 by 3 p.m. on Tues., Dec. 23rd. Sorry,  
no food deliveries.

Monetary or dessert donations are welcome.  
For questions or to volunteer, please call Deacon  
Tom Vanorny (210-0640). Financial donations  
can be mailed to: St. Catherine Church, Attn:  
Christmas Eve Dinner, 540 3rd Ave. NE, VC.



## VC Community Gift Tree

In this season of giving and making  
sure Barnes County families enjoy a  
nice Christmas, Dacotah Bank is spon-  
soring the Community Gift Tree. If you  
would like to contribute, you may drop off  
your giftwrapped donation (label boy or girl &  
age) to Dacotah Bank (240 3rd St. NW, VC) by  
12/17.

Dacotah Bank will partner with Abused Per-  
sons Outreach Center (APOC) for distribution  
of gift donations. Monetary gifts are also ac-  
cepted. Contact Sue Kapaun @ Dacotah Bank  
for ?'s (701)845-2712.

## 18th Annual "Sounds of the Season"

@ Our Savior's Lutheran (138 3rd St. NW)

12:10-12:50 p.m.

Wednesdays, Dec. 3, 10, & 17



During this busy month, take time each week to relax over  
your Wednesday lunch hour with some Christmas music.  
If unable to attend in person, each Wed. performance will  
be live-streamed via Our Savior's Lutheran Church Face-  
book page. Featured performers are: Brad Edin (3rd),  
Faye Bubach (10th), and Beth Quick Berge (17th).  
All are welcome! Refreshments will be provided, but you  
are welcome to bring your own lunch!



The Valley City Salvation Army Kettle Campaign needs bell ringers through Dec. 24! If you  
can help for any amount of time (1-2 hours, or more!) sign up by calling **Naomi Schlecht at**  
**(701)541-1418 or Lenora Ziemba at (701)840-1357**. Bell ringing locations will be at Petro  
and Leever's. Thanks!

## Poinsettias for Christmas

If you plan to give a donation towards a poinsettia plant, please fill out below info and return  
this form to the church **no later than Dec. 15th**. You may either give money towards a plant  
(\$20-\$25 suggested donation) or order the plant yourself and bring it to the church by 12/23.



\_\_\_\_\_ We plan to buy a plant and deliver to the church by Dec. 23rd.

\_\_\_\_\_ We are enclosing \$\_\_\_\_\_ to go towards the Christmas plant fund.  
Church office will order a predetermined amount of plants to adorn our  
sanctuary. (Recommended donation is \$20-\$25, but any amount is appreciated.)

Name of person(s) giving: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person(s) it is given in memory/honor of (please circle memory or honor):  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS 2025:**

**Council President:** Diane Kracht      **Vice Pres.:** Kim Wittenberg      **Secretary:** Brenda Laub  
**Other members:** Kathy Hoefs, Robert Nelson, Gary Botner, Glenn Torgerson; Pr. Diane Krumm

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### **TRINITY COUNCIL MEETING – Highlights from November 11, 2025**

Members Present: Gary Botner, Kathy Hoefs, Diane Kracht, Brenda Laub, Robert Nelson, Glen Torgerson, Kim Wittenberg, Kaneia Kinney (Treas), and Pastor Diane Krumm

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Christian Education/Youth** – Diane: Sunday School Christmas Program will be on December 7th during the worship service. Amy Anderson is teaching 2-3 songs to the students on the handbells.

Next Meeting: January 8, 2026, at 4:45 p.m.

**Endowment** – Glen: Next Meeting: March 22, 2026, after worship.

**Global Missions/Outreach/Stewardship** – Brenda: Trinity has reached its goal for donations to Community Thanksgiving Baskets. Thank you to ARC for their donation. The 5th Sunday of the month donation for November is designated to ELCA World Hunger. Christmas Treat Bags will be assembled for Open Door clients using a Thrivent Action Team card. Donations will be collected for APOC for client taxi/transit tickets – a “bus tree” will be set up in the Gathering Area.

Next Meeting: January 15, 2026, at 5 p.m.

**Worship** – Kathy: Lighting of candles on All Saints Sunday went well. This will probably be continued. Preparing for Christmas Eve Service (Dec 24th at 4 p.m.) and the Advent season.

Next Meeting: January 8, 2026, at 1 p.m.

**Women (WELCA)** – Kim: The Fall Festival went very well! Thank you to everyone who participated.

**Property** – Gary/Robert: Church boiler pump to sanctuary will be repaired when parts arrive. In the works: small area of church roof that needs to be reshingled, church back door bar/lock, and parsonage tree branch.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

We will continue with ACB for snow removal. Discussed options for investing Jeanne Anderson Bequest.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Preparation of Annual Meeting: The annual meeting date was set for January 25, 2026. Diane Kracht, Kim Wittenberg, and two others will serve on the Nominating Committee. Elections at the annual meeting include: two 3-year council positions; one 1-year Endowment Committee position (to fill out a term), and one 5-year Endowment Committee position. The council will appoint an audit committee.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** Tuesday, December 9, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.

#### **October 2025 Financial:**

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Beg. Balance (as of 10/01/25):   | \$32,967.12   |
| Income:                          | \$64,282.32   |
| Expenses:                        | \$(15,367.11) |
| Ending Balance (as of 10/31/25): | \$81,882.33   |
| Outstanding checks:              | \$(10,195.93) |
| Outstanding deposits:            | 0             |
| Minus Jeanne Anderson            | \$(57,185.36) |
| Adjusted Balance:                | \$14,501.04   |

#### **Sunday Worship Attendance, November 2025**

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 2nd: 55  | 23rd: 56 |
| 9th: 64  | 30th: 34 |
| 16th: 52 |          |





*A blessed Advent,  
Christmas, & New  
Year's to you from us!*

Pr. Diane, Rochelle,  
Kaneia, Diane, Amy,  
Naomi, Jerry & Michelle

## **Christmas at Homewood** *Saturday, December 6 @ 2 p.m.*



Come celebrate Christmas in an old restored barn! For those unable to do steps, a closed circuit TV will be on the main floor.

Featuring local musicians!

No admission fee.

Refreshments served afterwards.

At the home of Tim & Becky Hagar:  
11145 40th St. SE, Valley City.

Directions: Exit 288 on I94, 5.5mi. south on Hwy #1, and 1 3/4 mi west. Turn @ Moon Lake sign.



### **Homemade Quilts for sale!**

Looking for a homemade quilt to keep you warm or give as a gift? TLC Quilters have quilts available for sale for \$50.



Many patterns & beautiful colors to choose from! If interested, contact Sue Martin (840-0668) or Karen Ladbury (840-2591).



### **SMP-St. Raphael Stocking Stuffer program**

SMP-St. Raphael's Stocking Stuffer program has become a wonderful tradition that is eagerly looked forward to because of your generous support. Every year, your donations enable St. Raphael to bring joy to the residents during the Christmas season. Every resident receives gifts/goodies purchased with your donations by the Neighborhood Planner who knows what each and everyone's likes are. For many, it is their favorite event of the year, and for some, these are the only gifts they may receive.

If you would like to make a monetary donation (tax deductible), please drop off/mail your check to St. Raphael (979 Central Ave. N., Valley City, ND 58072). Please write Stocking Stuffer in the memo line of your check. Cash donations are accepted too.

If you'd like to make your own purchases/donate items to the program, please see below list of suggested items, and drop off at the business office at St. Raphael, by Wednesday, Dec. 17:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • Cologne/aftershave          | • Socks/gripper socks                                |
| • Mens undershirts (sz. L-3x) | • Gloves/scarves                                     |
| • Mens socks                  | • Lotion/perfumes                                    |
| • Candy (regular & diabetic)  | • Puzzle books                                       |
| • Sweatshirts (men & women)   | • Calendars  |
| • Sweaters/cardigans          | • Stamps/stationary                                  |
|                               | • Gift cards to barber/beauty shop/local restaurants |



### **Concordia College Christmas Concert**

Featuring more than 300 student musicians and five ensembles, the 2025 Concordia Christmas Concert, "Welcome All Wonders," will be performed in Concordia College's Memorial Auditorium on:

**Friday, Dec. 5th at 7:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, Dec. 6th at 2 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, Dec. 7th at 2 p.m.**

For more information about these concerts and to purchase tickets, visit: <https://concordiachristmas.universitytickets.com>; or call 888-477-0277 (9 am—1 pm, M-Th). Tickets range in price \$25-\$30.



As we enter the month of giving, you are invited to give one of the most meaningful gifts of all: the gift of life.

As we head into the winter months, donations naturally drop, while the need rises. With one donation, you can impact up to three lives!

#### **Upcoming VC area blood drives:**

Monday, Dec. 15th: 11:15 a.m.—6 p.m. @ Our Savior's Lutheran Church, VC

Tuesday, Dec. 16th: 8 a.m.—12:45 p.m. @ Stoudt-Miller Car Showroom, VC

To schedule an appointment online, go to:

<https://donors.vitalant.org>

To schedule by phone, call: (877) 258-4825