

**January 2026**

## **HEBREWS 12:1 “SURROUNDED BY A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES”**

Greetings Trinity Members,

Hoping you are all recovering from the rush of the Christmas season. Let us all, however, continue to carry the Christmas spirit throughout the coming year.

Now that the calendar has changed to January and the year to 2026, it is time to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church Chesterfield. Mark your calendars for January 31 to come together in fellowship at our complimentary dinner/auction event. Your Somewhere in Time committee has been hard at work creating a memorable evening for all. We have assembled many enticing packages for you to bid on, while enjoying a sumptuous winter buffet catered by J David Schwartz Events. Proceeds from the auctions will benefit Trinity's Missions.

Members of the Somewhere in Time committee have spent much time researching Trinity's history resulting in an entertaining historical review of our past and present. The evening will feature a slideshow, historical photos and a live program highlighting the milestones of Trinity's 125-year timeline.

The church gym will again be transformed into a dazzling, starry setting of blue and gold. Our evening's hosts, Zack Henderson and Brian Parrish, are guaranteed to bring their own style of levity and cheer.

On the next page, please find information on how to register for this “can't miss” evening. You may choose to use the QR code or to call the church office at 636-227-5432. RSVPs are greatly appreciated so that we may provide our caterer with an accurate head count so that ALL may be well fed! Deadline for registration is January 15.

Don't forget to purchase your raffle ticket for a chance to win the one-of-a-kind Trinity cornhole set crafted by Pastor Chris and Monica Naig. And please bring a bottle of wine valued at \$25 or higher so that we can offer a wine pull during the event.

We look forward to seeing you on January 31!

The Somewhere in Time Event Committee: Genie Mueller, Christie Tietjen, Rebecca Henderson, Karen Henselemeier, Karen Johnson, Becky Leuthy, Deb Masiel, Dorothy Norland and Claudia Pico.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**Christmas Break  
Church Office Closed**  
January 1-2

**Un-Decorate Trinity**  
Wednesday, January 7

**Meramec Bluffs Gathering**  
Wednesday, January 7

**Trinity Concert Series  
presents Bethany Worrell**  
Sunday, January 11

**Preschool Registration**  
Begins January 14

**Church Council Meeting**  
Sunday, January 18

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Church Office Closed**  
Monday, January 19

**Gateway180 Prep & Serve  
Dinner**  
Saturday, January 24

**Trinity Book Club**  
Monday, January 26

### **Trinitell Monthly Newsletter Deadline**

The deadline for submitting articles for the February Trinitell is January 15. Email articles or information to Nicole Maloy at [communications@tlc-stl.org](mailto:communications@tlc-stl.org) or mail to Trinity.

# SOMEWHERE IN TIME

continued from page 1

## RSVP NOW

### *Somewhere in Time*

**Saturday, January 31, 2026**

**5 pm in the Trinity Gym**

Please RSVP by January 15

Catered Dinner, Auction Baskets and Raffle Drawing

Childcare for 12 and under provided in the Little Gym  
pizza, dessert & beverage will be served to children



*Trinity's 125<sup>th</sup> Jubilee*

CLICK or SCAN  
TO RSVP



## *Somewhere in Time* Raffle Drawing

Win a Custom Trinity Corn Hole Set  
made by Pastor Chris

**\$25 per ticket**

Drawing will be held  
on January 31 at the  
Somewhere in Time  
Dinner & Auction

CLICK or SCAN  
TO PURCHASE  
RAFFLE TICKETS



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



## HOPE AND COURAGE

While the beginning of January is a famous time for making resolutions, I would instead suggest cultivating hope and courage born of gratitude. Resolutions are not only short-lived, but they are also focused almost entirely on yourself and, in particular, your deficits.

How I can eat less or spend less or drink less or, conversely, exercise more or read more or write more personal notes or whatever. It's not that any of these are bad intentions, but each starts from a sense of lacking:

You're not as fit or well-read or responsible as you want to be. Focusing on perceived weaknesses can create short-term bursts of motivation but rarely sustains genuine change. And when the resolutions fail – and research suggests that more than 90% of them will – you're left even more convinced that you are not enough.

So instead of focusing on what you lack, pay particular attention to those things for which you are grateful: a good friend, and the opportunity to be a good friend to others; the ways folks have encouraged you or you have encouraged them; moments of peace and contentment; the promise that God accepts you just as you are. This kind of cultivated attention to your blessings pulls your focus away from your perceived weakness and creates a sense of energy rooted in the awareness that you are enough, have enough, and can do so much more than you realized. This kind of gratitude translates easily into the hope and courage that will sustain us through the ups and downs that attend all of our lives.

Toward this end, I invite you to make Sunday worship a priority in this new year. While I realize you may not be surprised by this suggestion, I will simply ask how often you have regretted making the decision to come to church? Whatever the challenge of getting yourself and/or your family ready for Sunday morning, I am willing to wager that once you are there, seeing the familiar faces, hearing the beautiful music, and listening to the readings and sermon all serve not simply to encourage you but to root you more firmly in your identity that you are a beloved child of God and, therefore, are not just enough, but more than enough!

In January, we are treated to four passages from the beginning of the life and ministry of Jesus that orient us to this identity. On January 4th, we celebrate the Epiphany and Jesus invites you “to come and see”. The following week (January 11th), we get the wedding at Cana, Jesus first miracle at an event celebrating love! On January 18th, we find Jesus cleansing the temple, saying HE is the temple. And on January 25th, we get Nicodemus and the famous “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him. (John 3:16-17)

*continued on page 4*

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*continued from page 3*

I would invite you also to give your attention to our sending: In Christ, we aspire to journey with one another, in faith, grace, love, and service. We began closing our Sunday worship at Trinity with this prayer in the early days of the pandemic, when we all recognized the need for additional hope and courage. Yet even with the pandemic behind us, this prayer has become for many of us an important way of anchoring our lives in the conviction that we are called and accompanied by the God we know most fully in Christ.

They are good words to hear and to say, whether you can make it to worship or not, for they remind us of God's promise to be with us and for us always, a promise that creates resilient hope and courage. I will put it below and invite you to pray it now and perhaps even cut it out and put it somewhere you can see it as a reminder that while our resolutions may come and go, God continues to be resolved to love us, accept us, and accompany us wherever life may lead us in this new year of grace.

In Christ, we aspire to journey with one another, in faith, grace, love, and service.

Blessings this New Year and always!  
Pastor Chris

## COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

The Columbarium Committee unanimously approved the appointment of **Fred Meyland-Smith** to lead the effort to enhance the **landscaping** of Trinity's cemetery. The project is comprehensive in scope to include beautifying the area immediately surrounding the newly created columbarium as well as enhancing the established cemetery grounds. Fred will select and coordinate the efforts of professional landscaping professionals with the final landscaping plan approval resting with the Columbarium Committee and then the Church Council. Expected project cost is \$40,000 - \$50,000. Coincident with this appointment is the initiation of a congregation-wide fund raising campaign to fully provide for this project with the expected completion by mid 2026.



# PASTOR EMERITUS REPORT

Roy Christell  
pastorroy@tlc-stl.org



A “non-believer” walked up to a Lutheran Christian.... No, it’s not the beginning of a joke. What do you say when someone asks you, “What do you believe? And why do you believe it?” Do you just wing it after a few hems and haws? Are you prepared to give witness to the faith that is inside you?

I remember a long ride home from college during my freshman year. A senior philosophy major who was from my hometown gave me a ride. I was very appreciative until I endured a 3-hour grilling about my faith and my understanding of the Bible. Wow! I was really upset about it for quite a while, after all, I was preparing to go to seminary! In retrospect, I realized I was unprepared for that opportunity to give witness to my faith. It wasn’t so much about “proving” it to some one else. It wasn’t so much about “convincing” him that what I believe is true. I simply wasn’t prepared enough to speak articulately what it is I believe. Ever since then, I have intentionally thought about what I would say when someone asks me to put my faith into words.

There are absolutely a variety of ways we can give voice to our faith. Often times, our response will vary depending on the person with whom we are talking, the circumstances in which the question arises, and the setting may make a difference. What I have found helpful, regardless of the situation, has been my intentional reflection on the things which are most important and my grounding in the Words of scripture.

At the Adult Forum on Sunday, January 25, I hope to help everyone think about their Testimony and Witness from a Lutheran perspective. I believe the opportunities for us to “give witness” will increase. Let’s talk about it together!

Pastor Roy

## WORSHIP WITH US

Join Us **SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
Trinity Lutheran Church

One Worship Service **10:00 AM**

**ONLINE**  
Trinity YouTube Channel

**INSIDE**  
Sanctuary

**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE  
AT 10:00 AM  
IN THE SANCTUARY  
AND ONLINE**

Our 10:00 AM worship service is available in person and online via our Trinity YouTube Channel. If you are unable to watch at 10:00 AM, you may view the services online at your convenience. To watch our worship services, please click [HERE](#).

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

## Trinity Lutheran Church 2025 Nominating Committee Report

The five slates of 2026 Trinity Nominees are as follows:

**Council Officers and At-Large Members**  
**Nominating Committee**  
**Endowment Committee**  
**Mission Team**  
**Synod Assembly Delegates**

For the following slates, the proposed nominees on whom you will vote at the Annual Congregational Meeting on February 1, 2026, are in **bold** type and underlined.

### **Slate 1—Council Officers and At-Large Council Members**

President Jeff Haferkamp will serve a one-year term.  
VP/President Elect **Dave Luethy** has agreed to stand for election to a two-year term.  
Secretary Elaine Larson will serve the second year of 1<sup>st</sup> two-year term.  
Treasurer Mike Hower has agreed to stand for election for a 1<sup>st</sup> two-year term.

### **At-large Council Members**

**John Engle** Agreed to stand for election to a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term  
**Sasi Jevaraian** Agreed to stand for election to a 1<sup>st</sup> two-year term  
**Maureen Hoppin** Agreed to stand for election to a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term  
Dan Fry will serve the second year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term  
Jim Mueller will serve the second year of a 1<sup>st</sup> two-year term  
Eric Halter will serve the second year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term  
Gene Kerr will serve the second year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term  
Mikki Lee will serve the second year of a 1<sup>st</sup> two-year term

### **Slate 2—Nominating Committee**

Cindy Gesme will serve the third year of a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Karen Henselmeier will serve the third year of a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Nicole Maloy will serve the second year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term  
Miguel Pico will serve the second year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term  
**Eric Petersen** Agreed to stand for election to a 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term  
**Barb Trettel** Agreed to stand for election to a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term

### **Slate 3—Endowment Fund Committee**

Eric Flattem will serve the third year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term  
Eric Halter will serve the third year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term  
Morris Larson will serve the third year of a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Eric Petersen will serve the second year of a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term

*continued on page 7*

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

*continued from page 6*

## **Slate 4 - Mission Team**

**Pam Franke** Agreed to stand for election to a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Deb Palmer will serve the second year of 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term  
**Peggy Miller** Agreed to stand for election to a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Genie Mueller will serve the third year of a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Donna Rice will serve the second year of a 1<sup>st</sup> three-year term  
Christie Tietjen will serve the third year of a 2<sup>nd</sup> three-year term

## **Slate 5 - Synod Assembly Delegates**

**Dale & Karen Henselmeier** and **John & Deborah Palmer** have agreed to serve as Trinity's delegates to the Central States Synod Assembly in 2026.

**NOTE:** Congregation voting members may send additional nominations to the Nominating Committee or request at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, that nomination be presented directly to the Congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting, if such additional nominee(s) consents to the nomination. Such additional nominee(s) shall be included on the appropriate slate for the position so nominated. The Council shall forward such names so received to the Nominating Committee. No nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting for any of the slates will be accepted.



## **TRINITY'S ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Sunday, February 1, 2026**

**11:00 AM in the Gym**

Please join us for Trinity's Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 1, 2026 at 11:15 AM in the Gym. There will be a Potluck meal followed by the meeting. If your last name begins with:

**A - G: PLEASE BRING A DESSERT (TO SERVE 10)**

**H - M: PLEASE BRING A POTATO OR PASTA SIDE DISH (TO SERVE 10)**

**N - Z: PLEASE BRING A VEGETABLE SIDE DISH OR SALAD (TO SERVE 10)**

# DECEMBER COUNCIL MINUTES

**Date:** December 21, 2025

**Present:** Pastor Chris Naig, Larry Tietjen, Jeff Haferkamp, Stanley Nadar, Mike Hower, Dan Fry, Eric Halter, Maureen Hoppin, Gene Kerr, Elaine Larson, Mikki Lee, Jim Mueller

**Call to Order:** 11:19AM

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Chris

**Minutes from November Meeting:** Approved unanimously.

## **President's Report—Larry Tietjen**

- Columbarium Team: worked on layout of engraving for ossuarium and scatter garden
- 125 Year Celebration Update – being planned for January – need bottles of wine for raffle/auction
- Plan for Pastors Annual Review – feedback submitted and executive team to meet with Pastor Chris
- Endowment Committee Annual Gift (\$22,000) determined and details of breakdown of spending TBD

## **Pastor's Report—Pastor Chris**

- Busy with Christmas programs, holiday prep, and home and hospital visits
- With new year/council need to go through membership and update constitution
- Paige Halter – resignation put in with her graduation and new job in Omaha. – replacement TBD

## **Treasurer's Report—Mike Hower**

- Envelope is positive vs. budget for the month, but still below for the year
- Total expenses are on budget for the month and YTD
- Review of budget with Council – next review at Jan. 11th council meeting

## **Next Council Meeting**

- Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 11:15 am in Conference Room

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:03 PM.**

*Detailed monthly financial reports are available upon request. Contact Mike Hower at [how-hep@msn.com](mailto:how-hep@msn.com)*

### **STATUS OF ENVELOPE GIVING THROUGH NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

<b>Budget through 11/30/25</b>	\$625,350
<b>Actual Giving through 11/30/25</b>	\$603,816
<b>Surplus (Shortfall)</b>	(\$21,534)

# ADULT FORUM

## JANUARY ADULT FORUM SUNDAYS AT 11:15 AM IN ROOM 123

### **January 4: Christian Missionaries, the Unsung Heroes of Modern India**

Presenter: Trinity Member: Stanley Nadar. Christian missionaries, inspired by the teachings of Jesus on service, compassion, and equality, played a significant yet often unrecognized role in shaping India's education system. They established schools and colleges that promoted literacy, women's education, and learning among marginalized communities, emphasizing moral values alongside modern knowledge. Guided by Jesus' message of love and service to humanity, their educational efforts contributed lasting foundations to India's inclusive and accessible education landscape.

### **January 11: Return and Restoration – The Second Temple in Jerusalem**

Presenter: Jerry Partlow. After conquering ancient Babylon, Persian King Cyrus allowed Jewish exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple. It was not a smooth transition. Presented by Jerry Partlow; it includes a brief video overview of the books of Ezra and Nehemiah.

### **January 18: Review of TLC 2026 Budget**

Presenter: Mike Hower, Treasurer

### **January 25: What will you say? ... walked... is the word**

Presenter: Pastor Roy. A "non-believer" walked up to a Lutheran Christian.... No, it's not the beginning of a joke. What do you say when someone asks you, "What do you believe? And why do you believe it?" Do you just wing it after a few hems and haws? Are you prepared to give witness to the faith that is inside you? Pastor Roy will help everyone think about their Testimony and Witness from a Lutheran perspective.



*Help Un-Decorate Trinity*

**Wednesday, January 7**  
**9:00 am**

**Many hands make light work! Help is needed to put away Trinity's Christmas decorations.**

# FACILITY REPORT

Mike Sharitz  
facility@tlc-stl.org

## FACILITY UPDATE

It has been a quiet month for the Trinity Facility. A change was made to the trash dumpster. We needed more space for trash to reduce overload charges. We placed a new, larger, dumpster in the dumpster area. Unfortunately, this does not allow for the recycle dumpster in the same space. So the recycle bin is now placed along side the curb next to the trash bin recess. This allowed us to increase the capacity of our trash receptacle without increasing our cost of avoid overweight charges. It also required the removal of a tree limb. Thanks to Pastor Chris and his chain saw for helping cutting up the branch and disposal.

We have installed a new A/V system in Room 123. The system includes a new mini-computer (not a laptop) in a new wall mounted cabinet. The television now acts as the computer monitor. We have added a new conference camera that has a 180-degree view of the room with capability of highlighting who is speaking. The system includes a DVD player and a dedicated HDMI cable to attach personal laptops or other items directly to the TV. Instructions for use are on the wall in Room 123. If you have questions, please contact Leslie Steinmeyer or Mike Sharitz.

Mike Sharitz  
Facilities Coordinator



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Stacey Drake  
kidsministry@tlc-stl.org

Thank you to all of our children who did an amazing job at our *Prince of Peace* performance! Thank you to our volunteers and our wonderful parents for all of your support. Many thanks to all of you for our generous cookie donations.

**Sunday School** will be held each Sunday morning from 9:00-10:00 for children ages 3- 5th grade. Our Sunday School Room is now located in our downstairs hallway closest to the gym in Room 7. Children *ages 3- 2nd grade* will meet with Ms. Stacey in our Sunday School Room. Children in *3rd-5th grade* will meet with Mr. Graeme in our upstairs music room in room 262 at the top of the stairs. All children will rotate between 30 minutes of our Bible story along with crafts and games and 30 minutes of music.

All children in 6th through 8th grade are encouraged to attend our weekly **Confirmation Class** taught by Pastor Chris on Wednesday nights from 7:00-8:00 pm.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacey Drake at [kidsministry@tlc-stl.org](mailto:kidsministry@tlc-stl.org).

Stacey Drake, Children's Ministry Coordinator



# TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Christy Cole  
Director@tlc-preschool.org



The Preschool children and staff worked hard during the short school month of December to prepare for our Christmas program, **Jesus the Prince of Peace**. Our students enjoyed presenting their program to their parents and families, followed by a “Cookie Celebration” in the gym. Special thanks to Leslie Steinmeyer, Amy Jones and Pastor Chris Naig for their participation in making our program a wonderful event for our students and their families.

As much as we love vacation with our families, the Preschool children love getting back into the swing of things in January. In our Living the Word Bible Curriculum, the children will be introduced to Bible stories from the New Testament. We will begin by learning about Jesus and the disciples he chose to help him with his ministry. Later in the month we will learn all about the miracles that Jesus performed, including turning water to wine and calming the raging storm.

In January, we will begin our registration for the 2025-2026 school year. We provide a developmentally appropriate Christian educational experience for children ages 16 months through 5 years. We encourage members to register their preschoolers and/or proudly tell their friends about the quality preschool program we provide. Our currently enrolled families and our Trinity Church families will begin registering on January 14th. Registration will be open to all others on January 15th. A link for registration will be on the preschool website: [www.tlc-preschool.org](http://www.tlc-preschool.org). Send an email to [Director@tlc-preschool.org](mailto:Director@tlc-preschool.org) if you would like more information or to schedule a tour.

Please continue to keep our Preschool Staff and Students in your prayers as we begin 2026! A special “thank you” to the Mission Team & Trinity Lutheran Church from the Preschool Staff for your kind and generous Christmas gifts, both for our classrooms and for each of the staff members...your continued support is so appreciated!

In Him,  
Christy Cole  
Director, Trinity Preschool



# TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Registration for the 2026-2027  
begins on January 14, 2026



## WE PROVIDE

- Classes for Ages 16 Months - 5 Years
- Christ-Centered Curriculum
- Play Based Approach to Learning
- Handwriting Without Tears Program
- Junior Kindergarten Program
- Child-Initiated Learning Experiences
- Age Appropriate Music Instruction Taught by a Dedicated Teacher
- Low Student to Teacher Ratio
- A Caring and Nurturing Atmosphere
- STEAM-based Program for all students

For more information, contact us at

Trinity Lutheran Preschool  
14088 Clayton Road, Chesterfield. MO 63017  
636-227-5720 or Director@tlc-preschool.org  
www.tlc-preschool.org

Scan for Enrollment Page



# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

## GATEWAY BROWN BAG ASSEMBLY

Monday, January 12  
8:30 AM  
Trinity Kitchen

Gateway180 is one of Trinity's 5 core missions. As part of our mission to support Gateway180, once a month we assemble sandwiches to support the homeless served by Gateway180.

Our next Gateway Brown Bag assembly is scheduled for Monday, January 12 at 8:30 am in the Trinity kitchen. If you would like to help out, you can click [HERE](#) to sign up to volunteer or you can contact Ken Hardebeck at [Lhardebeck@aol.com](mailto:Lhardebeck@aol.com) or 314-605-4970. Thank you!

## NURSERY/CHILD CARE

Sundays, 9:45 AM — 11:15 AM  
in Nursery Room

All of God's children, whatever their ages or needs, are welcome in worship! Families with young children are encouraged to sit in the front rows. Childcare for infants to 3 year-olds is available in the Nursery (upstairs near the gym) during worship in September - May. Please sign in.

## BIBLICAL CONVERSATION

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM  
in Room 123

Trinity offers a Biblical Conversation on Tuesday mornings. Led by Pastor Chris, this is a chance to share thoughts and dig deeper into the readings for the upcoming Sunday Worship Service. These Biblical Conversations are open to everyone! Please plan to join us for this weekly conversation.

## HELP SORT DONATIONS AT GATEWAY180

Friday, January 16  
9:15 AM  
Meet in Trinity Atrium

Thanks to valuable partners, Gateway180 receives donations of food, clothing, personal care items, etc. for their clients. Once the donations are received, they are sorted and organized. A dedicated group has developed a well-organized system for managing donations but needs some help.

We are looking for volunteers to join us at Gateway180 on Friday, January 16 to sort donations. We will meet at Trinity at 9:15 am to carpool to Gateway180. If there is enough interest, we may stop for lunch on our way back. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Kathy Gaal at [kgaal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kgaal@sbcglobal.net) or 314-540-2690.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PICKUP DONUTS

We are looking for volunteers to pick up pre-paid donuts from Schnucks on Sunday mornings. Contact Amy Jones at [office@tlc-stl.org](mailto:office@tlc-stl.org).

# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST



## THRIVENT CARDS NEEDED

We are looking for Thrivent cards for these upcoming projects:

- Meals Do Matter Cooking Sessions
- Building Blocks for Lantern Hill
- Gateway180 Bag Assembly
- Creal boxes for Circle of Concern
- Soup Cans for Circle of Concern
- Preschool Spring Parties

Remember, if you are a Thrivent member, you have access to funds to use for your favorite service project or fundraiser! Contact Corlyn Salisbury, [salisbury04@gmail.com](mailto:salisbury04@gmail.com) if you'd like to help.



## MEALS AVAILABLE

### **We Have Meals in the MDM Freezer!**

We have two serving and four serving meals available. **Bring a meal to someone in need.** Please reach out to someone you know who could use a meal. And, as always, remember to remind them that:

**THEY MATTER TO YOU AND  
THEY MATTER TO GOD!**



# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

## JANUARY TRINITY BOOK GROUP

Monday, January 26  
11:30 am in Room 123

**“No More Tears: The Dark Secrets  
of Johnson & Johnson”  
by Gardiner Harris”**

Investigative journalist, Gardiner Harris uncovers reams of evidence showing decades of deceitful and dangerous corporate practices that have threatened the lives of millions by Johnson & Johnson. He covers multiple disasters: lies and cover-ups regarding the link of Johnson’s Baby Powder to cancer, the surprising dangers of Tylenol, and other unethical practices.

All are welcome to bring a lunch and join our discussion.

Reading ahead:

**Monday, February 23**  
**“The Art Thief: A True Story of Love, Crime  
and Dangerous Obsession”  
by Michael Finkel**

All are invited. Questions? Contact Karen Johnson at [mrsdrjx5@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdrjx5@gmail.com).



## PREPARE AND SERVE DINNER FOR GATEWAY180

Saturday, January 24 2:30 PM  
Trinity Kitchen

Volunteers are needed to help with a dinner for Gateway180, a shelter supporting women, children, and families experiencing homelessness. They provide safe, nurturing emergency shelter and offer supportive housing programs that empower adults and families to become independent and permanently housed.

- The event takes place Saturday, January 24, and involves meal preparation at Trinity at 2:30 pm, followed by serving the meal at Gateway180.
- Meal prep: Starts at 2:30 pm, finished by 4:00 p.m.
- Serving at Gateway180: Depart Trinity at 4:00 pm, return around 7:00 pm. You can choose to only prepare or only serve—whatever fits your schedule.
- No experience needed; support will be provided

To volunteer or learn more, contact Kathy Gaal at [kgaal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kgaal@sbcglobal.net) or 314-540-2690. Further details will be shared after sign-up.



**BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST**

# **CEREAL DRIVE**

**JANUARY  
ALL MONTH**

**OUR GOAL  
200  
BOXES**

Trinity Preschool and Trinity Lutheran Church have joined forces during the month of January to collect cereal boxes for Circle of Concern.

Please bring in boxes of any type of breakfast cereal to help those in need in our community.

**THANK YOU FOR HELPING  
AREA FAMILIES!**

# Trinity Concert Series presents



## **Soprano**

Hailed for performing with “a gorgeous and flexible soprano that revealed a large measure of dramatic intelligence and musical acumen,” soprano Bethany Worrell has performed in Boston, Pittsburgh, Chicago, Dallas, Detroit, Salzburg, Austria, and Florence, Italy.

**January 11, 2026  
3:00 PM**

**Trinity Lutheran Church  
14088 Clayton Road  
Chesterfield, MO 63017**

**FREE to the public**  
benefitting Lantern Hill  
one of Trinity’s  
5 core missions

# BETHANY WORRELL

# JOB OPENING

## JOB TITLE: HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH LEADER (PART-TIME)

**Reports to:** Pastor Chris

**Hours:** 1–2 hours per week (flexible, includes evenings and weekends)

## POSITION SUMMARY

The High School Youth Leader will nurture faith development among high school students in accordance with the theology and mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). This role focuses on creating a welcoming, Christ-centered environment that encourages discipleship, service, and community engagement.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- **Faith Formation**
  - Plan and lead monthly youth gatherings rooted in Lutheran theology, incorporating Scripture, prayer, and discussion.
  - Encourage youth participation in worship, confirmation, and congregational life.
- **Relational Ministry**
  - Build authentic relationships with youth and their families, modeling Christ's love and hospitality.
  - Provide pastoral care and mentorship in collaboration with the pastor.
- **Administration**
  - Communicate regularly with parents and church leadership.
  - Ensure compliance with ELCA Safe Gatherings and child protection policies.
  - Manage youth ministry budget responsibly.
- **Volunteer Development**
  - Recruit and equip adult leaders who share the ELCA commitment to faith formation and service.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Active member of an ELCA congregation or strong understanding of Lutheran theology and practices.
- Experience in youth ministry or related field.
- Strong communication, organizational, and leadership skills.
- Ability to work evenings/weekends as needed.
- Completion of background check and Safe Gatherings training.

## PREFERRED SKILLS

- Familiarity with ELCA resources (e.g., Faith Formation, Youth Gathering).
- Ability to integrate music, arts, and technology into ministry.

# 1-MINUTE “PICK ME UPS”

**January 4, 2026: John 1:35-51, Jesus Says Come and See**

Few acts of faith can change a life more than gently pointing someone to the Savior who invites all to “come and see.”

**January 11, 2026: John 2:1-11, Wedding at Cana**

The Lord who sees an “hour” of redemption in our lives will not miss chance to bless our lives as redemption unfolds.

**January 18, 2026: John 2:13-25, Jesus Cleanses the Temple**

We find God not in a place, but in a person who promises to never leave us.

**January 25, 2026: John 3:1-21, Nicodemus**

It’s not on us to judge, only to trust.



*These one-minute weekly video “pick me ups” are available on our [website](#). Click on the graphic and it will take you to the current week.*



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## THANK YOU!

- A HUGE thank you goes to Fred Bussman for all the extra special Christmas cleaning to make Trinity sparkle!
- Thank you to all of our Sunday School and middle school kids who participated in the Children's Christmas Program, along with the students who shared their talents on string instruments.
- We are also grateful to Claudia Pico for the costumes, and to Amy Jones and Cindy Gesme for their help with the reception setup of the Children's Christmas Program.
- Thank you to Paige Halter for her dedication as our Youth Leading Youth Coordinator these past several years. Congratulations on your graduation, and best wishes as you begin your new career in Omaha, Nebraska!
- Thank you to everyone who helped un-decorate for Christmas.

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome, Riley family, to Trinity! Ryan and Emily have daughter Quinn (2), son Graham (1), & baby boy due May 2026! They enjoy cooking, trying new foods, playing with kids and teaching.

**Address:**

802 Wild Hickory Lane, Manchester, MO 63021

**Emily's contact info:**

314-971-5933

Emily\_Riley1@yahoo.com

**Ryan's contact info:**

309-737-9681

Ryan\_riley1@yahoo.com



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Amy Jones 1/3  
Claire Dunn 1/4  
Quinn Maguire 1/4  
Zack Henderson 1/5  
Bruce Horton 1/5  
Lissa Hildreth 1/8  
Rick Lee 1/9  
Brandon Monzyk 1/11  
Ken Hardebeck 1/12  
Ana Johnson 1/14  
Kenneth LeMay 1/14

Diandra Maguire 1/14  
Bill Melchior 1/14  
Rachel Wolf 1/14  
Karen Call 1/15  
Jerry Partlow 1/15  
Amy Bossi 1/18  
Blakely Monzyk 1/19  
Donna Rice 1/19  
Scott Hultgren 1/21  
Kimberly Hemman 1/22  
Abigail Masiel 1/23

Denise Jadali 1/25  
Aamon Naig 1/25  
William Maguire 1/26  
Jon Mueller 1/26  
Carey Paquette 1/26  
Chris Hemman 1/27  
Teri Glazebrook 1/28  
Christopher Hughes 1/28  
Piper Dunn 1/29  
Carol Sall 1/30  
Connor Hughes 1/31

## UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Christopher Yanker & Catherine Tietjen 1/5/2013  
Barney & Dorcas McLaughlin 1/6/1973  
Terry & Debbie Wolf 1/6/1973

Sasi Jeyarajan & Cheryl Kumaraduri 1/23/2023  
James & Lynn Sapp 1/31/1972

*Not seeing your birthday or anniversary? Please let the church office know so that we may update our records, [office@tlc-stl.org](mailto:office@tlc-stl.org) or 636-227-5432.*

If your email address or cell phone number has changed, or if we don't have your information, please use the Church Directory button on our website to update your information. If you would like a copy of the Church Directory, please call the church office at **636-227-5432**.

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## PRAYERS FROM DECEMBER 2025

**Thanksgiving and praise for...** Jim Stewart is back home after treatment

**Please pray for...**

Mike Long, Jim Stewart, Polly Sievert, Charlie Hoppin, Daniel Paquette (brother of Steve Paquette), Dan Steinmeyer, Rebeka Massann (friend of Rebecca Henderson), Ruth Wiemann (Phyllis Baker's mom), Elizabeth Ankeny (Monica Naig's mom), Pam Dellamano (friend of Sandy Lindenberg), David Meranda (brother-in-law of Tiffany Meranda), Tammy Surfus Cayer (Sharon Hild's godchild), Dorothy Norland, Tom Ditchfield, Sue Feeny, Maureen Hoppin, Fred Bussman, Jill Leary (friend of Christy Cole and Amy Jones), Garry Melton (son of Kent and Audrey Melton), Olivia Maupin (granddaughter of Larry and Christie Tietjen), Tomi Nevin (sister of Patsy Sobey), Catherine Tietjen, Kina Jordan (niece of Patsy Sobey), Loretta Lofgren, Mike Calcagno, Richard, Sharon Mertz, Bob, Christie Tietjen, Greg Hild, Richard Leimgruber, Ruth Hughes

**For the family and friends of.....**

- Dan Steinmeyer (beloved husband of Vi Steinmeyer, father of Phil Steinmeyer) who completed his baptismal journey on November 26, 2025
- Michael Hardebeck (brother of Ken Hardebeck and Carol Bently—former Trinity Preschool Director, and father of Jessica Schellman—current Trinity preschool teacher) who completed his baptismal journey on November 28, 2025

**Those serving our country...** Seth Allison

**To make a prayer request...**

- Call the church office-636-227-5432.
- Email [office@tlc-stl.org](mailto:office@tlc-stl.org).
- Prayers remain on the list for two weeks and may be renewed by request.

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

**Council President:** Larry Tietjen  
**Vice-President:** Jeff Haferkamp  
**Secretary:** Stanley Nadar  
**Treasurer:** Mike Hower

**At-Large Members:** John Engle  
Dan Fry  
Eric Halter  
Maureen Hoppin

Gene Kerr  
Elaine Larson  
Mikki Lee  
Jim Mueller

## OFFICE STAFF

**The Rev. Christopher Naig**  
Pastor  
pastor@tlc-stl.org, ext. 1001

**The Rev. Roy Christell**  
Pastor Emeritus  
pastorroy@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1002

**Mike Sharitz**  
Facilities Manager  
facility@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1005

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**Andrew LeFurge**  
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**Paige Halter**  
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YLY@tlc-stl.org

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**Sandi Thorp**  
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**Jonathan Owen**  
Organist  
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**Graeme Allen**  
Children's Music Minister  
music@tlc-stl.org



YouMatterToGod.org

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