

Trinity Lutheran Church

March 2025

Monthly news of Trinity Lutheran Church

Wanamingo, Minnesota

(Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America)

Church Office 824-2155

TriinityWgo@gmail.com

TRINITY CHURCH

web site:

www.trinitywanamingo.org



Pastor David Sorenson

PastorDaveWTLC@gmail.com

Cell: 507-993-4939

Office: 507-824-2155

Office Hours:

Tuesday-8:30-10:30 am

Wednesday-1:00-4:00 pm

Thursday-8:30 am-12:00 pm
at WLC

Friday-8:30 am-12:00 pm

Our Mission:

**God gathers the people
of Trinity Lutheran
Church to:**

- **grow in a love
relationship with
God,**
- **live in obedience
to Jesus Christ,**
- **serve the needs,
hurts and hopes of
all people.**

Our Sister Congregation:

**Principe de Paz
(Prince of Peace) of
Tunja, Colombia**

Partner Missionaries

Pastor Kristin Engstrom

Madagascar



TRINITY NEWSLETTER

Pastor's Page

Greetings!

The cross has long been the primary symbol of Christianity. The cross is placed in the most prominent places in houses of Christian worship, education, healthcare, and care centers. Believers place crosses on the walls of their homes, wear them as jewelry, tattoos, clothing, and stickers on their vehicles.

For Lent this year, our theme is "Beneath the Cross of Jesus". This series explores what it means for us to abide at the foot of the cross, to cling to the rock of our salvation, to dwell in the house of the Lord, and to confess our sins and receive God's forgiveness. To lift up the theme of the cross, cross necklaces are available for worshippers at no cost, and you are invited to wear them for worship during our Lenten season and beyond.

The announcement of the closing of the Wanamingo School is painful news. It is certainly one of those life events that we need the shadow of the cross to dwell in as we experience it. Several of us local pastors have begun talking about some sort of closing service/blessing/ritual for folks from the communities to gather to grieve/remember/commemorate the Wanamingo elementary school building. This is in the early stages, but I wanted you to know what we are working on.

Thank you to the youth/adults who will be serving a meal before worship each week; thank you to Anna and Linda for sharing your musical gifts with us as we sing the liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer each week. Thank you to Jess and Cyndi as they keep our communications organized. Thank all of you who come to worship, to give, to celebrate community, preparing your hearts for the great celebration of Easter. Lent is a blessed time for our communities of faith, and I look forward to our experience together.

On a side note, Joleen and I have purchased our own home. We are excited to have this opportunity to become homeowners again. We won't be in Wanamingo, but right near-by in Pine Island. Joleen will still be at the bank, and I will be at the churches, just with a fifteen-minute added commute. We are closing Monday, March 3rd and have some moving help coming Saturday, March 8th. Our new address is: 473 Baylee Pl SW, Pine Island, MN 55963. We aren't expecting help moving, you graciously moved our stuff up here, but I know some have inquired. If you want to swing by on Saturday, you are always welcome!

"I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross."

Verse 3, Beneath the Cross of Jesus; Text: Elizabeth C. Clephane, 1830-1869

Abiding in the shadow of the cross with you,
Pastor Dave Sorenson

Lenten Food Drive

March is Minnesota Food Share Month

We are collecting non-perishable items all month.



Ways to Give

You may now make offering donations in person, by going to this link online:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/YKRD> or by following the link on our website: <http://trinitywanamingo.org>

Any questions, contact the office at 507-824-2155 or by email at www.trinitywgo@gmail



VANCO Online
QR Code

Lenten Services 2025

Theme: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

March 5th

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service at WLC

March 12th

6:00 pm Lenten Supper
7:00 pm Worship at WLC

March 19th

6:00 pm Lenten Supper
7:00 pm Worship at WLC

March 26th

6:00 pm Lenten Supper
7:00 pm Worship at WLC

April 2nd

6:00 pm Lenten Supper
7:00 pm Worship at Trinity

April 9th

6:00 pm Lenten Supper
7:00 pm Worship at Trinity



Our 2025 Lenten Offerings will go to Good Earth Village.

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday—April 13th

10:00 am Joint Worship at Trinity

Maundy Thursday—April 17th

7:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion at Trinity

Good Friday—April 18th

7:00 pm Worship at Trinity

Easter Sunday—April 20th

7:00 am Worship at WLC
10:30 am Worship at Trinity



Lent Theme: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

In this series we will reflect on the popular hymn, “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”.

Overview

Mid-Week 1: Beneath the cross of Jesus, I long to take my stand

We gather with the disciples, with Mary and the other women, with the soldiers, and with the passersby at the foot of the cross. As he faced death, Jesus tried to prepare his disciples for what was to come.

Mid-Week 2: The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land

Images of Plymouth Rock or the Rock of Gibraltar connote strong foundations and mighty power. In a popular game, rock smashes scissors but is overcome by a simple sheet of paper. How often do the cares and weariness of life drape themselves over the rocks of wealth or prestige or anything else to which we cling, revealing them as shaky, sandy foundations on which to build our lives? God alone is our rock and our salvation.

Mid-Week 3: A home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way

Where is your home? Perhaps a farmhouse in the middle of a wind-swept field, or an apartment overlooking a city skyline, or a plot of land that has been in your family for generations, or a house you moved into just yesterday. Wherever our earthly homes lay, our true dwelling place remains with God.

Mid-Week 4: From my contrite heart, with tears

From the depths of our hearts we cry to God, confessing our sins. Even from the cross, Jesus cries, “Father, forgive them!” We are surrounded by grace, showered with the forgiveness and love of God shown to us on the cross.

Mid-Week of Lent 5: I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place

What does it mean to abide at the foot of the cross? How does it change our lives knowing that God loved us so much that God died for us? Jesus calls us to take up our cross and follow him into a world desperately in need of a rock, a home, and forgiveness.



*Ash Wednesday
Worship Service
will be held
at WLC
at 7:00 p.m.
on
March 5th*



A Look at the Budget

2025	Jan
TLC Offerings	8,694.00
WLC Reimburse	2,508.06
Other Income	
From Savings	
Total Income	11,202.06
Expenses	
Pastor Salary	2,839.63
Pastor Expenses	3,674.60
Administrative	2,299.33
Evangelism	
Education	
Property	7,192.79
Benevolence	750.00
Total Expenses	16,756.35
Difference	(5,554.29)

Planning Council/Boards

Boards and council did not meet in February. At the annual meeting on February 2nd, new board and council members were elected. Thank you to those of you who have committed to helping in this capacity. We are still looking for a few more willing to serve. Please contact Anna Hermann (507)319-3859 / ahermann01@gmail.com if you are interested.

Looking for the following:

- Up to 2 people for Lay Minister's/Evangelism Board
- 1 person for Audit Committee
- Up to 2 people for Stewardship/Property Board

*Respectfully Submitted,
Anna Hermann, President*

Boards will meet Tuesday, March 4th at 6:00 pm and Planning Council at 6:30 pm.



Thrivent Members:
If you have Choice Dollars for 2025, be sure to designate them before the March 31st deadline. Go to Thrivent.com today!

New 5th Sunday Worship Service

Each 5th Sunday this year we will worship using a service called, "Service of the Word for Healing." In the opening litany for the service, the intent of the service is declared: "We gather to hear the word of God, pray for those in need, and ask God's blessing on those who seek healing and wholeness through Christ our Lord."

The service will be focused on God' healing work in our lives and the world. Prayers for those who work in areas of healthcare will also be lifted. During the service there will be an opportunity to come to the altar for a prayer of healing. If you cannot come to the altar we will come to you. If you don't wish to participate in the blessing at the altar, you are welcome to remain seated to pray and sing. Thanks be to God's Spirit, who in Jesus' name is our life-giver and healer.

Have you or someone you know had a change in your contact information? (address, email, or telephone)

Please remember to inform the church office at TrinityWgo@gmail.com or 824-2155

2025 Approved Budget

TOTALS BY BOARD	2024 Budget	2024 Actual YTD	Remaining	2025 Proposed
Lay Ministers	\$ 97,130.00	\$ 93,555.46	\$ 3,574.54	\$ 102,887.00
Education	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 541.00	\$ 1,009.00	\$ 1,150.00
Property	\$ 53,200.00	\$ 49,186.13	\$ 4,013.87	\$ 54,000.00
	\$ 151,880.00	\$ 143,282.59	\$ 8,597.41	\$ 158,037.00



The Community Meal

will be served
Sunday, March 16th
 11:30 am-12:30 pm

at the
 Wanamingo
 Community Center

Sponsored by
 The Wanamingo Lions Club

The Lay Ministers would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time and talents to help host services in the month of February. Our committee and congregation really appreciate it. We will be ramping up to services in April with Easter being one of the largest attendance services. On that day in 2024 we needed 2 ushers, 2 readers, 4 offering collectors and 5 to assist with communion. If you are going to be attending services on that day please consider helping out.

Our next big event will be the Easter Egg Hunt. With Easter landing on Sunday, April 20th, we will be hosting the hunt at Riverside Park Saturday, April 19th. Starting time will be 10:30 am and the hunt will close when all those brightly-colored eggs are gathered, but hopefully the weather will cooperate and people can linger and visit in the park.

We will be looking for volunteers to bring candy (we fill 700+ eggs!), to help fill the eggs at the first board meeting in April (as of now it's 4/1/2025 at 6:00 pm) and to help hide them the day of the hunt. Please see any member of the Lay Minister's board or just send a text to Ann Lund 507-254-4317 if you can help out. This is a great community event that everyone is welcome to attend.

Lastly, we are still looking for a few new members. It seems if you like candy (Easter and Halloween are our big events!), sign on. We promise you will have a positive experience and it's an easy way to contribute to Trinity.

Best to you all in the month of March!

The Lay Minister's Committee

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Moving into March feels like a time for reflection. During the season of Epiphany, the star of Bethlehem's light has shown us who Christ is. March 2, that light radiates through Jesus and we transition to Lent, the oldest liturgical season of the Church.

Like many of you, I grew up with a certain rhythm to my Lents. Church on Sundays was joined by a soup supper and evening service on Wednesdays. Though I didn't grow up receiving ashes on my forehead, I'm remembering last year, when the pastor not only reminded me, "You are dust and to dust you will return," while making a messy cross on my forehead, but then grabbed my the shoulder, looked me in the eyes, and comforted me with, "You will be raised to life!" I'm thankful to have the opportunity this year to participate in worship and reflection with Grace, Gol, and our ecumenical partners for midweek services during Lent.

Many Christians echo Jesus's forty days fasting and praying in the wilderness by "giving up" something for Lent. What would it look like, instead, to take something up? What if you memorized a Lenten hymn instead or said your childhood bedtime prayer each night? How could your outlook change if you came to midweek services or set aside a time for a five minute devotion? Could you learn something from watching world news and praying for those in need? Whatever you are led to in this season of change and mortality, remember that Sundays aren't for fasting; they are still little Easters and meant for joy and celebration!

On a personal note, I'm now halfway through my intern year here in the Kenyon area. Getting to know your congregations and community has been such a blessing. Thank you for keeping me in your care!

Easter is on the horizon, beloveds!

Vicar Yvonne Godfrey-Roesel
 Kenyon Area Intern 2024-2025

may your day be
TOUCHED
 BY a bit of IRISH
 LUCK
 brightened BY A SONG
 IN YOUR
HEART
 & warmed
 BY THE
SMILES
 OF THE people
 YOU
LOVE



Easter Garden

With Easter fast approaching, we are excited to announce the return of our traditional Easter Garden here at Trinity! All of the same types of flowers will be available plus some new options as well: Single or Triple Easter Lilies, Hydrangeas, Azaleas, Mums, Tulips, Hyacinths, Calla Lilies and Mixed Spring Bulbs. Order forms are available now! The order deadline is **Wednesday, March 12th.**



WTLC Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 19th
10:30 am



Board of Education

2025 WTLC SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

3/2 @ WLC	Sunday School	
3/9 @ WLC	Sunday School	Sunday School will sing during worship and collect Noisy offering.
3/16 @ WLC	Sunday School	
3/23 @ WLC	Sunday School & Super Sunday Event	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #e0f0ff;"> WTLC SUPER SUNDAY!! </div> <p style="text-align: center;">GAME DAY! Bring a board game to share and play during Sunday School.</p> 
3/30 @ WLC	Sunday School	
4/6 @ TLC	Sunday School	
4/13 @ TLC	Sunday School	Sunday School will sing during worship and collect Noisy offering. Palm Sunday—Children will wave palms in church.
4/19 @ TLC	Super Saturday Event	 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center; background-color: #e0f0ff; margin-top: 10px;"> WTLC SUPER SATURDAY!! </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Easter Egg Hunt at Riverside Park in Wanamingo</p>
4/20	No Sunday School	Happy Easter
4/27 @ TLC	Sunday School	

First Holy Communion

First Holy Communion Classes: Classes will be held for all students in 5th Grade and above who have not yet received their First Holy Communion on **Thursdays, May 1st, 8th and 15th from 6:30-7:30 pm.**
 NOTE: a parent must accompany their child to this class.
 Questions: please contact Pastor Dave.
 (Trinity) 824-2155 or (WLC) 824-2457

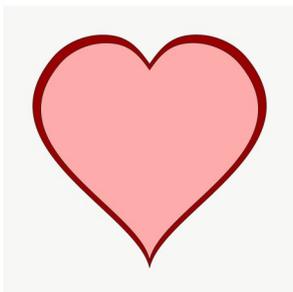
First Holy Communion
 at the 10:00 am Joint Worship Service:
Sunday, May 18th at WLC and
Sunday, June 8th at Trinity



All Youth in Grades 7-12 will be serving Lenten Supper Wednesdays during Lent.

The Lenten schedule will be emailed and mailed to youth. Confirmation students are also expected to attend Lenten Services.

February 9th at WTLC



Catching Up on News from 2024: On the Move (Again)

I have been serving as an ELCA global missionary since 2016. It is hard to believe it has been nine years since I first packed three suitcases to begin a new life in Senegal, West Africa. As a pastor and global missionary, I have committed to go where God and the church call me. In 2023, God and the ELCA once again called me to a new country and to be in relationship with a new church. In February 2024, I arrived in Madagascar to begin a new call as the ELCA Country Representative. I will also be the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) Country Coordinator when the program resumes in Madagascar. In my nine years as an ELCA global missionary, I have served in Senegal, Zambia, and now Madagascar—all in the Africa region.



Welcome reception by Malagasy church leaders and project leaders supported by the ELCA.

Over the past year, I have travelled through-out Madagascar to get to know the people and ministries of the Malagasy Church. I have been welcomed into Church Council meetings, witnessed leadership elections at the National Church Assembly, learned from seminaries, inclusive schools, and vocational training centers, visited healthcare, development, and gender justice projects, preached sermons, and ate many shared meals.

The Malagasy Lutheran Church has five million members and is one of the fastest growing Lutheran churches in the world. Madagascar is also one of the poorest countries in the world. So, the church is focused on their mission to share the gospel holistically. Over the past year, it has been wonderful to learn from the faithful leaders in Madagascar, as we walk together in the God's gospel mission.

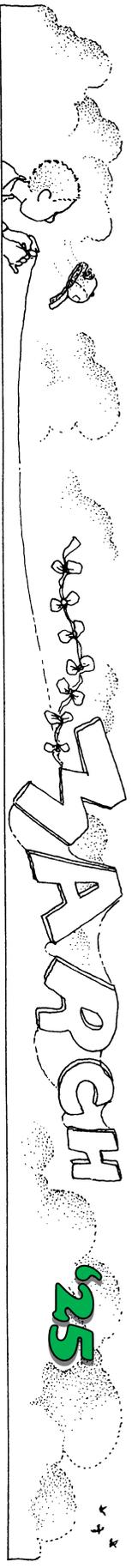


Accompanying Pastor Kristin

My work as an ELCA Global Missionary is possible thanks to the generosity of many congregations and individuals in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Thank you! You can contact me at kristin.engstrom@elca.org.

[You are also invited to support me as an ELCA Global Missionary here.](#)

I have a blog at <https://alongwithpastorkristin.blogspot.com>, where you can find previous newsletters and occasional updates from Madagascar.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 9:00 am-WTLC Sunday School 9:00-9:40 am-Sacred Space 10:00 am-Joint Worship Service with Holy Communion at WLC	3	4 6:00 pm-Boards Meet 6:30 pm-Planning Council	5 7:00 pm-Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion at WLC	6	7	8
9 <i>First Sunday in Lent</i> ~SS Sing/Noisy Offering~ 9:00 am-WTLC Sunday School 9:00-9:40 am-Sacred Space 10:00 am-Joint Worship Service at WLC	10	11 7:00 pm-Prayer Showl at Home of Irene Ree: 540 E. 5th St.	12 Easter Garden Deadline 6:00 pm-Lenten Supper 7:00 pm-Lenten Service at WLC	13	14	15
16 <i>Second Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 am-WTLC Sunday School 9:00-9:40 am-Sacred Space 10:00 am-Joint Worship Service with Holy Communion at WLC 11:30 am - 12:30 pm - Community Meal-WGO Community Center	17	18	19 Newsletter Deadline 6:00 pm-Lenten Supper 7:00 pm-Lenten Service at WLC	20 	21	22
23 <i>Third Sunday in Lent</i> 9:00 am-WTLC Sunday School 9:00-9:40 am-Sacred Space 10:00 am-Joint Worship at WLC	24	25	26 6:00 pm-Lenten Supper 7:00 pm-Lenten Service at WLC	27	28	29

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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TRINITY NEWSLETTER

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Wanamingo, MN
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Address Service Requested

TRINITY CHURCH web site:

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Church e-mail address:

TrinityWgo@gmail.com

God gathers the people of Trinity Lutheran Church to grow in a love relationship with God, live in obedience to Jesus Christ, serve the needs, hurts and hopes of all people.



Hearing Loop
Switch hearing aid to T-coil



Help save time...If you can, please e-mail your reports, announcements, notes to :

TrinityWgo@gmail.com

April Newsletter

Deadline is

March 19th, 2025

Thank you !

Come join the
Kenyon Area
Internship Committee

*Taste all 8 flavors and
vote for the best one!*



Soup Cookoff
with
Live Cake Auction
Sunday, April 6th
Proceeds to benefit KAIC

Soup serving from
11:30 to 1:30 pm

Live auction at 12:30pm featuring Kevin Maring auctioneer

Go! Lutheran Highway 60 Kenyon
Additional support from Thrivent Action Team funds