



November 2025

Parish Gazette

**ELCA Parish of Trinity-Stettin
and St Peter Lutheran-Hamburg**

From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. William O

¹⁰ "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted in the earth." -Psalm 46:10

November brings forth a time of many emotions and with it comes the many ways that God journeys with us. We end October with Reformation Sunday on October 26th where we lift up that Christ leads us into and out of spaces of change as we grow in our faith. The following Sunday on November 2nd is All Saints Sunday where we lift up our Baptisms through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We gather around water and the Word in joy and in grief as we light candles for those who have been Baptized into Christ and for our beloved Saints who have received eternal life this past year.

We end this month with the beginning of the new church year as November 30th brings with it the 1st Sunday of Advent. A time that is filled with hope. Hope as we await the coming joy of the birth of Christ and in hope as we remember those not here with us due to distance apart. This year's Advent theme is *The Power of Yes*. We will spend this season looking at the many people and times God called out to those who would bear witness to the Good News and with faithful hearts and trust, answered yes. Here is the description provided by this year's resource:

In this liminal time, there are so many reasons to not say yes. Even the small yeses in our daily lives feel riskier somehow. Decisions about where we put our money, our time, our energy, our confidence, and our faith feel more important than ever during these volatile times. We come from a history of people who said yes. Throughout the story of the people of God, brave and faithful, everyday people said yes to God. In Advent, these yeses are even more significant.

What does it take to get to yes?

Why does it matter?

Why does it matter that we believe this?

This is a story that we tell, that isn't just on a page or in ancient tales, but one that lives in our bones, and calls to us to say our own yes when we are called into what God is doing now. – Church Anew

As we step forth together into this month and into the sacred spaces of our hearts and church, bringing with it all the emotions and faith that dwells within us, please know that I am available for any conversations or care that you may need.

Peace, Pastor Will

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Contact Information

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Parish Assistant
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Office Hours:
Tues/Thurs 9am-1pm

Trinitystettin.org

Follow us on Facebook:
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@st peter elca

Mutual Ministry

Randy A
Jaisie K
Lynn K
Amy F
Jamie H
Linda Z



NOVEMBER 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 All Saints Day
2 All Saints Sunday Roots of Faith 11:45am Trinity	3 St Peter Council Mtg 6:30pm	4	5 Confirmation 6-7pm Trinity	6	7	8 Men's Breakfast 1st Comm Class noon-3pm Trinity
9 Roots of Faith 11:45am Trinity	10 Trinity Council Mtg 6pm	11 Veteran's Day Quilting 1pm Joint Council Mtg 6:30pm St Peter	12 Confirmation 6-7pm Trinity	13	14	15
16 First Communion Roots of Faith 11:45am Trinity	17 ← Pastor Out of	18 Office-Retreat →	19 Confirmation 6-7pm Trinity	20	21 Newsletter Articles Due December Issue	22
23	24	25 Faith Study 1pm	26 No Confirmation	27 Thanksgiving Day 	28	29
30 1st Sunday of Advent						

November Volunteers



Trinity

DATE	USHER/CARPORT	COMMUNION	LECTOR
November 2nd <i>All Saints Sunday</i>	Denny & Patti B, David K	Denny B, Bill B, Randy A	David K
November 9th	Mike & Jayme B, LuAnn H	Mike B	Mike B
November 16th <i>First Communion</i>	Myron & Karen T, Renae W	Renae W, Richard H, Perry N	Myron T
November 23rd	Bill & Nancy B, Sandy U	Bill B	Bill B
November 30th <i>1st Sun of Advent</i>	Audrey M, Any M, Shari P	Randy A	Tim B

St Peter

DATE	USHER / CARPORT	BELL RINGER	COM- MUNION	LECTOR	ACOLYTE
November 2nd <i>All Saints Sunday</i>	Bill & Rita M	Bob F	Bill & Rita M, Jacie De	Bill M	Addyson K
November 9th	Scott G, Jacie D	Jacie D	John S	Linda Z	Chase K
November 16th <i>First Communion</i>	Bob F, Becca K	Dan K	Dan K	Erica T	Grant B
November 23rd	Eugene F Jennifer F	Susan T	Mary K	Mary K	Deacon D
November 30th <i>1st Sun of Advent</i>	Lyle & Linda Z	Bill M	Bill & Rita M	Linda Z	Leila W

Youth Page



This is the place to find out what is happening in Sunday School, Confirmation, Youth group, and the exciting things they are involved in.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Trinity's Sunday School Children sang beautifully during the worship service on October 12, 2025.

Thank you for adding a little sunshine into the Sunday morning worship! The congregation enjoys your participation!



St Peter's Sunday School Children will be singing in church on
Sunday, November 9, 2025.

Mark your calendars to listen to them spread cheer!

**Just a reminder that we will not have Sunday School on
Nov. 23, Opening Deer Rifle Season and Nov. 30, Thanksgiving Break.**

Our Christmas program will be **Sunday, December 21, 2025 during the
worship services (St Peter—8:30am, Trinity—10:15am).**

Kids will practice for the program during Sunday school through the month of December and receive their parts prior to our November break. We will then hold one dress rehearsal the Saturday prior to the program. With only one rehearsal, we ask that all children please attend as it is very important to go through the program at least once with all children present. Dress rehearsal will be Saturday, December 20 from 9-11AM.

All children participating in Sunday School will be presumed as participating in the program. If your child will not be able to participate in the program, please advise a committee member as soon as possible.



YOUTH GROUP

BONFIRE FUN!

A big THANK YOU to Jim W, who hosted a bonfire on Saturday, October 4, 2025 for our youth and their families. Fun was had by all who attended.

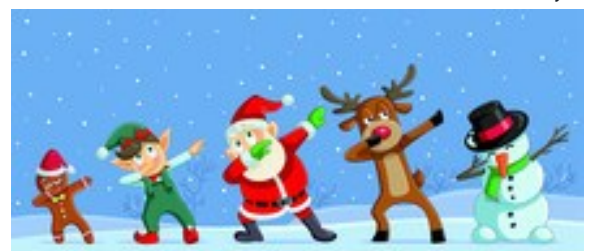


December dates to get on the calendar...

Sunday, December 7th, 4:30-6:30pm in the Trinity basement – this is the day we make our treats. Bring your creative side to design goodies and Christmas items for our home-bound members...tasting will be allowed.

Saturday, December 13th, 1pm - Caroling!!! Join us for visits to our home-bound members and some festive spirit. Dress in your favorite Christmas attire for more excitement! More voices, more fun. Likely a pizza stop following!

Sunday, December 14th – Annual Bake Sale before/after worship services at both St. Peter & Trinity.



CONFIRMATION

Our Fall confirmation classes continue into November from 6-7pm, at Trinity's Education Building. Keep our confirmands in your prayers as they journey in their faith!



We'll be taking a break for Thanksgiving. There is **NO CLASS on Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025.**

Remaining Fall class dates:	11/5, 11/12, 11/19, 12/3, 12/13, 12/17
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Fall semester ends Dec. 17th.



FIRST COMMUNION

Please lift the following students up in prayer as they journey through this amazing milestone in their faith as they enter into Holy Communion.

Ali B, Sawyer D, Faith S, and Will S

Saturday, November 8, 2025: Trinity Church noon-3pm, bread baking & chalice making

First Communion—Sunday, November 16th, 2025
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YOUTH CONTACTS

Confirmation

Mike B

Pastor Will

715-571-2750

trinity.pastor2021@gmail.com

Parish Education Committee: Trinity

Jayne B

Lynn K

Parish Education Committee: St. Peter

Rebecca K

Heidi D



Youth Group

Mike & Jayme B

Mike & Jaisie K

Announcements

Thank you for over 45 years of service!

Mike E has informed the Church Council of his difficult decision to step down from managing the church website due to ongoing health challenges that now require his full attention.

With heartfelt gratitude, the Council—on behalf of the entire Trinity congregation—thanks Mike for more than 45 years of faithful and dedicated service to our church family. Throughout the decades, Mike has served in numerous roles with humility, generosity, and commitment, leaving a lasting impact on our ministry and community.

We lift Mike in prayer, asking for God's healing, strength, and continued blessings. His selfless service stands as a true example of faith in action, and we are deeply grateful for all he has done in service to the Lord and His church.



We will be celebrating

All Saints Sunday

on

November 2, 2025.

You are invited to come forward and light a candle in remembrance or in celebration of a loved one.

We will celebrate the gift of life and baptism into Christ.

We also remember the loved ones we have lost during this past year and all those we hold in our hearts.

Please join us for this celebration.

FOOD PANTRY

St Peter will be gathering non-perishable food items for the Athen's Circle of Joy Food Pantry.

The collection will take place now through November 23rd. As always,

your generosity is appreciated. Thank you in advance for your donations! If

you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dale Borchardt



GREETING CARDS

Looking for a simple way to encourage someone and share God's love? Check out the beautiful greeting cards available for sale at Trinity church!

Each card features uplifting messages, Scripture, and thoughtful designs. Card boxes available are sympathy, thinking of you, get well wishes, Christmas, birthdays, and anniversaries. Card boxes contain 12 cards - 4 designs with envelopes. Proceeds support our Women of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Please check it out.

Cards are available near the mailboxes at Trinity Church for \$7. Make checks payable to: Audrey M. You may either place the payment in Audrey's church mailbox. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Audrey

Thank you for helping us spread kindness, one card at a time!

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
TIME ENDS**

NOVEMBER 2ND

**Don't forget to turn your
clocks back!**

Hospice Care Presentation

In the care of a loved one, hospice care becomes an option. So, what is hospice care? Chaplain Mark Lewis from Compassus Hospice Care will be here on Sunday, December 7th following our 10:15 service to give a presentation on what hospice care is and the comforting presence it provides to the whole family. Please join us at Trinity Church on December 7th with the presentation immediately starting at 11:30.

DONATION FROM BINGO FOR ROOF

The 2025 Athens Fair Bingo event was once again a time of fun and games for all whom participated, bringing in a net profit of \$2,656.06. All of these funds plus some extra from previous event(s), totaling \$3,000, was applied towards the roof loan on September 30th.

Special thanks to David P & Karen S for coordinating the event. Thank you to **all** volunteers; without your assistance, the event would not have been the great success it was!



The Giving Tree is Here!

Help spread holiday joy to youth and families in need across
Lincoln, Langlade, and Marathon counties!

Both St. Peter and Trinity Churches will have their Giving Trees up by **Sunday, November 9th**. For the past 15 years, we've provided clothes, hygiene products, household items, and toys to families who otherwise might not have gifts to open on Christmas.

How you can help...

- Select a tag from the tree and return gifts (wrapped or unwrapped) to your church by **Sunday, December 7th** at your worship time.
- Want to help but can't shop? Contact Haley E to donate and have her shop on your behalf:



***Thank you
for your
generosity!***

Order your Poinsettias today...

St Peter's sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Dave P if you have any questions. Plants are **\$10** each. The deadline for ordering is **Sunday, November 23, 2025**.



Trinity members can contact Candy K with any questions or concerns. Trinity's sign-up sheet is in the church entry. The cost is **\$11** per plant. **Sunday, November 9, 2025** is the last day to place your order.

Roots of Faith



Pastor Will and Mike Buttke have been leading a faith study that is revisiting the Small Catechism. Classes take place in the Trinity Education Building on Sundays starting at 11:45am

and finishing at 1pm. We have already covered the 10 commandments, The Creeds and will be covering The Lord's Prayer on October 26, 2025. The Sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism, Confession and Forgiveness, and the Lutheran principles (find out what the Lutheran rose actually is) will continue to be covered on November 2, November 9, and November 16. Please reach out to Pastor Will or Mike if you have any questions.

*Everyone is welcome
to attend!*

Start practicing your Christmas Carols!...

Help spread some Christmas cheer this holiday season. On **Saturday, December 13, 2025**, the St Peter and Trinity congregations will be visiting our home-bound members. We will meet at 1pm in the church basement at Trinity. Join us for an afternoon of laughs, singing, fellowship and bringing much joy to many people. You don't have to be a great singer to come along...all you need is a big heart and a joyous attitude! Christmas attire is always welcome!



St Peter roof update:

September roof contributions totaled \$4,840, which consisted of \$3,000 from Bingo and \$1,840 from member & Memorial contributions, bringing us to nearly 98% of the total expense. The loan balance, as of October 5th, stands at \$659.69.

As a reminder, all roof designated contributions will be applied to the principal balance of the loan, and the roof expense chart in the fellowship hall will be updated accordingly. Roof contributions received after the loan has been paid in full will be deposited into the building fund account and may be used for future building needs, such as the carport stairs.

Continued "Thanks" is extended for your efforts in helping reduce this expense so quickly.

Please direct any questions to Scott G, Council President, or Susan M, Treasurer.

St Peter Script

Last order for script cards for Christmas will be on **12-07-25**.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Thurs or Dave P.

Bake & Craft Sale

Mark your calendars for the
Youth Group's annual
Bake & Craft Sale
on **Sunday, December 14th.**

Funds from this sale will be donated
to the youth group for future events.
Please have all
donations to the
churches prior to the
Worship Services.

Thank you in advance
for your
donations & purchases!



Trinity Website Management

We are looking for a new volunteer to
assist Trinity Evangelical Lutheran
Church with the updating and
management of our church website. If
you are interested in working with
our website, please contact the
Church office or a council member.



Christmas Committees

It is getting to be that time of year again when the calendar fills quickly and the holidays are upon us. As a friendly reminder, both churches have Christmas Committees that are responsible for the decorating of the Christmas trees/church. These names are taken in alphabetical order each year from the membership list and posted in the annual report. Decorations are typically done prior to the First Sunday of Advent, which this year is on **Sunday, November 30, 2025**. The Christmas Committees for 2025 include the entire family of the following members:

Trinity

Lyle & Sue L
Gerri L
Neal & Laree M
Luke & Alanie M
Paul & Renee M
Skye M
Anya M

Audrey M
Judy N
Perry & Connie N
Clint & Amber O
Bill & Kai O
David O



St Peter

Lyle & Linda Z (Chairs)
Leander & Dianna Z
Tyler Z

Tim & Julie Z
Werner & Holly Z
John & Rhonda A

Council Updates

These are summaries of the minutes from all council meetings. If you would like a copy of the complete minutes for either church, please contact a council member.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Summary October 13, 2025

Treasurer's Report – September 2025

General Fund: \$(8,965.10) Memorial Fund: \$217,137.58-includes value of 5 CDs=\$182,023.14
Income: \$11,136.71 Expenses: \$17,159.35

Pastor's Report

- ♦ Stove vent is in-will coordinate with property committee for installation-need to contact electrician.
- ♦ 2025 Advent materials are ordered and should arrive in October.
- ♦ A copy of the visitation list for September was provided and reviewed.
- ♦ November 2nd is All Saints Sunday. Letters will be sent to families of those who had a death or baptism this past year.

Old Business

- ♦ Sacristy Remodel-review of quotes received to install a sink, counter and update electrical in church sacristy. Will put in church bulletin and bring to congregation for approval.
- ♦ Discuss getting First Aid kit (with glucose tablets) and AED for church and parish ed-AEDs are \$1,500.
 - * More detailed information on AEDs and full pricing-bring it to a future council meeting.
 - * Buying 2 First Aid kits at \$29 each plus glucose tablets (one will be for church and the other for the Parish Ed building).

New Business

- ♦ Sunday School update-still looking for teacher help for a couple upcoming Sundays. November 2nd is one of those dates.
- ♦ Giving Tree will be up November 9th-December 7th. More information to come.
- ♦ Discuss tree removal south of parsonage-dead elm.
- ♦ Lemmer Snowplowing LLC-approve for 2025-2026 winter.
- ♦ Looking into painting the church exterior.

Next Council Meetings

St Peter Council Meeting: Monday, November 3, 2025 at 6:30pm

Trinity Council Meeting: Monday, November 10, 2025 at 6:00pm

Joint Council Meeting: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 6:30pm (St Peter)

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY
September 2, 2025

Pastor's Report:

- New membership:
 - * We welcome Alan & Betsy Blaschka to the St. Peter family as new members.

Old Business:

- Building Maintenance/Stairs:
 - * Discussed estimates received and different options (concrete, stainless steel, wood). Proceed with Laban Wolff for fixing the outdoor stairs by the carport.
- Constitution and Bylaws update:
 - * Discussed recommendations from Synod, council agreed to go with previously agreed upon language and update the clerical errors.
- Nominations for 2026:
 - * Nominating committee: It was noted in the annual meeting minutes from January 2025 the nominating committee representatives are Jamie Hand Haley E, council member Amy F will be the council member for the nominating committee.
 - * Church council will need to replace Lyle Z for 2026.
 - * Financial Committee will need to replace Michelle G for 2026.
 - * Parish Education - Will need to replace Rebecca K for 2026.
- 2026 Open Enrollment Selection:
 - * With a change in plans under Portico, it was decided to go with Co-Pay \$2000, similar to the Gold Pay plan.
- Record retention update:
 - * A record retention form found. Any paper copies that need to be kept, will be scanned in and added to the records (electronically) to keep on file.

New Business:

- Agenda items for Joint council:
 - * Recap on summer joint worship and future planning; Wednesday night Lenten service options; summer worship service options; finalize next year's worship schedule; discuss Good Friday service time; Trunk or treat 2026; Pastor's compensation; Christmas caroling.
- Church membership/offering envelopes:
 - * Discussed if there should be policy on what we do if offering envelopes are not picked up within a certain time frame. Further discussion on item in future.
- Memorial Fund Gifts/Donations:
 - * Memorial Fund Gifts and Donations (physical items) requests come to council for approval.
- Water test results:
 - * Water nitrate test came back acceptable. No longer required to post nitrate warning.
- Snowplow Contract from AJR 2026:
 - * We will continue to use AJR.
- Donated tables/chairs:
 - * There are 2-1/2 tables and 1 big wooden one with chairs in the fellowship hall that were donated. Will also get a stack of chairs to stack downstairs to use for chili supper.
- Cardinals for Christmas tree:
 - * Council agreed to leave discussion if wanting to do cardinals again with Christmas committee.

Trinity—St. Peter ELCA Parish
232280 120th Avenue
Wausau, WI 54401-5443

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

Trinity Council

Richard P
President

Perry N
Vice President

Lisa H
Secretary

Jim W
Treasurer

Renae W
Financial Secretary

Jaisie K
Mutual Ministry

Marlo K
Property Committee

Andy P
Property Committee

Anya M
Property Committee

St Peter Council

Scott G
President

Jacie D
Vice President

Nicole H
Secretary

Susan M
Treasurer

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Amy F
Mutual Ministry

Dale B

Patti B

Robert J

Lyle Z

