

PARISH GAZETTE

ELCA PARISH OF TRINITY - STETTIN
AND ST PETER LUTHERAN - HAMBURG

From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. William O

²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." -Matthew 6:21

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Contact Information

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Trinity Office

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Follow us on Facebook:
@trinitystettin
@st peter elca

These words are from our upcoming Gospel reading for Ash Wednesday service this month. Jesus spoke these words as he was lifting up the ideals of prayer and giving of one's heart. If you are like most people in this world today, we are struggling with that. It is not because we don't want to give of our hearts, but our hearts are tired, broken, and crying out for their own healing. We have walked though hardship, heartache, and grief for many years now. To give of one's heart in such fragile and vulnerable times almost seems harder to do than it once was. We come to the cross this year feeling bound by the world's expectations in search of treasure while our hearts just want the richness of kindness, mercy, love, acceptance, and peace...that everlasting and all-consuming peace.

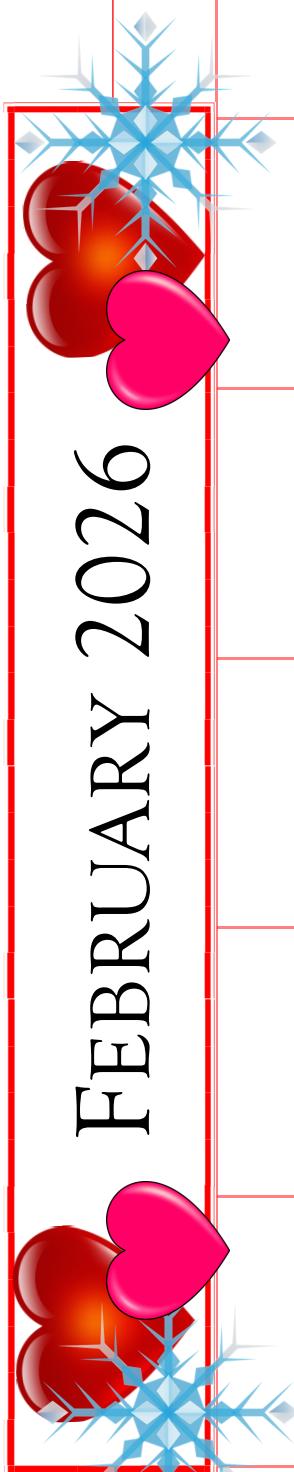
Lent is a time where we turn our faith and heart towards the cross for a time of reflection, a time of renewal, and a time of salvation. This year, we will be journeying through the scriptures with the Gospel of John and alongside the Genesis story of Joseph in a series called *Unbound: Longing for Wholeness*. Here is a brief introduction of this series and I hope you too will find that peace this Lenten season.

Unbound: Longing for Wholeness

*What if the opposite of being bound is being whole?
Our world is filled with things that hold us captive.
These things that bind us prevent us from living the
whole, abundant life that God has promised us.
Through the stories of regular people encountering
Jesus, and being drawn to the wholeness that Jesus
provides, we can learn about our own longings and be
drawn into wholeness. -Church Anew*

Peace,
Pastor Will





St Peter:
8:30am Worship
9:30am Sun School
Trinity:
9am Sun School
10:15am Worship

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 St Peter Council Meeting 6:30pm	3	4 Confirmation 6-7pm St Peter	5	6	7
8	9 Trinity Council Meeting 6pm	10 Quilting 1pm Trinity Ed Bldg	11 Confirmation 6-7pm St Peter	12	13	14 Men's Breakfast 8am LC Rest.
15	16	17	18 Ash Wed. Confirmation 6-6:45pm Worship 7pm St Peter	19	20 Newsletter Articles Due March Issue	21
22	23	24 Faith Study 1pm Trinity Ed Bldg	25 Lenten Meal & Confirmation 6-6:45pm Worship 7pm Trinity	26	27	28



VOLUNTEERS



TRINITY

DATE	USHER	CARPORT	COMMUN- ION	LECTOR
February 1st	Mike & Jayme B	LuAnn H	Jayme B	Mike B
February 8th	Myron & Karen T	Kurt & Pam B	Randy A	Myron T
February 15th	Renae W, Audrey M	Anya M	Renae W	Tim B
February 22nd	Bill & Nancy B	Sandy U	Bill B	Bill B
February 25th Mid-Week Lent 7pm	David & Christine K	Robert D	_____	_____

ST PETER



DATE	USHER / CARPORT	BELL RINGER	COM- MUN- ION	LECTOR	ACOLYTE
February 1st	Dave P, Michelle G	Dan K	Dan K	Erica T	Deacon D
February 8th	Bill & Rita M	Bob F	Amy F	Bill M	Leila W
February 15th	Scott G, Jacie D	Jacie D	John S	Linda Z	Brett D
February 18th Ash Wednesday 7pm	Jennifer F, Eugene F	Susan T	Mary K	Mary K	Addyson K
February 22nd	Becca K, Bob F	Bob F	Amy F	Erica T	Chase K

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.

Confirmation Date Reminders:

CONFIRMATION

February 18th begins our Lenten schedule with Ash Wednesday service at St Peter. Confirmation classes will alternate venues, aligning with worship location. Classes are shortened 15min to allow for preparation of worship.

Feb 4	6-7pm	@ St. Peter
Feb 11	6-7pm	@ St. Peter
Feb 18	6-6:45pm	@ St. Peter (Ash Wednesday)
Feb 25	6-6:45pm	@ Trinity
Mar 4	6-6:45pm	@ St Peter
Mar 11	6-6:45pm	@ Trinity
Mar 18	6-6:45pm	@ St Peter
Mar 25	6-6:45pm	@ Trinity



Plan on March 11th or 25th being a Youth Group service night where our students will assist with the Lenten Meal. More details to come.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is back in full swing for winter/spring and classes will run from January 11 to Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026.

We fully understand that everyone's schedules get crazy with family, sports, and just life in general, but we need Sunday School Teachers to help share the workload. Signing up to teach doesn't mean you have to be on the Parish Education Committee. It just means that you are helping those that are already planning the lessons, singing, Christmas Program and VBS.

At this time I am asking for any parents to possibly take a Sunday or two to teach. Classes are separated into 4K-2 and 3-6 grades. All of the lessons are pre-planned on a three-year cycle and I can email an example upon request.

We'd appreciate any time you can provide. The easiest way to sign up is by using the link below. You can select the day and class to teach and you'll be emailed a reminder as the date gets closer.

Here is the link if you want to sign up for a specific Sunday.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0544A9AE2AABF49-60922510-sunday>

St Peter and Trinity Sunday School Children presented their Christmas programs on Sunday, December 21, 2025. They all did such a wonderful job! The next two pages show a recap of both



St Peter

There was a rumor going around that a NEW super hero was coming to Earth. He was coming to save the world and that he received his powers from G-O-D. St Peter's Children's program, **"A Super Christmas"**, took us on a journey to find this new super hero. Conversations with Mary, Joseph, the Shepards, and an Angel told the story of Jesus' birth. In the end, the super heroes realized they weren't being replace, but were there to tell everyone of Jesus' power and God's unending love for all! Great job everyone!



Wonder Woman: Alayna B
Hulk: Willie T
Super Woman: Felicity F

Joseph: Grant B
Mary: Addyson K

Shepards: Deacon D
Chase K

Super Heroes: Porter H
Miley D
Grant K
Jace P
Lydia K
Amelia T
Sylvia P
Carter F
Adalynn T



Angel Voice:
Brett D



Trinity

Trinity Children's Christmas program, "Mary Said YES!" took the congregation through a journey of all the people who said "YES" throughout the story of Jesus' birth. From John the Baptist, the Angel Gabriel, Mary and Joseph...for if they hadn't said YES, how would Jesus have gotten here. Then the angels, the shepherds and the wiseman were next. They all said YES and shared the good news of the Saviors Birth.

Mary Said YES, Mary Said YES, Mary Said YES, YES, YES!



Narrators:

Henry B
Dane K
Jake S
Parker K
Ali B
Luke S
Sadie K



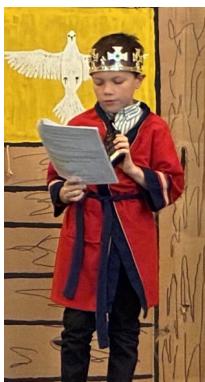
Elizabeth:
Zechariah:
Prop Guy:
Angel Gabriel:
Mary:
Joseph:
Angels:

Ali B
Deklan C
Luke S
Sawyer D
Grace B
Austin Y
Jack S
Layla Be
Lyra D



Shepherds:

Ryker B
Jace M



Sheep:

Owen D
Rhett D



Wisemen:

Emely B
Kaycen M
Jake S
Deklan C



King Herod:
Commentator:

Sawyer D
Parker K



YOUTH CONTACTS

Parish Education Committee: Trinity

Jayne B

Nicole D

Parish Education Committee: St. Peter

Rebecca K

Heidi D



Confirmation

Mike B

Pastor Will

715-571-2750 trinity.pastor2021@gmail.com

Youth Group

Mike & Jayme B

Mike & Jaisie K

[A N N O U N C E M E N T S]

Spring Flower Fundraiser

Need to order some flowers for Mother's Day? St Peter's has you covered. Beautiful hanging baskets available. Place your orders now. Order forms can be found in the fellowship hall at St Peter Church.

Order deadline: Sunday, February 15th.

Pickup will be on Friday, May 8th. Please contact Dave Pickruhn (715-257-7623) to discuss alternate pick up times and/or any other questions or concerns.

Thank you for all your support!



Trinity's Altar Guild is looking for more volunteers to help fill some positions in Mar/Apr and July/Aug. If you have any questions or are willing to help, please contact Renae W.

Happy Valentine's Day!



*** ATTENTION ST PETER MEMBERS ***

Thrivent

(www.thrivent.com)

1-800-847-4836

(Weekdays, 7:00am – 6:00pm CST)

Are you a Thrivent member with either an annuity and/or an insurance product?

Did you know you may be eligible to allocate your Choice Dollars to any charitable organization of your choice, including St. Peter ELCA?

Please see the available resource information to learn more, including how you can allocate your choice dollars by calling or going to the Thrivent website.

*** Any questions regarding eligibility, please give Thrivent a call. ***

Note: If you meet the eligibility requirements and you have not allocated your 2025 choice dollars, you may still do so until **March 31, 2026**.

Additional Information:

The church treasurer receives an email from Thrivent noting each member that has allocated their choice dollars to St. Peter. However, only you know the dollar amount that you have allocated.

Something to keep in mind; all Thrivent monies go into the General Checking account.

If the church member would like their Thrivent choice dollars allocated to another account, you will need to inform the church treasurer of the amount and into which account.

St Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Organization #

Susan M, Treasurer

GriefShare

GriefShare is a 13-week video session with discussion time before and after the video to help individuals journey with their loss of a loved one or someone very close to them. We will be offering a session at St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 512 McClellan St., Wausau, in the Conference Room. It will begin on February 16, 2026 and end on May 11, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.. You can register by contacting Shirley O either by phone or by email OR go to the GriefShare.org website. Thank you and God's blessing to you. More information is by the bulletin boards next to the mailboxes at St. Peter and Trinity Church.

*** ATTENTION TRINITY MEMBERS ***

Trinity Council has looked into the possibility of placing an AED in our church for the safety of our congregation members. One of the suggestions for funding the AED, which has a cost of between \$1,500 and \$2,100, depending on the model selected; was to inform our congregation members who have Thruvent accounts of their opportunity to select Trinity as the destination of their "Choice Dollars" with Thruvent.

If you are a Thruvent member with either an annuity and/or an insurance product you may be eligible to allocate your Choice Dollars to a charitable organization of your choice, including Trinity Lutheran Church. (We are registered with Thruvent under the name Trinity Lutheran Church.). If you meet the eligibility requirements and you have not allocated your 2025 choice dollars, you may still do so until **March 31, 2026**.

Please review the available resource information to learn more, including how you can allocate your choice dollars by calling or going to the Thruvent website.

*** If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please give Thruvent a call. ***

Thruvent
www.thruvent.com
1-800-847-4836
(Weekdays, 7:00am - 6:00pm CST)

How it works for us:

The church treasurer receives an email from Thruvent noting the members that have allocated their choice dollars to Trinity and the total of all member allocations. However, only you as the donor know the dollar amount that you have allocated.

All Thruvent monies then go into the General Checking account and can then be used for the purpose set by the Church Council (AED purchase).

If church members would like their Thruvent choice dollars allocated to another account, you will need to inform the church treasurer of the amount and account where you would like your donation allocated.

If you have any questions, please contact a council member.

Mark your
calendars!



St Peter Lutheran Church 34th Annual Chili Supper

Saturday, March 14, 2026

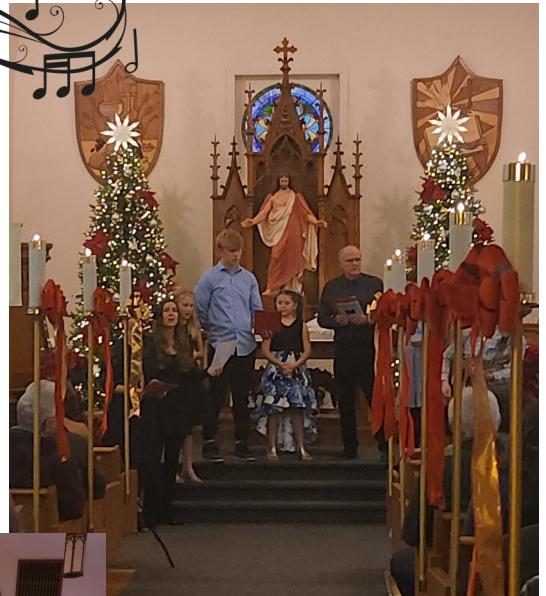


The Chili Supper Committee will be meeting after church on Sunday, February 8th to discuss details and planning. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Patti B.

Watch for more information in the March Newsletter.

Thankful for shared gifts!

The sweet sounds of violins greeted all attending the Christmas Eve service at Trinity as Tim, Issac, & Calla B played beautifully prior to the service. The T/B Family and the choir filled the church with angelic voices with help from organist/pianist, Laurie W. These gifts that are shared, along with the lights on the trees and the glow of candles in everyone's hands, add special sights and sounds to the celebration of Jesus' birth. May we all be thankful for those who shared these special gifts and always remember the reason we celebrate.



Christ
Is
Born!



Lenten Meals are back at Trinity church

There are three evening services held at Trinity this season. Meals will be served from 6:00-6:45pm before services on **February 25th, March 11th, & March 25th.**



Watch for more information in the March Newsletter.

Trinity & St. Peter Congregations

First, we want to thank all of you who were in attendance at our Annual Meetings. It is a time to not only review finances and operations of our churches, but it also allows for input and questions from our members about various questions or ideas that are raised and warrant the input of more than our respective councils.

The Annual Meeting survey results regarding the inquiries for the questions pertaining to “Additional Summer Joint Worship Services” and “Mid-week Lenten Services” for our membership were reviewed. Though the surveys will be discussed in more detail at our next council meetings, we believed it important to let all our membership know the results of these two questions through the newsletter.

Upon combining the survey data for both parishes, there was an overwhelming support for us to continue the Wednesday evening Lenten Services. We will continue with the Lenten service schedule found within the newsletter.

The results of the additional summer worship services are not as clear since St. Peter supported the idea of hosting a joint service in the summer while Trinity results were more divided. Therefore, the councils will review the information and communicate a decision based on these results at the next joint council meeting on February 10th.

Thank you.
Scott & Rick

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.



Next Council Meetings

St Peter Council Meeting: Monday, February 2, 2026 at 6:30pm

Trinity Council Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:00pm

Joint Council Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:30pm (Trinity)

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Summary
January 12, 2026

Treasurer's Report – December 2025

General Fund: \$32,344.40

Milestone Fund: \$1,388.15

Income: \$23,554.96

Memorial Fund: \$210,312.68 – value of 5 CDs = \$186,656.69

Thrivent (AED Fund): \$324.00

Expenses: \$14,788.03

Old Business

- Property Committee - Review in advance of annual meeting - looking for congregation feedback at annual meeting on the following items:
 - * Electrical - sanctuary - received a quote from K&M to replace receptacles
 - * Entryway - deterioration next to front doors (hole)
 - * Sacristy - remodel or electric
 - * Spires - aluminum wrapping - working on getting a quote
 - * Painting - have 2 estimates
- Thrivent Appeal for AED
- Trinity Website- *Found someone that* would be interested in maintaining and updating it

New Business

- Parish Education Committee update - *Still looking for volunteers to assist with Sunday School*
- Annual Meeting - January 18th

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY
January 5, 2026

Old Business:

- CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS UPDATE - Discussed recommendations received thus far from congregation. Some spelling errors and things to consider regarding individual committees. It can be noted in the Constitution and Bylaws to refer to Christmas Committee list and do not need to spell everything out as this is a living resolution and always editable without needing to be re-approved from the Synod. Plan to reach out to each committee to have them provide to council a list of duties they keep track of.
- SUMMER JOINT WORSHIP SERVICE - Regarding outdoor joint worship service, will bring up at annual meeting that we are looking for 2-3 people for planning team.
- LENTEN SERVICE - Will consider paper ballot for recommendations at the annual meeting.

New Business:

- CARPORT - Discussed use of orange (no parking) cone in winter months and will leave up to greeter's discretion on use. Also discussed adding signage to the car port noting the low clearance (it's about 9 feet). Just a note for future - If need for ambulance, they won't fit under the car port.
- SUMMER FLOWERS/DECORATIONS - Discussed purchasing planters and flowers for the exterior of church by the front door, will look to do this in the future.

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

Trinity Council

Richard P
President
Perry N
Vice President
Lisa H
Secretary
Jim W
Treasurer
Renae W
Financial Secretary
Jaisie Kl
Mutual Ministry
Marlo Kr
Property Committee
Andy P
Property Committee
Anya Mu
Property Committee

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Nicole H
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Lyle Z