

PARISH GAZETTE

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

From the Pastor's Desk...

Rev. William O

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where is my help to come?

² My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.

-Psalm 121:1-2

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Contact Information

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It is a long tradition in the larger church to “give up” something for Lent. We find ourselves taking away an item that is an obstacle to us. Maybe it is chocolate or fast food, sometimes it is a practice such as less time in front of the T.V. or social media or even our phones in general. Whatever it is, there is something that we see in ourselves that we want to change, and this practice during Lent is a place to hold ourselves accountable to begin that change.

As we have started this Lenten season, we have been engaging in this Lenten theme of *Unbound: Longing for wholeness*. Using the theme, on Sundays we are reflecting on the things we are longing for such as relationship, community, authenticity, or courage. Our Wednesday services are reflecting on Joseph’s story in Genesis seeing the patterns in which things bind us from being who we can be. Such obstacles that bind like jealousy, violence, dishonest systems, family dynamics, or guilt.

If you do follow this practice or if this is the year that you wish to start, I offer an idea to you for this Lenten practice and reflection. What are the things that you long for? What is it that binds your heart that holds you from you feeling truly free? Certainly, giving up items or practices improve your health and physical being, but what do you need to let go of, to give up, to heal so that you can look towards the Cross in your journey of things you long for. To use this Lenten journey to remove the yokes from your shoulders and to care for your own heart.

Peace,
Pastor Will





March 2026

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 Mtg 6:30pm	3	4 St Peter Confirmation 6-6:45pm Service 7pm	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Time begins	9 Trinity Council Mtg 6pm	10 Quilting 1pm Pastor Out/Mtg	11 Trinity Confirmation & Meal 6-6:45pm Service 7pm	12	13	14 Men's Breakfast 8am LC Restaurant
15	16	17 St Patrick's Day	18 St Peter Confirmation 6-6:45pm Service 7pm	19	20 Newsletter Articles Due April Issue	21
22 St Peter kids sing in church	23	24 Faith Study 1pm Trinity	25 Trinity Confirmation & Meal 6-6:45pm Service 7pm	26	27	28
29 Palm Sunday Trinity kids sing in church	30	31			Pastor Will out of office for vacation April 6-12th	



TRINITY VOLUNTEERS



DATE	USHER	CARPORT	COMMUN- ION	LECTOR
March 1st	Renaë W, Audrey M	Anya M	Renaë W	Calla B
March 8th	Jim W, Jim W	Richard & Janice H	Richard H	Richard H
March 11th Mid-Week Lent 7pm	Myron & Karen T	Kurt & Pam B	_____	_____
March 15th	Mike & Jayme B	LuAnn H	Mike B	Jayme B
March 22nd	Audrey M Anya M	Rick & Shari P	Randy A	Kay G
March 25th Mid-Week Lent 7pm	Bill & Nancy B	Sandy U	_____	_____
March 29th Palm Sunday	David & Christine K	Robert D	Christine K	David K



ST PETER VOLUNTEERS



DATE	USHER/ CARPORT	BELL RINGER	COM- MUN- ION	LECTOR	ACOLYTE
March 1st	Dave P, Michelle G	Dan K	Dan K	Val S	Grant B
March 43th Mid-Week Lent 7pm	Bill & Rita M	Bob F	_____	_____	Deacon D
March 8th	Scott G, Jacie D	Jacie D	John S	Erica T	Leila W
March 15th	Eugene F, Jennifer F	Susan T	Mary K	Mary K	Brett D
March 18th Mid-Week Lent 7pm	Bob F, Becca K	Bob F	_____	_____	Chase K
March 22nd	Lyle & Linda Z	Bill M	Bill & Rita M	Linda Z	Addyson K
March 29th Palm Sunday	Scott & Mary S	Scott G	Jacie D	Mary S	Deacon D

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

Below is the rotation for classes in the coming weeks. Also note that the Confirmation class will **serve the meal at Trinity on 3/11**. Classes are shortened during this time to 6-6:45pm, allowing Pastor Will time to prep for service. Please attend and participate in worship these nights.

Mar 4	6-6:45pm	@ St Peter	
Mar 11	5:45-6:45pm	@ Trinity	Serving Lenten Meal
Mar 18	6-6:45pm	@ St Peter	
Mar 25	6-6:45pm	@ Trinity	

NOTE: Don't forget to bring one pan of pre-cut bars or dessert per family to the Lenten meal on March 11th.



Confirmation

Mike B

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Please save the date as our Sunday School children will be singing in church in March. Please come and hear their angelic voices.

- **St. Peter** kids will be singing on **Sunday, March 22** at the 8:30AM service.
- **Trinity** kids will be singing on **Sunday, March 29** at the 10:15AM service.

Our **last day of Sunday School** will be on **March 29** for both churches. Many thanks to all that helped teach this past school year. We look forward to sharing VBS details in the April newsletter.

Parish Education Committee: Trinity

Jayne B

Nicole D

Parish Education Committee: St. Peter

Rebecca K

Heidi D

ANNOUNCEMENT

Lenten Meals

WHEN: March 11th & 25th
WHERE: Trinity Church Basement
TIME: 6-6:45pm



Come and Enjoy some food and fellowship prior to the mid-week Lenten service! Everyone is Welcome!

Maundy Thursday

We will be participating in the **'Stripping of the Altar'** during the Maundy Thursday service on April 2nd at Trinity Church. Volunteers are needed to help remove items from the Altar space. There is a sign-up sheet next to the mailboxes at Trinity for those willing to assist with the service. **The deadline for sign-up is on Sunday, March 22nd.**

Good Friday

During our Good Friday services on April 3rd, we are looking for several readers of any age to help read the Gospel story. There is a sign-up sheet located by the mailboxes at both churches for volunteers. **The deadline for sign-up is on Sunday, March 22nd.**

Trinity's Altar Guild is looking for more volunteers to help fill some positions.

If you have any questions or are willing to help,
please contact Renae W.

East-Central Synod Assembly

On June 4th-6th, 2026, The ECSW will be holding their annual Synod Assembly at the Oshkosh Waterfront Hotel. The upcoming Synod Assembly will be a particularly meaningful and historic gathering as it includes the election of our Synod bishop. In addition to this important election, the assembly will also help shape the ministry for 2027 and also discuss the ministry that we are part of in ELCA. Each congregation can elect two representatives to participate as voting delegates in this year's assembly. Please let Pastor Will know if you wish to attend.

Don't forget to change your clocks on March 8th. Daylight Saving Time begins!

Lenten Schedule

Unbound: Longing for Wholeness:

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

Regular Sunday Services

St Peter: 8:30am

Trinity: 10:15am

Sunday, March 1st- Lent 2

Genesis 37:12-36

Psalms 121

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

“Longing for Mystery”

Wednesday, March 4th- Lent 2

St Peter: 7pm service

Genesis 37:12-36

John 3:1-17

“Bound by Violence”

Sunday, March 8th- Lent 3

Genesis 39:1-20

Psalms 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

“Longing for Relationship”

Wednesday, March 11th- Lent 3

Trinity: 6-6:45pm meal / 7pm service

Genesis 39:1-20

John 4:5-42

“Bound by Dishonest Systems”

Sunday, March 15th- Lent 4

Genesis 41: Selected Verses

Psalms 23

Genesis 42: Selected Verses

John 9:1-41

“Longing for Community”

Wednesday, March 18th- Lent 4

St Peter: 7pm service

Genesis 41: Selected Verses

Genesis 42: Selected Verses

John 9:1-41

“Bound by Family”

Sunday, March 22nd- Lent 5

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalms 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

“Longing for Authenticity”

Wednesday, March 25th- Lent 5

Trinity: 6-6:45pm meal / 7pm service

Genesis 50:15-21

John 11:1-45

“Bound by Guilt”

HOLY WEEK

Sunday, March 29th- Palm Sunday

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-35
“Longing for Courage”

Thursday, April 2nd- Maundy Thursday

Trinity: 7pm service
Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35
“Longing for Intimacy”

Friday, April 3rd- Good Friday

Trinity: 4:30pm service
St Peter: 7pm service
Isaiah 52:13–53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1-19:42
“Longing for Solidarity”

Sunday, April 5th- Easter

Trinity: 7am service
St Peter: 9:30am service
Jeremiah 31:1-6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Acts 10:34-43
John 20:1-18
“Longing for New Life”



St Peter's Altar Guild

Currently, Amy F handles all Altar Guild duties and is looking for volunteers willing to help out. This is a great responsibility for one person to handle alone. If anyone would be willing to change banners and/or seasonal linens one week a month to give Amy a break, it would be appreciated. The more volunteers, the lighter the work load for all. If you feel called to help with this special ministry, please contact Amy F. Thank you for your consideration.



***** 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 #504745398**

Susan M, Treasurer

St Peter Easter Flowers



There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall at St Peter for Easter flowers. Prices vary according to which type of plant you would like to purchase and are listed on the sign-up sheet. Orders must be in by **Sunday, March 15, 2026**. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact David.

***** 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 Thrivent accounts of their opportunity to select Trinity as the destination of their "Choice Dollars" with Thrivent.

If you are a Thrivent 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 Thrivent 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 Thrivent website.

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

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

How it works for us:

The church treasurer receives an email from Thrivent 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 Thrivent 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 Thrivent 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.

Trinity Easter Lilies

Now is your chance to order Easter Lilies at Trinity. The price is \$14 per plant and can be purchased in memory or in honor of someone of your choosing. The deadline to sign-up is on **Sunday, March 8, 2026**. The sign-up sheet is in the back of church. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Candyce K.





St Peter Lutheran Church 34th Annual Chili Supper



Saturday, March 14, 2026

3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Located on Highway A in Hamburg 1 ¼ Mile West of Little Chicago

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

Raffles: Tickets are \$.50 each. Drawing at 7:00 p.m.
Do not need to be present to win.

Chili Supper Donation:

Adult - \$8.00

Child (7 to 12 years old) - \$3.00

Child 6 & Under - Free

Take Outs Available - \$4.00/quart or an \$8.00
meal that includes 1 quart of chili, crackers,
bread and dessert.



St Peter Members:

- Please return ticket money and non-purchased tickets to Patti prior to March 14th.
- Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall for donations for chili supplies, desserts and for helping with the chili supper.
- We will be washing roasters, cleaning, and setting up tables/chairs after the church service on March 8th. Please consider helping us!
- If anyone has a large electric roaster the chili supper committee can use for the chili supper, please bring it to church by March 8th. Please make sure to put your name on each piece of your roaster.

Please contact the Chili Supper Committee with questions or raffle donations.

Chili Supper Committee

Patti B, Sue T, Sharon B, Geraldine V, Haley E,
Jamie H, Susan M, Becca K, Heidi D

Proceeds will go towards St Peter's building fund.

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.

2026 CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS



Andy P, Pastor Will, Jim W, Shawn K, Rick P, David K, Mike B, Perry N
Missing from picture: Anya M, Renae W



Dale B, Patti B, Jacie D, Amy F, Susan M, Nicole H, Rebecca K, Robert J, Scott G

**ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY
February 2, 2026**

Pastor's Report:

- Upcoming Pastor Vacation - April 6th-12th, 2026.

Old Business:

- Update on voting of St. Peter and Trinity regarding Lenten and Summer Worship Services - St. Peter majority voted to change with summer service and keep as is on Lent. Plan to discuss further with Trinity at the Joint Council next week.

New Business:

- Mail -
 - Habitat for Humanity looking for volunteers and donations. They also have an application for anyone looking for assistance for critical home repairs. Plan to place information out for the congregation. Made a motion to put information regarding this into the bulletin and take a special collection at an upcoming church service. Motion passed.
 - Litigation on PVC pipe (class action). We received a notice, plan to table this.
 - ELCA June Conference - Received information from ELCA regarding the June conference -this will be placed on the bulletin board.
- Altar Guild - Looking for assistance with Altar Guild. Plan to put something in the bulletin. Made a motion to buy supplies needed for maintaining linens and banners for Altar Guild.



St Peter/Trinity Lutheran Church
Joint Council Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2026

Old Business:

- ◆ 2026 and 2027 Alternating Worship Service Schedule- reviewed and motion to accept. Motion approved.
- ◆ Shared Costs and Approved Allocation were reviewed and motion to accept with no changes. Motion carried.

New Business:

- ◆ Review Joint Services:
 - * St Peter will host Joint June 14th service at 9:00am with fellowship to follow
 - * Trinity will have Joint outside service on July 26 at 10:00am with picnic to follow.

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Summary
February 9, 2026**

Treasurer's Report – January 2026

General Fund: \$36,658.54

Milestone Fund: \$1,388.15

Income: \$14,917.23

Memorial Fund: \$217,567.61—value of 5 CDs=\$186,887.29

Thrivent (AED Fund): \$349.00

Expenses: \$12,603.09

Pastor's Report

- Reviewed upcoming vacation time (April 6-12) following Easter Sunday, April 5th. Pastor is working on finding a substitute for April 12th.
- Reviewed the Habitat for Humanity letter received by St. Peter - Project will be July 13-18 - request for financial or time support.

Old Business

- Annual Meeting Survey results were reviewed:
 - * Accompaniment Fund - vote was close - Trinity will wait on participation at this time.
 - * Joint Summer Worship - will keep Trinity's July joint worship service with the Joint Council reviewing for possible joint summer service at St. Peter.
 - * Mid-week Lenten Services - keeping the mid-week services with meals at Trinity.
 - * Sacristy-remodel - vote was to approve though the priority was lowest for consideration.
 - * Exterior painting - overwhelming approval with third highest priority consideration.
 - * Update All Sanctuary Wiring - approved with second highest priority consideration.
 - * Wiring for GFI only - approve with highest priority.
 - * Wrapping of Spires - overwhelming approval with second lowest priority consideration.
 - + Motion to approve the quote from Jerry's Painting to paint the church. Motion carried.
- Question regarding lawn care for the upcoming summer. Options will be reviewed and brought back to a future council meeting.

New Business

- Lenten worship meals schedule was reviewed. Council will make the meal for Feb. 25th, Confirmation Youth will help March 11th. An announcement to the congregation will be made on Sunday, Feb. 15th and 22nd for assistance with set-up, serving and clean-up for Feb. 25th and March 25th (and meal).
- Synod Assembly Representative information was reviewed. Conference will be in Oshkosh. This year there is a 3-day conference, June 4-6th with registration happening in March. If interested, let Pastor Will know.

Next Council Meetings

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

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

Joint Council Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 6:30pm (St Peter)



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

Trinity Council

Richard P
President
Mike B
Vice President
David K
Secretary
Jim W
Treasurer
Renaë W
Financial Secretary
Andy P
Property Committee
Anya M
Property Committee
Perry N
Property Committee
Shawn K
Property Committee

St Peter Council

Scott G
President
Jacie D
Vice President
Nicole H
Secretary
Susan M
Treasurer
Amy F
Mutual Ministry
Dale B

Patti B

Robert J

Rebecca K

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Mutual Ministry

Randy A
Lynn K

Amy F
Jamie H
Linda Z