



**Trinity Messenger**  
February 2026 Issue 4

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*One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.*  
Matt. 4:4

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**ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 at 7:00PM**

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**Treasurer's Report February, 2026**

**January Financial Report:**

	<b>Actual</b>
Unified Budget Income	\$13,778.25
Unified Budget Expense	\$22,707.41
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 8,905.94</b>

The January deficit is not unexpected since we only had two worship services in January. As a result, only one bank deposit was made and not all direct giving was recorded. Also, there were 5 Fridays in January which meant that there were five weeks where bills were paid. So while not a great start to the year, this deficit is not of specific concern, especially if members who did not make contributions during the cancelled worship services make-up those contributions in February.

**Congregation Council Update**

At the February 12 meeting, the Congregation Council:

- Conducted the required annual review of the Child Protection Policy. No changes were made. Anyone desiring a copy of the updated policy should contact the church office.
- Approved the agreement made by the Property Committee with a group of individuals who desire to rent our gym 3 mornings each week for pickleball.
- Set the Spring Congregational Meeting for Sunday, April 26, following the worship service.
- Approved credit for one month's rent for the kitchen tenant due to the lack of heat in the kitchen during the month of January and the resulting problems it caused the tenant.



### Stewardship Special Giving for February: Camping Campaign

The Church, in a place and time apart...Where God's presence is experienced, Faith is renewed, Christ's love is felt, and the Church is strengthened for the service and proclamation of the Gospel! Our mission is to be a gracious expression of God's love for all people.

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central Pennsylvania operates three facilities: Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, and the Wittel Farm; with a variety of outdoor experiences in a uniquely Lutheran tradition.

Each summer, hundreds of young people, adults, and families come to camp to grow in faith through adventure, nature, and creative arts experiences.

Retreat programs are offered for all ages throughout the year. Plus, all facilities are available for rent by retreat groups, church groups, and families.

The Growing Project at the Wittel Farm is a volunteer-supported working farm that grows fresh fruits and vegetables, which are donated to address food insecurity in Lancaster County.

As a Reconciling in Christ organization, all people are invited and welcome to enjoy the goodness of God's creation through the community at camp.

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### Think Lutheran Camping!

It is that time of year to start thinking about summer plans. If you were in church on Sunday and attended Zach's program during Sunday School, you probably have a good idea that

Camps Kirchenwald and Nawakwa can be part of your summer plans. The theme for camp this year is Wear Love, based on Colossians 3:12-14. As campers reflect on love as the all-purpose garment of faith, they will explore how God's love – woven into our lives through kindness, humility, patience, steadfastness, and forgiveness – shapes who we are and how we live. There are different levels of camping for kids in grades K-2 (day camp and half-week camp) and grades 3-11 (overnight camp). There is family camp for God's children of all ages and there is elder camp for those 55 and up.

More information can be found in the camp brochures in the narthex of the church on the display table. Camp makes a great gift for children and grandchildren. Full payment discount camp registration must be received at camp by **April 4, 2026**. Info

at: <https://www.lutherancamping.org/> **Holy Trinity is committed to finding funds for EVERY child who wants to attend church camp. Lack of funds should NOT be the reason for a child not attending camp.** Resources are available so please talk to Pastor Mark or call the church office. Contact Lisa Garrett if you have any questions: [lrgacd@yahoo.com](mailto:lrgacd@yahoo.com) or 717-490-1927.

Watch this fun video! <https://www.lutherancamping.org/summer-camp/summer-camp-quick-video/>

**Think Elder Camp July 5-10!**



It is that time of year to start thinking about summer plans. Camp Kirchenwald can be part of your summer plans! The theme for camp this year is Wear Love, based on Colossians 3:12-14. As campers reflect on love as the all-purpose garment of faith, they will explore how God's love – woven into our lives through kindness, humility, patience, steadfastness, and forgiveness – shapes who we are and how we live.

Elder Camp is specially designed for adults 55 and older. It runs alongside, and sometimes runs circles around, our youth camp, from Sunday-Friday. Elder Campers live in single or double occupancy rooms in comfortable Zinn-Tozer Lodge. Top bunks are optional! You will have your very own counselors and chaplain who base daily Bible study and worship on the summer camp curriculum used by the rest of the camp.

With opportunities to participate in crafts, Skit Night, and meals in the dining hall, the Elders have plenty of opportunities just like the other kids... of course, the other kids don't have access to the lodge's kitchen and coffeemakers, spontaneous field trips, and the freedom to set their own time for Lights Out.

Whether you're looking for a week of relaxation and reflection, fun with other feisty seniors, or the chance to spend a week at summer camp with (or without) your grandchildren, Elder Camp is a great opportunity for anyone who loved camp or missed out on camp as a kid.

More information can be found in the camp brochures in the narthex of the church on the display table. Full payment discount camp registration must be received at camp by **April 4, 2026**. Info at: <https://www.lutherancamping.org/> Contact your camp person, Lisa Garrett, if you have any questions: [lrgacd@yahoo.com](mailto:lrgacd@yahoo.com) or 717-490-1927.



## *Notes of* THANKS

Dear Holy Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$977.65 to ELCA Good Gifts. Your Good Gift is a very good gift indeed! Through resources such as seedlings and seminary courses, vaccinations and vegetable gardens, Bibles and blankets, you equip God's people--around the world and around the corner--with what they need to live abundant lives. Thank you again for your gracious gifts. You make God's love real, With gratitude, Rachel Wind, Executive for Development

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### ELEVATOR RESTORATION PROJECT UPDATE

In keeping with the promise made previously, as chairman of the Stewardship Committee, I am pleased to inform you as to the contributions received to date.

In October 2025, the donations totaled \$11,063.94. The Treasurer's Report for November 2025 indicated a total of \$6,717.00. Therefore, the total to date amounts to \$17,735.94

We have started with a very positive indication of what can be done to meet the challenge. Let us continue on the same path for the future. Thank you for your support.



I will provide another report in the March 2026 (due to snow storm) Trinity Messenger.  
Norman A. Wangman

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Hello to the Trinity family

The Fellowship committee would like to announce our **first Pot Luck dinner** of the New Year. It will be held on the third Friday of the month , February 20 from 6:30 to 8:00 in the fellowship hall. Please save the date . A sign up sheet will be placed in the gathering area in the near future. Hope you can join us... bring family , friends and a good appetite!

K Kuhns ☐



### Welcome to Holy Trinity Sunday School on the Move!

Please join us for Sunday School the 1st and 3rd Sunday of every month, the next one being March 1. Children will proceed downstairs after the Children's Sermon. For those not attending church, please meet us at 9:20 in the Cafe area. All are welcome for

our Journey with Jesus!! ❤️ .

Love and Peace,  
Holy Trinity Christian Ed

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**NOTICE: Holy Trinity's website is sometimes up, sometimes not. A new website is being pursued and will be up and running as soon as possible. If you are looking for the livestream connection it is here:** Holy Trinity's services are now online at Sermons.net. Just copy and paste the link below into your browser. <https://holytrinitylutheranchurchephratapa.sermon.net/main>

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### Celebration Choir Schedule

Wednesday, March 4 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal  
Wednesday, March 11 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal  
Sunday, March 15 – sing “Be Thou My Vision” arr. Alice Parker

Wednesday, March 25 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal  
Wednesday, April 1 – 6:45 PM – Rehearsal

Thursday, April 2 (Maundy Thursday) – sing “A New Commandment”  
Sunday, April 5 (Easter) – sing “Christ Is Alive” arr. Hal H. Hopson

Wednesday, May 13 – 7:15 PM – Rehearsal

Sunday, May 17 – sing “God We Gather as Your People” by David Lohman

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## Handbell Choir

### Handbell Choir Schedule:

Handbell Rehearsal is Wednesdays at 6:30PM

### Upcoming Performances:

Sunday, March 8: *Balm in Gilead*

Easter Sunday, April 5: *Thine is the Glory*

Sunday, May 24: *Holy Is the Lord*



For Questions contact Debbie: 717-681-5985 [Elegantkeys88@gmail.com](mailto:Elegantkeys88@gmail.com)

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## CELEBRATE RECOVERY

The local branch of the Christ-centered support group, *Celebrate Recovery*, has begun meeting in the church social hall on Monday evenings from 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM. The group was meeting at City Gate but outgrew their space and reach out to Holy Trinity to see about finding room in our facility. *Celebrate Recovery* is a world-wide ministry that offers support to persons seeking “freedom from their hurts, hang-ups, and habits” and is not limited to those recovering from addiction. It seeks to serve as well those persons struggling with various types of dependency and the pain and trauma associated with these. If you are interested in finding out more about this group and/or how it might be helpful to you, please check out their website at [celebraterecovery.com](http://celebraterecovery.com). All are welcome!

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## Concordia College Choir Concert in Harrisburg.

The world-renowned Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minnesota, under the direction of Dr. Michael Culloton, will perform at Saint Patrick Cathedral, 212 State St. in Harrisburg on March 10 at 7:00 PM. The 68-voice Concordia Choir continues to affirm its reputation as one of America’s finest a cappella choirs. 2026’s tour is Michael Culloton’s first tour through the Northeast United States as conductor of The Concordia Choir, who took over the position following René Clausen’s retirement in May 2020. From the music of J. S. Bach to familiar hymn arrangements, The Concordia Choir will amaze you with their technical mastery and incredible sound. To purchase tickets, visit [ConcordiaTickets.com](http://ConcordiaTickets.com).

Deb Olson is a graduate of Concordia College and she sang with this choir from 1979-1983.

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## Weekly Bible Study: Tuesdays at 11AM

### NEW BIBLE STUDY

A New Bible study focusing on the Acts of the Apostles will begin on Tuesday, January 6. The class will meet in the church conference room at 11:00 AM. There is a participant’s book for the class that can be ordered through Amazon. The book is entitled *Acts: Catching Up With The Spirit*, authored by Matthew L. Skinner. If you have any questions please direct them to Pastor Mark. We look forward to having you as part of the study and learning more about the early activities of the Jesus’ followers.

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Salem Lutheran Church, Ephrata, is planning a bus trip for May 12, 2026. "Chesapeake City Dine Around," includes soup and salad at Shaefer's Canal House, main course at the Chesapeake Inn. Then enjoy a narrated historical cruise along the C&D Canal, and a short stroll away to the Canal Creamery for a treat of homemade ice cream. Finally, a 45-minute driving tour highlighting several points of interest and beautiful scenery of the Chesapeake Bay area. Cost is \$161.00 per person, registration and payment by April 14, however we have been filling the bus for these trips in 2-3 weeks. For more info, call or text Laurel Kluck, 717-701-0266

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**Bergstrasse Community Clothing Closet** is open the first and third full weekend of every month for persons in need of clothing and other household goods. Entrance is accessible via the door off the lower parking lot. Hours are Saturday and Sunday noon – 2pm.



**Donations:** Currently there is a need for men's pants, shorts and shoes. There is always a need for children's clothing. All clothing in good shape is accepted. Due to space constraints, household items are no longer accepted. Donations may be dropped off directly at Bergstrasse when the Community Clothing Closet is open or in the box at the back of the narthex in Holy Trinity.

**Volunteers:** sort clothing, hang it and tag it by color to keep track of what is moving and what is not, and greet shoppers at the courtesy desk. Shoppers check in and specify how many people they are shopping for and what items are of particular interest. Volunteers are needed from 11:30 – 2:30 on Saturdays and Sundays. You do not need to be there the entire time to volunteer – whatever time you have available within those timeframes is fine.

If you have further questions, you may either stop by the next time the Closet is open and have a look around or call Pattie Martin at 717-344-1347.

Thank you so much for all the donations you have been giving!

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**HOLY TRINITY HAS A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE!!**

**Please follow this link to the new page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61563831542098&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

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22 FEB, SUN

- Lent 1
- 9am Worship
- 10am Coffee Hour After Worship
- 10:15am Adult Forum

23 FEB, MON

- 10am Women's prayer group
- 6pm Celebrate recov.

24 FEB, TUE

- 9am Coffee Klatch
- 11am Bible Study
- 3:30pm Trini Mini
- 6pm Pickleball

25 FEB, WED

- 6:30pm Handbell Choir
- 7pm Historical Society
- 7:30pm Evening Prayer

26 FEB, THU

- 3:30pm Trini Mini
- 7pm Thursday Worship

28 FEB, SAT

- 7:30am Walking Group

[View This Month's Interactive Calendar Here](#)

**February 22nd Servers:**

**Council Team:** Ed Quirke, John Weiss

**Assisting Minister:** John Fuehrer

**Lector:** Mike Sernoffsky

**Acolytes:** Norm Wangman

**Ushers:** Mark Mull, Candy Snyder,  
Whip Zimmerman, Theresa Mull

**Altar Guild:** Barb & Steve Sweigart, Andy Sweigart

**Linens:** Patricia Fassnacht

**Flowers:** Judy Wechter

**AV:** Bob Eberly



**Office Hours February 23-27, 2025**

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

**Office Phone: 717-733-4134 Pastor's Cell: 315-317-8517**

**Office email: [officeholytrinity@ephratalutheran.org](mailto:officeholytrinity@ephratalutheran.org)**

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Tuesday	9AM - 12 NOON	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Wednesday	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Thursday	9AM - 12 NOON	9:00 AM-12:30 PM
Friday	9AM - 12 NOON	OFF

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A NEW QR CODE...DO NOT TRY TO USE THE OLD ONE.**

**Make Your Regular Offering Electronically**

On the Holy Trinity website ([www.holytrinityephrata.org](http://www.holytrinityephrata.org)), a tab on the menu bar called "Online Giving" will take you to a secure web site for you to give. You can also give your Regular Offering, your Special Appeal donation, your building fund, or your Elevator Improvement fund donation by using your Smart Phone and following the QR code.



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***Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!***