



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Phone: 507.331.6579

Address: 530 4th Street NW Faribault, MN 55021

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 12

December 2025

Reflections of Mary

A Musical Drama Experience



Musical Drama Advent Experience

Saturday, Dec. 20 @ 5:30pm

Sunday, Dec. 21 @ 8 & 10:30am

Trinity Lutheran Church, Faribault

Wendysue Fluegge will be coming to Trinity the weekend of December 20 & 21 at all three services. Wendysue portrays Mary in drama and song through 5 powerful original monologues interspersed with the beautiful songs of Christmas! The story of Christ comes alive from the annunciation to the resurrection!

Everyone is invited to enjoy these special services. A Free Will offering will be gathered to support Wendysue's ministry.

Find Wendysue on Youtube, Facebook, Instagram and her website www.wendysue.com.



**Merry Christmas
from the staff at
Trinity!**

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Special December Services

In an effort to better serve the congregation during the seasons of Advent and Lent, the start time of midweek evening services has been adjusted to 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3

6:30 PM - Advent Service

Advent Supper sponsored by Human Care (5:30 PM)

Saturday, December 6

4:30 PM - Worship Service

(To accommodate the Bethlehem Inn Dinner Theatre, the service on Saturday, December 6 will be at 4:30 p.m. (an hour early)!

Wednesday, December 10

6:30 PM - Advent Service

Advent Supper sponsored by Faribault Lutheran School (5:30 PM)

Saturday, December 13

5:30 PM - Sunday School Christmas Service "Silent Night"

Wednesday, December 17

8:30 AM - FLS Christmas Service Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 17

6:30 PM - Advent Service

Advent Supper sponsored for Family Ministry (5:30 PM)

Thursday, December 18

6:00 PM - FLS Christmas Service

Saturday & Sunday, December 20 & 21

Regular Services Times

Services include special Drama "Reflections of Mary" & Songs by Wendysue Fluegge

Wednesday, Christmas Eve, December 24

4:30 PM - Christmas Eve Family Service

10:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday, Christmas Day, December 25

9:00 AM - Christmas Day service with Holy Communion

Saturday & Sunday, December 28 & 29

Regular Services Times

Services of Lessons & Carols

NO NEW YEAR'S EVE OR DAY SERVICES

Midweek Advent, Christmas Eve Family & Christmas Day services will be broadcast on KDHL (920 AM) and live streamed.

CONNECT TO THE CHURCH—OUR ANNUAL GOAL FOR 2026

SERVING TRINITY & FLS

- Rev. Hal Rex Longshore,
Visitation Pastor
- Rev. Gatluk, Reat,
Sudanese Evang. Lutheran
Mission Church
- Noel Handberg,
Financial Coordinator
- Nancy Simonson,
Family Ministry
- Dustin Grund,
Property Manager
- Jennifer Kingland,
Office Manager
- Bill & Mary Jewison,
Custodians
- Chrysteena Saehler,
FLS Administrator/Principal
- Jeneen Michelson,
FLS Administrative
Secretary

As we look ahead to the coming year, our shared goal is simple yet profound: to connect more deeply to the Church. This connection is not only about attending services, but about weaving our lives together in faith, fellowship, and service.

Why Connection Matters

The Church is more than a building—it is a living community of believers. When we connect, we strengthen one another, grow in faith, and extend Christ's love into the world. Each act of worship, service, and fellowship builds bonds that remind us we are never alone.

How We Can Connect

- **Worship Together:** Commit to regular attendance and invite friends or neighbors to join.
- **Serve Joyfully:** Volunteer in ministries, whether through music, teaching, outreach, or hospitality.

- **Grow Spiritually:** Join a Bible study or small group to deepen your understanding of God's Word.

- **Build Relationships:** Take time to share coffee, conversation, and encouragement with fellow members.

- **Reach Outward:** Support mission projects and community service, showing Christ's love beyond our walls.

A Shared Journey

Connection is not a one-time event—it's a journey we take together. As we move through the year, let us encourage one another, celebrate milestones, and remain steadfast in our commitment to Christ and His Church.

Your friend in Christ,

Mitch

If you have a topic for me to address or a comment, please email me.

Bible in a Year—December

December 1 – Romans 5, 6, 7, 8

December 2 – Romans 9, 10, 11, 12

December 3 – Romans 13, 14, 15, 16

December 4 – Ephesians 1, 2, 3, 4

December 5 – Ephesians 5, 6; Psalm 119:1-80

December 6 – Philippians 1, 2, 3, 4

December 7 – Colossians 1, 2, 3, 4

December 8 – I Timothy 1, 2, 3, 4

December 9 – I Timothy 5, 6; Titus 1, 2, 3

December 10 – II Timothy 1, 2, 3, 4

December 11 – Philemon; Hebrews 1, 2, 3, 4

December 12 – Hebrews 5, 6, 7, 8

December 13 – Hebrews 9, 10, 11

December 14 – Hebrews 12, 13; Jude

December 15 – James 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

December 16 – I Peter 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

December 17 – II Peter 1, 2, 3; John 1

December 18 – John 2, 3, 4

December 19 – John 5, 6

December 20 – John 7, 8

December 21 – John 9, 10, 11

December 22 – John 12, 13, 14

December 23 – John 15, 16, 17, 18

December 24 – John 19, 20, 21

December 25 – I John 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

December 26 – Psalms 117; 119:81-176; II John; III John

December 27 – Revelation 1, 2, 3, 4

December 28 – Revelation 5, 6, 7, 8, 9

December 29 – Revelation 10, 12, 13, 14

December 30 – Revelation 15, 16, 17, 18

December 31 – Revelation 19, 20, 21, 22

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

On November 16, Sunday School students and their families packed Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Thanks to generous donations from the congregation, the cost for shipping and the addition of discipleship materials were covered. When families finished packing, they also received our quarterly family resources and Scripture/service project cards to use at home.

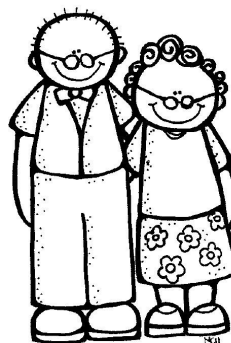
The Sunday school students have started their rehearsals for the Christmas service. The Sunday school Christmas service is December 13 at 5:30 p.m. The service is entitled "Silent Night."

There will be NO Sunday School on December 28. Sunday School classes resume on January 4.

FAMILY MINISTRY ADVENT DEVOTIONS

The Scripture/service projects cards were sent home with families of Trinity and FLS. There are extras for you to share with grandchildren or other families. Pick one up on the information center or contact Nancy Simonson.

GRANDPARENTING



On November 18, we viewed part 2 of Raising Gender-Confident Kids – Practical Steps to Build Gender Confidence and Resilience. We will not be meeting in person during the month of December. We will continue our monthly meetings in January.

You can watch weekly episodes at legacycoalition.org.

Upcoming sessions include:

December 1, 2025

The Ultimate Impact - Mentoring Your Grandkids
Nancy and Mark Lindgren,
Founder and CEO, More Mentoring

December 8, 2025

Ghosted for the Holidays - What to Do When Loved Ones Go No Contact
Dr. James Banks, Pastor, Author, Podcaster

DINNER THEATRE PRODUCTION OF "IN BETHLEHEM INN"



To accommodate the Bethlehem Inn Dinner Theatre, the service on Saturday, December 6 will be at 4:30 p.m. (an hour early)!

On Friday, December 5 and Saturday, December 6, at 6 pm, the Fellowship Hall will be transformed into the Bethlehem Inn. As a guest at the busy Bethlehem Inn, you are invited by the innkeeper and his family to join them for dinner. Many interruptions take place during the meal, and guests become first-hand observers of the events that occurred on the night Christ was born more than 2,000 years ago.

Be prepared for many unusual happenings and to laugh and cry as the characters recreate the night Mary and Joseph were turned away from the Inn. A special surprise concludes the evening, and the miracle of Christmas is experienced by all.

Tickets are \$15 and are available through the church office or after services until November 30. For every ticket purchased, a free ticket will be given for you to invite someone outside our congregation to enjoy an evening of good food and fun!

Christmas Card treasures



Turn old Christmas cards into beautiful keepsake ornaments! It's a fun, simple way to give new life to cards you've received and add a handmade touch to your tree.

What you need:

- Christmas cards
- Scissors
- Glue
- Circle pattern (cut from cardboard or trace around object)
- Hole punch
- Yarn or ribbon
- Glitter (optional)



What you do:

1. Trace a circle onto two Christmas cards.
2. Cut out the circles and glue the backs together.
3. Decorate the edges with glitter or ribbon for extra sparkle.
4. Punch a hole at the top and thread yarn or ribbon through to hang.



Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights.
— James 1:17 (NIV)



GOOD NEWS TO THE SHEPHERDS

What did the angel of the Lord say to the shepherds?

Directions: Write the first letter of each picture on the lines.

“



”

Luke 2:11, NIV

Answer: "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you." Luke 2:11, NIV

FLS Monthly



Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 7

- FLS Sunday @ Peace (9:00AM)

Thursday, December 11

- FLS BOD Meeting @ 6:00 (Trinity)

Friday, December 12

- Parent Drive Day
- PTO Christmas Extravaganza

Thursday, December 18

- FLS Christmas Service @ Trinity (6:00 PM)

Monday, December 22 - January 5

- Christmas Break
- No School

Wildcat Wow!

James - 4th Grade
David - 7th Grade
4th Grade Class

School Contact

(507) 334-7982
flsoffice@flsweb.org

Reflections on December

Christmas. This one word holds so much meaning to some, and to others, it is just another holiday. It is so interesting to sit back and look at how others view Christmas and their traditions that they have each year. For many they will go to church both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. For my family, we would go to church on Christmas Eve, and on Christmas Day, we stayed in our pajamas all day. My mom would make biscuits and gravy from scratch, and we would spend time as a family watching "A Christmas Story" on repeat. Traditions are something that families hold near and dear to their hearts and want to make sure that they continue. However, traditions are not the end all be all of Christmas. Sure, I try my hardest to make biscuits and gravy from scratch, but I always have the can of cinnamon rolls ready to go as a backup. And now that "A Christmas Story" can be streamed at any time, it does not hold the same value as watching it on repeat on TBS the entire day.

Christmas is so much more than making sure traditions continue. The most important part of Christmas is celebrating the birth of Christ.

It is great that at Faribault Lutheran School, we get to teach our students about Christ and the love that He has for all of us. We get to share our faith in what we say and what we do. It is such a gift to be able to be in a place where we can share the true meaning of Christmas.

FLS currently has 143 students in the building. This is an amazing opportunity for our school. The demographics of the students regarding church membership are split roughly into thirds. A third of the students are members of Peace/Trinity, a third are members of a church elsewhere, and a third are unchurched. What an amazing opportunity to reach out to families and worship with them, bringing them to know Christ.

December is a month of fun and celebration. FLS has a few things happening this month. Please see below:

1. On Friday, November 28, all FLS families received Advent Devotions to do with their families at home.
2. Monday, December 8, kicks off our 10 Days of Christmas Spirit dress-up days to count us down to break.
3. PTO Christmas Extravaganza is going to be held on Friday, December 12.
4. Wednesday, December 17, will be the dress rehearsal of the FLS Christmas service. It will be at 8:30 AM at Trinity. We are encouraging members to come to the dress rehearsal due to the service being crowded on Thursday evening.
5. Thursday, December 18, FLS will have its annual Christmas service at Trinity at 6:00 PM.

Once again, thank you for all of your support for our students, families, and faculty of FLS. We are truly blessed with amazing congregations.

God's Blessings,
Chrysteena Saehler
FLS Administrator

School Mission Statment

To empower and equip all students for Christian Discipleship and Academic Success in serving others for Christ and His church.



J.O.Y. GROUP



♪ I've got the *J.O.Y.* down in my heart ♪

Going to do a "hook-up" with FLS to end the year;

Trying something different to bring us Christ-like cheer.

Wednesday, December 17, put the date down now, you all,
8:30 in the morning to view FLS's Christmas dress rehearsal.

After that we will shuffle to the Fellowship Hall, you see;

Where we'll have our festive annual, and fun, **Christmas party**.

Devotion, songs, games, and more will keep us all involved;

Then, a **light lunch of Sloppy Joes**, the main course now is solved.

Please **bring** a choice of **salad**, or perhaps a **dessert**, m-m-m, yummy

Careful now, don't eat too much, 'cause that could hurt your tummy.

Sign up, it's quite important, for table setting to be done;

P.S., your **help before or after** is always welcome;

With the help of a few, the task will lessen,

Give Lynn a **call** ...



angel tree

BLOOD DRIVE

Trinity will host a
Blood Drive
for the American Red
Cross on

Tuesday,
December 2, 2025
11 a.m.—5 p.m.



Please use the Red Cross Donor App, call
1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or
visit RedCrossBlood.org and
enter: Trinity Faribault to schedule an
appointment.



Join us for the Hanging of
the Greens on Saturday,
December 6
beginning at 8:00 a.m.!

*The "UN-decorating" of
the Church will be on
December 27, beginning
at 8:00 a.m.*

ANGEL TREE PROJECT: **CHRISTMAS 2025**

Once again this year, our Trinity family has embraced the Angel Tree project. We see the needs are great. Families and individuals continue to experience tough times... whether financial, or health issues, or simply our need

to reach out to those who need to be remembered this Christmas.

A reminder that all gifts need to be turned in to the Angel Tree on or before Sunday, December 7. No need to wrap the gifts—we'll take care of that. Please attach the white, numbered, paper Angel ornament to the gift. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Y.

We are grateful for each of you gifting an Angel. Special thanks to Marilyn for creating the angel ornaments. Also, thank you, Duane and Diane, for activating your Thrivent Action Team dollars and Joyce and Lois for applying for those dollars and shopping. As we journey through Advent and Christmas, may we ever be thankful for the gift of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

OCTOBER PASTORS' REPORT

Each month a Pastoral Report is prepared in the Church Office. Classes, meetings, appointments, worship services, visitations and communions are tracked and reported by each pastor. In each month's newsletter we will be including the most recent form on file (October 2025).

	Home Visits	Hospital or Jail	Office Visits	Prospect Calls	Shut Ins/ Others Com- muned Privately	Shut Ins/ Others Visited- No Communion	NH Worship Attended	NH Worship Com- muned	Worship Services	Classes Taught	Mtgs. / Conferences Attend
Interim Pastor	1	0	~	0	0	0	43	24	17	8	16 ^M / 3 ^C
Guest/Visitation Pastors	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	5	~
Lay Members	0	0	0	0	5	0	11	7	4	4	~

Baptisms: 0

Confirmed: 0

Weddings: 0

Released/Removed: 0

Profession of Faith/Affirmation of Baptism: 0

Deaths/Funerals: Linda Kiekenapp, Leola Rodewald

Transfers Out: 0

Transfer In: 0

Official Acts:



Rev. Gatluk Reat October Report:
Sudanese Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church

Attendance

Week 1 - 38; Week 2 - 30; Week 3 - 32;
Week 4 - 45

Worship Services conducted in
Nuer & English in person and online.

Notes: Pastor Odom – taught 5 confirmation classes for 7/8 graders;

Lay Leaders – led 2 nursing home services, assisted with 2 nursing home services;

Lay Leaders – taught 4 confirmation classes for 5/6 graders



DECEMBER

birthdays

Happy December Birthday!

Omitted from web version for privacy
reasons. Please contact Jennie in the church office or
pick up a printed copy of the
newsletter for a list of this month's birthdays.

UPDATE ON NEW CARPET FOR THE SANCTUARY

A committee was formed this fall to consider the need for replacing the carpet in the sanctuary. The existing carpet was installed 35 years ago when the church was built. It has served us well; however, we see places where the carpet is wearing thin, and is stained and faded.

After looking at flooring options, we concluded commercial carpet tile was the answer. The pattern selected will give visual interest while complimenting the stone, brick, wood-tone of the altar and pews, as well as the upholstered seats.

The cost for materials and installation will be approximately \$57,000. We are extremely grateful to the Trinity Pie Makers for gifting \$50,000 to the project. For the remaining balance, monetary gifts will be appreciated. Please earmark your donation "carpet replacement".



As for a time frame, we are looking at installation to begin the first week in January. This will take approximately three weeks to complete. There will be some disruption in our "normal" operation during this project. We will be asking for your help as we need volunteers to assist in moving pews, tearing out old carpet, prepping the floor and cleaning up. This will be an incredible opportunity to share our individual gifts and talents as we work together, young and old, alike.

The initial phase of the tear out will begin Monday, December 29. A Volunteer Sign Up sheet will be on the Information Center in the narthex beginning December 7. Please considering helping us with this project. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the committee: Vivian H., LeRoy R., Marilyn N. or Mike Y. Thank you!

In order to prepare for the new church carpeting beginning in January 2026, we will be **Un-decorating** the church Sanctuary early after Christmas.

Please join us on **Saturday, December 27, beginning at 8:00 a.m.** to remove the decorations.

If you ordered a poinsettia, please be sure to take it home with you the weekend of December 27 & 28.



OVER 70 AND A HALF?

Have a pre-tax 401k or IRA account?

Consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

Reduce your tax bill while benefiting your church!

If you are over 70 and a half years old, the government allows you to donate funds **directly** (mailed directly to your selected charity) from your 401k or IRA to your church without paying the taxes owed on the withdrawal. As long as the distribution goes directly from the fund manager to the non-profit, you will not need to pay the associated taxes. A distribution handled this way will also count toward any required minimum distribution owed during the current year. Consult your financial advisor to find out more - it's a rare win-win for everyone!

YAMAHA PIANO FOR SALE



The church has a used Yamaha PSR-S710 electric piano for sale. Stand and foot pedal included. Asking \$400. Talk to Noel Handberg or contact the church office if interested.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 3:15-5:30 Basketball Practice 5:30-6:30 FLS Cheer 5:30 Bethlehem Inn Dress Rehearsal	2 8:30 Staff Mtg. 11-5:00 Blood Drive <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i> 2:30-3:30 Violin Lessons 3:15-5:30 Basketball Practice 4:15 Community Cathedral Café	3 8:30 FLS Chapel 9:00 Quilting 2:30 New Perspective -c 4:00 Pleasant View Estates -c 5:20 Confirmation (at Peace) 5:30 Supper 5:15 Handbells 5:45-6:30 Choir 6:30 Advent Service	4 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) 3:15-5:30 Basketball Practice 5:45 AHG Troop Mtg. 6:00 Connection	5 8:00 Men's Bible Study 6:00 Bethlehem Inn	6 8:00 Church Decorating 9-3:00 Bell ringing (Hy-vee) 4:30 Worship Service 6:00 Bethlehem Inn
7 8:00 Worship 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Confirmation Class 9:20 Youth Bible Study 10:30 Connection -c	8 10:30 Altar Guild Meeting 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 3:15-4:30 Basketball Practice 5:30-6:30 FLS Cheer 6:00 Trumps' Bible Study <i>(off site)</i>	9 8:30 Staff Mtg. 2-2:45 FLS (FH) 2:30-3:30 Violin Lessons 3:15-5:30 Basketball Practice 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 6:30 LLB Mtg.	10 8:30 FLS Chapel 9:00 Quilting 1:00 Mill City -c 5:20 Confirmation (at Peace) 5:30 Supper 5:45-6:30 Choir 6:30 Advent Service	11 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) 2:00 Human Care 3:15-5:30 Basketball Practice 5:45 AHG Christmas Party (Gym) 6:00 FLS Brd. Mtg. (Trinity)	12 8:00 Men's Bible Study 6-7:30 PTO—FLS Christmas Extravaganza <u>FLS Parent Drive Day</u>	13 5:30 Sunday School Christmas Service
14 8:00 Worship -c 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Sunday School Service 9:15 Confirmation Class 9:20 Youth Bible Study 10:30 Connection 12-4:00 Baby Shower (Fellowship Hall)	15 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 3:15-5:30 Basketball Practice 5:30-6:30 FLS Cheer	16 8:30 Staff Mtg. 2:30-3:30 Violin Lessons 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 6:30 Elders' Mtg.	17 8:30 FLS Christmas Service Rehearsal & J.O.Y. Christmas Party 10:00 Milestone -c 3:30 Faribault Senior Living -c 5:20 Confirmation (at Peace) 5:30 Supper 5:45-6:30 Choir 6:30 Advent Service	18 9-12:00 Quilting 10:00 Prayer Group (Marilyn Steele's) 1:00 Women In Mission Christmas Dinner (Depot) 6:00 FLS Christmas Service (Trinity)	19 8:00 Men's Bible Study <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>	20 10-1:00 Birthday Party (Fellowship Hall) 5:30 Worship Service—Wendysue Drama
21 8:00 Worship Service—Wendysue 9:15 Adult Bible Study 9:15 Sunday School 9:15 Confirmation Class 9:20 Youth Bible Study 10:30 Worship Service—Wendysue Drama	22 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV 6:00 Trumps' Bible Study <i>(off site)</i>	23 8:30 Staff Mtg. 4:15 Community Cathedral Café	24 4:30 Christmas Eve Family Service 10:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight 	25 9:00 Christmas Day Service -c <u>Office Closed</u> 	26 8:00 Men's Bible Study	27 8:00 Church Un-decorating 5:30 Lessons & Carols
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> FLS—Christmas Break December 22—January 2 → </div>						
28 8:00 Lessons & Carols 9:15 Adult Bible Study 10:30 Lessons & Carols	29 3:30 Sunday Worship on TV	30 8:30 Staff Mtg. 4:15 Community Cathedral Café 6:30 Property Brd.	31 6:00 Connection	<div style="text-align: center;">  </div>		
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> FLS—Christmas Break December 22—January 2 → </div>						
Prep for Sanctuary New Carpet						

LAY LEADERSHIP BOARD MINUTES - NOVEMBER 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church
Lay Leadership Board Minutes
6:30 PM, Tuesday November 11, 2025

Attendance: Mitch M., Dan S., Barb B., Penny R., Deb M., and Carl V.
Brian F. was absent. Chrysteena was a guest.

Meeting was opened by Mitch M.

Faribault Lutheran School Report:

The 7th and 8th graders will be performing "Fast Food" Thursday, November 20 at 6:00 pm. The Thanksgiving break will be Nov 26-28. The office will be open Nov 26 from 9-2 and closed 27-28.

Mitch received a notification from the FLS board of a planned meeting on Sunday, November 23 at 10:15 at Peace concerning a change in the FLS by-laws. Carl made a motion and Deb second it to not bring it forth concerned about the time being during our late service. Motion carried. Maybe it could be held at a better time that would work for both congregations. Mitch will inform Sara H.

FOC report:

October expenses exceeded income by \$10,752.43 leaving our deficit at over \$83,000.

The general fund balance is down to just over \$32,000. There is a \$7,000.00 balance yet to be paid for the church sanctuary carpet. Motion made by Barb and 2nd by Deb to do 50/50 on new family leave payments. Motion carried. Budget approved.

Family Ministry:

A choir directed by Rebecca F. would like to give a free will offering concert at Trinity on Friday March 27, 2026. They requested Trinity to supply a meal for the 44 students and 9 adults. We agreed to host it with congregational help.

Pastor Report:

Services are covered for December except for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We will continue to reach out to area Pastors to cover those three services.

Executive Session:

Penny motioned and Mitch seconded to go into executive session/Motioned and 2nd to go out.

Call Committee:

We are putting together the call papers to send to Pastor Slavens. Dan will be calling him.

Nominating Committee:

Josh M. has agreed to run for the 3 year term on the FLS board. Brian F. will run for another 3 year term on the LLB board. Nura N. will run for LLB 3 year term. Deb will go off board.

Goals for annual meeting

Goals were discussed. Suggestions were growing our congregation and challenging our congregation to become more involved to grow stronger connections to Trinity.

Calendar items:

Annual meeting November 17 at 6:30

Next LLB meeting: Tuesday, December 9 at 6:30

Mitch adjourned meeting/ closing prayer by Dan

Respectfully submitted, Barb B.-LLB secretary



ANNUAL VOTERS' MTG. MINUTES

Trinity Lutheran Church
2025 Annual Congregational Voter's Meeting
Monday, November 17, 2025 at 6:30 pm

The meeting was called to order with 62 people attending by LLB Chairman Mitch M.

Dan S. said a short prayer and gave an update on the call of Pastor Slavens.

Faribault Lutheran School overview was given by board chair, Sara H.

She gave out a State OfThe School pamphlet. FLS asked for a 3% increase over last year's contribution.

Elections were held for the following: Brian F. and Nura N. for LLB board, Josh M. to serve on FLS board and Connie R. for Second Century Trust. Motion was made and seconded to approve slate. Motion carried.

The goal from the LLB for 2026 was to grow our congregation's involvement in church. Motion was made and seconded to accept the goal. Motion carried.

The Second Century Trust Fund financial report was given by Brad T.

Noel H. gave the financial overview and presented the budget for 2026.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the budget as written. Motion carried.

Noel explained the new Synod/District proposed percent change on contributions. A motion was made and seconded to leave our contributions distributed as is at 50/50. Motion carried.

Noel explained the District would be cutting back on their mission support for Pastor Reat.

A motion was made and seconded to decrease the amount we pay to District by the amount that District decreases Pastor Reat's support, so we can increase our support of Pastor Reat by that same amount.

Mitch thanked Deb M. and Brad T. for their years of service.

Meeting was adjourned by Mitch M. Closing prayer was by Dan S.

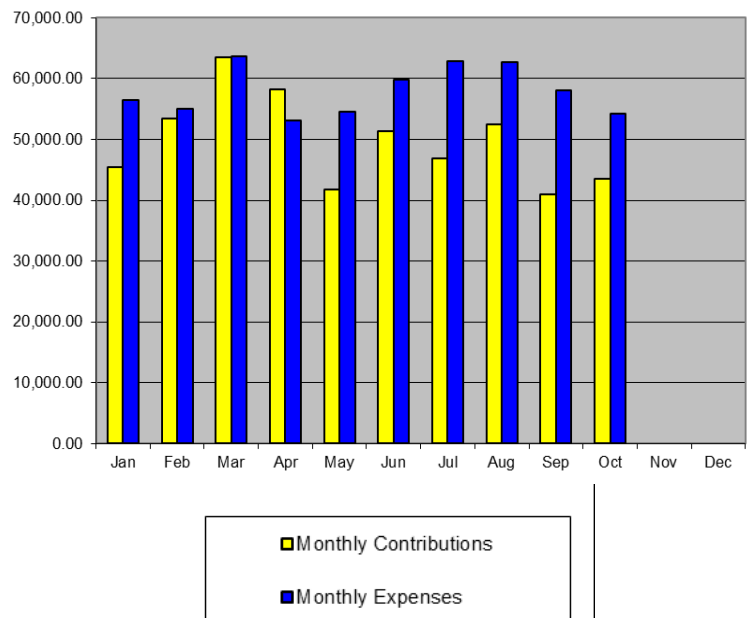
Respectfully submitted,
Barb B.-LLB secretary

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

The fiscal year 2025 is rapidly coming to a close and church contributions have not kept up with expenses. Our income was \$83,000 less than our expenses. We've relied on our general fund surplus to make up the difference - going from a surplus of \$112,000 at the start of the year to just over \$32,000 at the end of October.

Year-end giving last year increased the surplus by \$40,000, which helped to pay bills throughout 2025. So, we encourage you to once again think of your church and the mission it brings to you and your neighbors here in Faribault, in Minnesota, and in our world as you reflect on another year ending under God's grace. Can you help us be ready for next year? For a new pastor? For more new members at Trinity? For new students at FLS? God give us truly thankful hearts to respond in love to the love sent at Christmas 2,000 years ago.

2025 Contributions vs. Expenses



DESIGNATE YOUR THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent Dollars are a significant part of Trinity's annual income. Please consider designating your Thrivent Choice Dollars. The way you do this is easy. Be sure to have your membership card with your member ID in hand. Designation can be done either through the Thrivent web page at www.thrivent.com or by phone:



Online

1. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.
2. In the Direct Choice Dollars section on the right, click "Get started now."
3. Log in, enter your user ID and password, and answer your security question. (If you haven't yet registered on Thrivent.com, click "Register for account access.")
4. Find the number of Choice Dollars available to direct.
5. Click Search for Participating Charitable Organizations:
 - a. To direct to a previous organization:
 - Click "Direct Now" next to the organization's name, or
 - Click on the "View activity history" link, scroll down and click on the name of the desired organization.
6. Choose "Direct All" or enter a specific number and click "Direct Now." Follow the prompts on the confirmation page to direct Choice Dollars.

By Phone

1. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say "Thrivent Choice®."
2. Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars or 2 to hear Thrivent Choice program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.)
3. A representative will work with you to direct your Choice Dollars.
4. That person will look up your account and will tell you the total number of Choice Dollars you can distribute.
5. You can then just specify that your Choice Dollars should go to Trinity Lutheran Church of Faribault and/or any other qualified organizations you may want to support.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



530 4th Street NW
Faribault, MN 55021
Phone: 507-331-6579
Fax: 507-331-0986
School: 507-334-7982
www.trinityfaribault.org

Weekly Service Schedule - Saturday, 5:30pm
Sunday, 8:00am and 10:30am
Radio Broadcast: KDHL (AM 920)- Sunday, 8:00am
Consolidated Communications TV channel 10
& Charter/Spectrum channel 181,
Monday &/or Tuesday, 3:30pm

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.TRINITYFARIBAULT.ORG
8:00 & 10:30am services live streamed

WWW.TRINITYRADIOANDVIDEO.ORG
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HIS MANY NAMES, OUR GREAT HOPE

Long before the manger in Bethlehem, the prophet Isaiah pointed God's people to the promise of a Savior. In Isaiah 9:6 (NIV) we read: "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."

Even before Jesus' birth, his names revealed who he is and what he would bring.

Each title carries a promise that still impacts our lives today.

- **Wonderful Counselor.** Jesus brings wisdom and guidance for every situation. In moments of confusion, we can lean on him to direct our steps with love and truth.
- **Mighty God.** He is strong enough to carry our burdens and powerful enough to overcome sin, fear and death itself.
- **Everlasting Father.** Jesus reflects the heart of God the Father, offering care that is constant and unchanging. His love doesn't fade with time or circumstance.
- **Prince of Peace.** In a world filled with turmoil, Jesus offers a peace that goes deeper than circumstances, a peace that guards our hearts and minds.

At Christmas, we celebrate more than a baby's birth. We celebrate the fulfillment of God's promise, a Savior with many names. Each one reminds us of his eternal love and presence.

This season, let his names bring you comfort, strength and peace.



Christ the Savior is Born!

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