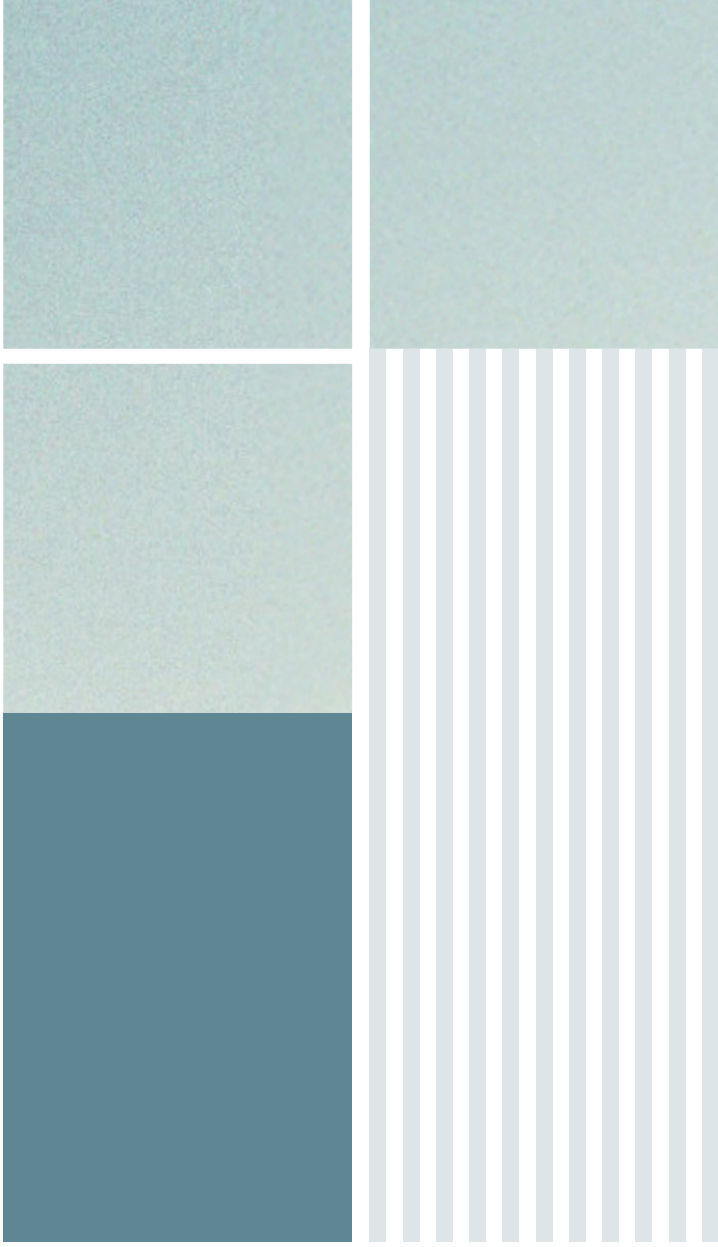
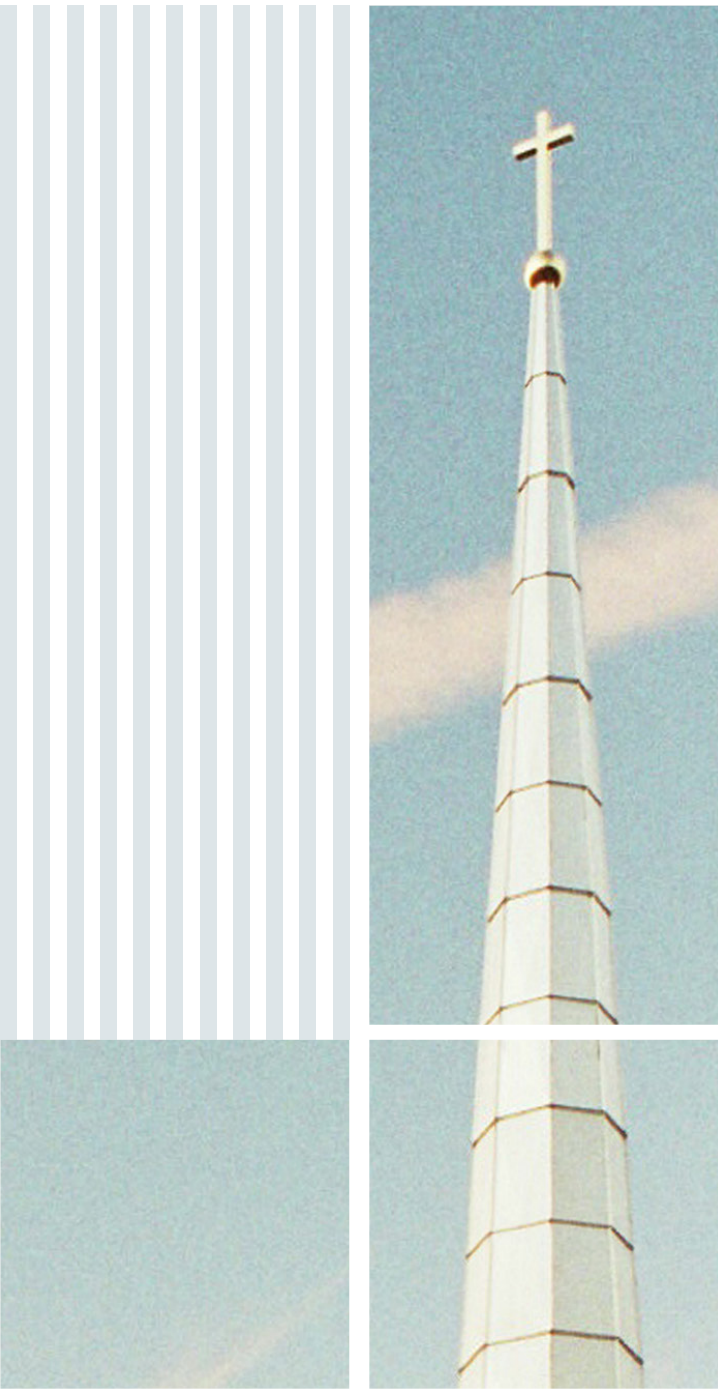


2024

ANNUAL

REPORT



**TRINITY**  **LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

*Faithful Living. Changing Lives.*



## Trinity Staff – 2024

|                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Pastor .....                          | Jeffrey M. Engholm        |
| Children’s Minsitry Coordinator ..... | Chelsea Farniok           |
| Office & Communications Manager ..... | Robyn Behrens             |
| Financial Administrator .....         | Mary Jech                 |
| Financial Secretary .....             | Gail Cassidy              |
| Worship Choir Director .....          | Hannah Rosholt            |
| Worship Band Leader .....             | Penny Koets               |
| Worship Accompanists .....            | Joy Rundell, Karla Keller |

## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church Watertown, Minnesota 167th Annual Meeting | Sunday, January 26, 2025

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## **Annual Meeting Agenda**

### **Sunday, January 26, 2025 | 10:00 am**

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#### **I. Call to Order – Nick Neaton, Church Council President**

- a. Devotions – Pastor Jeffrey M. Engholm

#### **II. Approval of 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes**

- a. January 28, 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes

#### **III. Nominations**

- a. Nominating Committee Report
  - i. Presentation of Nominees
  
- b. Voting

#### **IV. Reports**

- a. Nick Neaton, Church Council President
  - i. Roll of the Saints of 2024 – Pastor Jeffrey M. Engholm
  
- b. Mary Jech, Financial Administrator
  - i. 2024 Finance Review
  
- c. Audit Committee Results
  
- d. Ministry Teams / Support Committees / Boards Reports

#### **V. Approval of Written Reports**

#### **VI. New Business**

- a. Approve Spending Plan for 2025 as submitted by Finance Support Committee and Church Council.
  
- b. Approve proposed changes to the Trinity Lutheran Church constitutional provisions C13.02 and C12.05.

#### **VII. Other Business**

- a. Unfinished Business
- b. Report on the Election – Installation of new council members
- c. Motion to Adjourn

#### **VIII. Closing Litany – Pastor Jeffrey M. Engholm**

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## Unapproved Minutes of the Trinity Lutheran Church 166th Annual Meeting Sunday, January 28, 2024 | 10:00 am

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The meeting, held in-person in the Worship Center and via Zoom, was called to order by President Jason Koets. Pastor Jeff Engholm led opening devotions. A quorum was present for the meeting.

### **Approval of 2023 Congressional Minutes**

1. January 29, 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes presented  
Motion made to approve minutes as printed  
*M/S/C – Brett Gens / Jeff Neaton / carried*

### **Nominations:**

1. Nominating Committee Report
    - a. Presentation of Nominees – Jason Koets, Council President
      - i. Church Council: Diane Holmes, Nick Neaton, Nancy Stello
      - ii. Nominating Committee: Shelly Becker, Nate Baluski, Scott Cassidy, Terri Gens, Jenny Haller, Sarah Ress
      - iii. Cemetery Board: Brett Gens, Gary Vanderbilt
      - iv. Trinity Foundation: Jamie Isakson, Dan Sieling
- Motion made to approve a unanimous ballot vote for all nominated positions  
*M/S/C – Mary Jech / Lori Sieling / carried*

### **Reports:**

1. Jason Koets, 2023 Church Council President
  - a. Thank you message from Jason Koets, Council President
  - b. Role of the Saints 2023 – Pastor Jeff Engholm
2. Mary Jech, Financial Administrator
  - a. Financial overview of 2023 as presented Sunday, January 21, 2024
3. Audit Committee Results
  - a. Gina Phearman that the books were found to be in order
4. Ministry Teams/Support Committees/Board Reports as presented in the Annual Report  
Motion made to approve written reports  
*M/S/C – Eileen Nelson / Liz Hirsch / carried*

### **New Business:**

1. Approve the Spending Plan for 2024 as submitted by the Finance Support Committee and the Church Council – presented by Mary Jech  
Motion made to approve the proposed 2024 Spending Plan  
*M/S/C – Carol Murray / Roger Nelson / carried*
2. Approve bringing Trinity's Constitution into conformity with the *Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*  
Motion made to approve the proposed changes to the Trinity Lutheran Church Constitution  
*M/S/C – Mary Jech / Liz Hirsch / carried*

### **Other Business:**

1. Unfinished business: There was no unfinished business
2. Report on Election – Installation of new church council and committee members
3. Motion to adjourn  
*M/S/C – Jeff Neaton / Carol Murray / Carried*

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am  
Closing Prayer – Pastor Jeff Engholm

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## 2024 Council, Committee & Board Members

\* Term ending | † Withdrawing from position

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### Church Council

Nick Neaton, President  
Nancy Pickering, Vice President  
Diane Holmes, Secretary†  
Tammy Vraspir, Treasurer\*  
Corky Ibeling\*  
Dave Kind  
Jason Koets\*  
Ryan Ress  
Nancy Stello

### Nominating Committee

*\*All terms ending*

Shelly Becker  
Nate Baluski  
Scott Cassidy  
Terri Gens  
Jenny Haller  
Sarah Ress

### Cemetery Board

Jeff Neaton, President  
Ed Salonek, Treasurer  
Kevin Beck\*  
Gary Harding\*  
Brett Gens  
Gary Vanderbilt

### Foundation Board

Ed Rundell, President  
Heather Berscheit, Secretary  
Dan Sieling, Treasurer  
Kevin Holmes  
Jamie Isakson  
Lindsay Zumbrunnen

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## Names Submitted by Nominating Committee for 2025 Open Positions

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*Nominations for all positions may be made from the floor if so desired.*

### Church Council

*3-year term*

Steve Boylan  
Corky Ibeling  
Tammy Vraspir  
Jim Sandquist (*filling partial term*)

### Nominating Committee

*1-year term*

Shelly Becker  
Scott Cassidy  
Katy Jo Danielson  
Jason Koets  
Dave Olson  
Ken Tufte

### Cemetery Board

*3-year term*

Dave Hendricks  
Hubie Widmer

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## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 2024 Congregation Statistics

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### Year End 2023

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Total Baptized Members .....  | 698 |
| Total Confirmed Members ..... | 565 |

### Members received during 2024

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| By baptism .....              | 5 |
| Affirmed faith .....          | 8 |
| By transfer .....             | 5 |
| Statistical Adjustments ..... | 4 |

**Total .....** 22

### Members Removed during 2024

|                                 |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| By death .....                  | 6   |
| Released by Request .....       | 3   |
| Removed due to Inactivity ..... | 113 |

**Total .....** -122

**Baptized members confirmed .....** 8

### Year End 2024

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Total Baptized Members .....  | 598 |
| Total Confirmed Members ..... | 488 |

**Associate Members in 2024 .....** 4

## Total voting members December 31, 2024: 295

The constitution defines a voting member as a confirmed member who  
has **communed AND contributed** in the past year.

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### Members Baptized in 2024:

Beau Boyd, Etta Horstmann, Adam Kirkman, Nora Markfort,  
Everly McCleary, Cameron Snow

### Members Deceased in 2024:

Betty Brabec, Stella Halvorson, Sandra Jones,  
Diane Jorgensen, Mary Ann Kamann, Rick Mann



## Letter from the Church Council President

Nick Neaton

Dear Trinity members and friends,

2024 was a busy year for our congregation! We honored the past by taking steps to restore and renew the Mission Cemetery right across the street from Trinity's front doors. We looked to the future with our new audio/visual system and our enhanced online livestreaming presence. To cap the year off, we celebrated by making the final payment on the church mortgage! Trinity staff and volunteers also worked to host and promote new activities and events that helped our church reach a wider audience. The expanded Trunk-or-Treat event, the Paint & Sip Event, and the River City Theatre Company production are just a few examples of how we are inviting new faces to join us at Trinity.

As we welcome 2025, we face new opportunities and new challenges. I am asking Trinity members and friends to continue offering their support, prayers, and talents to guide us through this time of transition as we say farewell to Pastor Jeff Engholm.

I would especially like to thank the Trinity members for your ongoing commitment to our church through your time, your faithfulness, and your financial stewardship. Also, thank you to the Trinity staff for your wisdom, your creativity, and your professionalism. And finally, a special thank you to all Trinity volunteers for your dedication to helping us share God's love and peace.

I am honored to have served as your Council President in 2024, and I look forward to working with the Council and the congregation to guide Trinity into its next chapter.

In thanks,

Nick Neaton  
Trinity Church Council President



# 2024 Ministry Report

Pastor Jeffrey M. Engholm

Dear Family and Friends in Christ,

In almost every congregation I have served, there has been a group of quilters who regularly gather to sew scraps of material together to form beautiful quilts. Many of these congregations have also had people who liked to knit, and they would knit hats, mittens, and blankets to keep people warm. One congregation I served even had a person who owned a loom who would throw a shuttle back and forth in order to weave together beautiful scarves. The common denominator in all these projects is the pulling together of many tiny pieces of thread, fabric, and yarn to make one big, beautiful tapestry of color..

Our congregation is a lot like those fine works of art. Just like a quilt, blanket, or scarf is made up of many small strands of fabric, thread, and yarn, Trinity is made up of all the many faithful individuals who each contribute to the tapestry of ministry that move forward God's mission. Each and every day of each and every week, this congregation serves as a beacon of hope in our community.

## For instance...





On any given Monday, you might find the Trinity Apostles gathered for coffee and conversation before they head off to tackle any number of projects in and around the Trinity grounds. You might also find the Priscilla Circle meeting for Bible Study, singing, and prayer.

On Tuesday mornings, our Trinity Quilters gather in Nylunda Chapel to sew together beautiful quilts to be shared both locally and globally.

On Wednesdays during the school year, our Confirmation Students meet to learn more about our Lutheran heritage and our unique perspective on how God is at work in the world. (Hint: It's all about GRACE!) During Advent and Lent, these same kids help with our midweek suppers and meet with their mentors for one-on-one conversations. The Trinity Choirs and Praise Band also rehearse on Wednesdays as they prepare music for weekly worship. And, if you get up really early on a Wednesday, you might find our local Fellowship of Christian Athletes group having breakfast and Bible Study in our Fellowship Hall.





Once a month on Thursdays, you'll find our "Fabulous Folders" meeting together in the Pioneer Room to put together our monthly newsletter. This is also when our Heavenly Housekeepers meet to dust, vacuum, wash windows, and tidy up our beautiful facility. The Trinity OWLS (Older, Wiser, Lutherans) also meet once a month on Thursdays for programs, games, and fellowship, and our Sunshine Ministry might also be meeting this day to make their deliveries of flowers, candy, or other treats to our homebound members.



On Fridays, folks often come and go in and out of the building, and on Saturdays, there may be a funeral, a wedding, or some other congregational activity. You never know who's going to show up!



On Sunday mornings, you'll find our entire congregation gathered for worship. Many of us meet physically in the Trinity sanctuary, but many of us also meet online, thanks to our new livestreaming capabilities. Those who help with worship services—readers, ushers, musicians, and Altar Guild members—are too numerous to count. Following worship, our Sunday School meets for stories, songs, and prayers with our fantastic crew of Sunday School Leaders, while the adults gather for coffee and caring conversations. Our Sunday School kids also meet for Vacation Bible School for a week in the summer, filled with games, skits, and fun! On top of all that, you may also stumble upon a gathering of our high school kids as they head out for a trip to go tubing at a local ski hill or taking a trip to Valley Fair.

We also have many annual events that take place at Trinity each year, like our “Underwear Drive” in February for Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, the “Food Drive” in March for the Gather and Grow Food Pantry, a “Graduate Blessing” Sunday in May, our “Trick-or-Treat for the Food Shelf” and “Trunk-or-Treat” community event in October, the “Saint Lucia Tea Open House” and the “Adopt-a-Family Gift Project” in December. This year, we also added a “Paint & Sip” event into the mix! We have many seasonal events at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter, with special worship services, meals, and events—our annual “Parking Lot Prayers” during Holy Week is always a hit! Finally, last November, on All Saints Sunday, we had a special dedication of the Mission Cemetery with members of the Watertown Evangelical Free Church, celebrating our shared history of this small cemetery right outside the front doors of Trinity.

The Trinity facility is also used by outside groups, like Alcoholics Anonymous and a Cooking Club. And, the local chapter of the BIO Girls will be gathering again at Trinity this coming spring.





Of course, the activities mentioned so far all happen INSIDE our building and are only part of our ministry. OUTSIDE our building, we are active as well! Last June, our high school youth went on a Mission Trip to Duluth, and in July, we sent a group of people to Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in the Cascade Mountains in Washington State. We are also active in our community, engaging in outreach to our neighbors at work, school, and play. Every time we go to work, we share the light of Christ with those around us. Whenever we attend a school event to support our kids in their athletic, artistic, and academic endeavors, we let them know how much we care about them. Every day, in everything we do, God is weaving our lives together.

**Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose.**

1 Corinthians 1:10

I'm so grateful that for the past ten years, I have had the privilege of being knit together with you as we have worked together to carry out God's mission of bringing new life to this community. As I approach my retirement in just a few months, I'll soon say goodbye as you search for another pastor. In the Fellowship Hall, there are 26 pictures of all the pastors that have served this congregation. Soon you'll be adding Pastor #27 to that wall as you weave one more pastor into your ongoing ministry.



Many thanks to the Trinity Staff (Robyn Behrens, Gail Cassidy, Chelsea Farniok, Mary Jech), Worship Leaders (Karla Keller, Penny Koets, Hannah Rosholt, Joy Rundell), Trinity Council (Diane Holmes, Corky Ibeling, Dave Kind, Jason Koets, Nick Neaton, Nancy Pickering, Ryan Ress, Nancy Stello, Tammy Vraspir), all the Trinity Committees and Ministry Teams, and everyone who contributes to our vibrant ministry in various ways.

Since 1858, Trinity has served faithfully over the past 167 years, with a multitude of pastors, council members, committees, teachers, and many others working together to carry on God's work. As you move ahead, you will carry on that legacy, giving thanks to God that you are all Knit Together in Christ. Let us move into the coming year as many members of one body, unified in the love of Jesus Christ!

In Christ,  
Pastor Jeffrey M. Engholm



# Children's Ministry

Chelsea Farniok, Children's Ministry Coordinator

This year was a time of growth and joy for Children's Ministry. We transitioned leadership from Hannah Rosholt to Chelsea Farniok in July, and the ministry continued to thrive with dedication and a love for teaching children about Jesus.

**Spring:** Sunday School continued to be well attended with 50 Preschool through 5th grade students registered. They learned about Jesus through engaging lessons, activities, and fun songs. The Easter Egg Hunt was a highlight, bringing families together for fellowship and fun. Four Trinity 5th graders also received their First Communion in April 2024.

**Summer:** Vacation Bible School (VBS) brought a splash of excitement with its "Scuba" theme. Children enjoyed learning about Jesus, playing games, and singing and dancing. The family friendly suppers we provided before VBS each evening helped to foster a sense of community.

**Fall:** We kicked off the school year with the theme *Growing Together in God's Love* with a church scavenger hunt. It was a great way to jump back into things. Trunk-or-Treat was moved to a Sunday afternoon and was a huge success, with perfect weather, large attendance, and bouncy houses enjoyed by all!

**Winter:** Sunday School students led the Children's Christmas Worship Service beautifully, with new songs and instruments, led by Hannah Rosholt, Chelsey Kuffenkam, and Nick Neaton. The Family Christmas Extravaganza Event followed, featuring games, snacks, and crafts—a joyful start to the holiday season.

A heartfelt thank you to our amazing Sunday School volunteers whose dedication and love make it possible to share the joy of Jesus with our children each week—you are a true blessing. We thank God for a blessed year of Children's Ministry!



# Youth Ministry

Shelly Becker, Youth Ministry Team Member

In 2024, Trinity's Youth Ministry continued its focus on bringing together our youth for fellowship, fun, and community benefit. Most of the events were enjoyed by youth in grades 6 through 12. Events and activities included the following:

- **January 2024:** We had a fun-filled afternoon on the tubing hill at Powder Ridge in Kimball.
- **February 2024:** Our youth facilitated a spaghetti luncheon to raise funds for the June 2024 Mission Trip.
- **February-March 2024:** During Lent, we enjoyed a couple of informal "game nights" where we played trivia and other games between the Lenten supper and Lenten worship.
- **March 2024:** With the assistance of several of our youth group, we coordinated Palm Sunday Brunch.
- **June 2024:** In partnership with "Serve Boldly", a ministry of Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, about eleven Trinity youth participated in a 6-day mission trip to Duluth, MN. We enjoyed serving the community while deepening our understanding of God's presence in our lives.
- **June 2024:** We conveyed a full bus of students to Valley Fair for a delightful day of rides and water park fun.
- **October 2024:** We conducted our second annual Cake Walk Fundraiser, where we raised over \$170 for youth ministry expenses. And we participated again this year in the "Foodshelf Trick-or-Treat", a multi-church event to gather food and funds for the benefit of the local food shelf.
- **November 2024:** We volunteered at Feed My Starving Children where meals were packed for children and families in need.

In addition to these specific events, the youth of Trinity often share their leadership gifts during worship by ushering, reading, working in the nursery, singing in our choirs, and playing in our bands.



# Property Improvement Report

Dan Sieling, Property Committee Chair



2024 was a busy year for the Property Committee. The committee would like to thank the groups that worked tirelessly behind the scenes; mowing, snow removal, weeding, shrub trimming, and all the other jobs that make our building and grounds look inviting. 2024 also saw the completion and implementation of our Audio/Video upgrade. Thank you to the AV Committee for your work on the details of the project and to the many people of the congregation who donated financially toward the upgrade.

Another highlight of 2024 was that, after 10 years of generous giving to our Capital Appeal Fund, our congregation has paid off the remaining balance on its 2014 mortgage. Congratulations on a wonderful milestone!



As we move into 2025, there are several projects that the Property Committee will need to complete to maintain our building and facilities, including:

- parking lot maintenance
- painting the sanctuary
- technology upgrades (including an updated wi-fi network)

While minimal maintenance will be conducted on our church parking lots now, we are acutely aware that the North parking lot will soon require significant upgrades or replacement to ensure its structural integrity. This necessary project will be costly.

The pressing question before us is: How can our congregation sustainably finance future maintenance and improvements to our facilities?

The Finance and Property Committees are hopeful that the congregation will continue their generous contributions to the Building Improvement Fund, just as they have in the past. These contributions are vital. They enable us to secure the necessary funds to maintain and improve our facilities, ensuring our church remains a safe, welcoming, and functional space for our congregation and the wider community. Your ongoing support is not just an investment in our church's infrastructure, but also in our shared mission to serve and uplift others. Thank you for your support and generosity.



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# Trinity Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Financial Administrator, Mary Jech

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## FINANCIAL REVIEW OF 2024

We started the year with the operating fund being just barely in the red at -\$511.92. Half of the twelve months showed income less than expenses, while the remaining months showed income and expenses almost even. As the year progressed, we were unable to bring our operating fund out of the red – borrowing money from our designated funds to pay monthly bills. At the end of November, the operating fund was over \$36,000 in the red. December's income was great with \$61,065 going into the operating fund, but that was not enough to cover monthly expenses and to overcome a deficit of \$36,000 that was posted at the end of November. Although we ended the year with the operating fund in the red, we are still in good shape overall.

We have kept the lights on. We have paid our staff. We paid off the internal interest-free loan that had been given to us to pay the remaining mortgage payments. We collected money and paid for our Audio/ Visual update, which now allows us to live stream our services and have a better in-person and online presence. We completed the electrical update that had been started in 2023. Benevolent giving to the Minneapolis Area Synod, Love INC Heartland, Lutheran Social Services, Gather and Grow Food Pantry, and Green Lake Lutheran Ministries continued every month. We collected underwear for Central Lutheran's free store, coins for the Royals Room at the Watertown-Mayer Elementary School, and personal and paper products for Love INC's Fresh Start Program.

We are grateful for your continued faithful giving and faithful living!

Thanks be to God.

### OPERATING FUND YEAR TO DATE SUMMARY

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| <b>Operating Fund – Beginning balance 01/01/2024</b> | <b>-\$ 511.92</b>    |
| Operating Fund 2024 Receipts and Transfers In        | \$ 384,528.74        |
| Operating Fund 2024 Expenses and Transfers Out       | \$ 398,274.72        |
| Operating 2024 Net Balance                           | -\$ 13,745.98        |
| <b>Operating Fund – Ending Balance 12/31/2024</b>    | <b>-\$ 14,257.90</b> |

### MORTGAGE LOAN

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Original Loan Amount           | \$ 1,300,000.00 |
| Beginning balance 1/1/2024     | \$ 70,000.00    |
| Principal paid in 2024         | \$ 70,000.00    |
| Interest paid in 2024          | \$ 0.00         |
| Remaining balance at year end: | \$ 0.00         |

### CASH SUMMARY (AS OF 12/31/2024)

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Bremer Bank             |              |
| Operating Funds         | \$ 67,337.36 |
| Citizen's Alliance Bank |              |
| Capital/Appeal/Building | \$ 66,640.97 |

# Trinity Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Financial Administrator, Mary Jech

## 2024 INCOME / EXPENSES

| <b>INCOME</b>                               | <b>YEAR 2024</b>    |  |
|---|---------------------|--|
| Promises                                    | \$343,373.79        | <p><b>Notes:</b></p> <p>Other offerings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advent</li> <li>Christmas</li> <li>Lent</li> <li>Easter</li> <li>Thanksgiving</li> </ul> <p>Other income includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parsonage rent</li> <li>Church use fees</li> <li>Thrivent Choice</li> <li>Bremer Bank interest</li> <li>Insurance payments</li> <li>Refunded income</li> </ul> |
| Other Offerings                             | \$14,022.95         |  |
| Other Income                                | \$27,132.00         |  |
| <b>Total Operating Income</b>               | <b>\$384,528.74</b> |  |
| Designated Funds                            | \$5,882.63          |  |
| Undesignated Memorials                      | \$4,891.58          |  |
| Special Gifts                               | \$3,545.56          |  |
| <b>Total Non-Operating Income</b>           | <b>\$14,319.77</b>  |  |
| <b>Capital Appeal/Building Fund Income</b>  | <b>\$79,191.50</b>  |  |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                         | <b>\$478,040.01</b> |  |
| <b>EXPENDITURES</b>                         |                     |  |
| Benevolence                                 | \$31,133.11         | <p>Benevolence includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mpls Synod</li> <li>Love Inc</li> <li>Food Shelf</li> <li>Lutheran Social Service</li> <li>Green Lake Bible Camp</li> </ul> <p>Other operating expense includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All support committee and ministry team budgeted amounts</li> </ul>  |
| Church Utilities, Upkeep and Insurance      | \$84,430.31         |  |
| Parsonage Utilities and Upkeep              | \$3,438.72          |  |
| Salaries                                    | \$183,350.65        |  |
| Educational Ministry                        | \$5,291.79          |  |
| Other Operating Expense                     | \$90,630.14         |  |
| <b>Total Operating Expense</b>              | <b>\$398,274.72</b> |  |
| Designated fund payments                    | \$20,739.52         |  |
| Special Gifts/Memorial transfers            | \$7,937.55          |  |
| <b>Total Non-Operating Expenses</b>         | <b>\$28,677.07</b>  |  |
| <b>Capital Appeal/Building Fund Expense</b> | <b>\$128,813.75</b> |  |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>                   | <b>\$555,862.54</b> |  |

## 2024 Budget Summary and 2025 Proposed Spending Plan

### Looking ahead to 2025...

In putting together a spending plan for 2025 the following considerations were made:

- Slight increases in salaries.
- Minor increase in property tax on the parsonage.
- Significant increases in the property committee line due to projected increases in fuel, electricity and maintenance contracts.
- Significant increase in insurance and minor increases in other finance expenses (i.e. postage, bank charges, shipping, etc.)
- Identified ministry teams will share \$7,000 as requests are made.

**Finance committee:** Benevolence, church/parsonage insurance, and all salary and office related expenses.

**Property:** Church, utilities, church and parsonage maintenance.

|                             | <b>2024<br/>SPENDING<br/>PLAN</b> | <b>2024<br/>ACTUAL BUDGETED<br/>EXPENSES</b> | <b>2025<br/>PROPOSED<br/>SPENDING PLAN</b> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>FINANCE</b>              | \$340,310.00                      | \$312,242.00                                 | \$342,010.00                               |
| <b>PROPERTY</b>             | \$78,500.00                       | \$61,465.00                                  | \$90,200.00                                |
| <b>TECHNOLOGY</b>           | \$3,000.00                        | \$2,335.00                                   | \$5,200.00                                 |
| <b>CHILDREN'S</b>           | \$6,000.00                        | \$4,939.00                                   | \$6,000.00                                 |
| <b>WORSHIP &amp; MUSIC</b>  | \$4,000.00                        | \$4,364.00                                   | \$5,000.00                                 |
| <b>OTHER Ministry Teams</b> | \$6,500.00                        | \$5,730.64                                   | \$7,000.00                                 |
| <b>STEWARDSHIP</b>          |                                   | \$292.64                                     |  |
| <b>OUTREACH</b>             |                                   | \$1,824.00                                   |  |
| <b>SOCIAL</b>               |                                   | \$634.00                                     |  |
| <b>HOSPITALITY</b>          |                                   | \$2,628.00                                   |  |
| <b>ADULT/PARISH HEALTH</b>  |                                   | \$0.00                                       |  |
| <b>YOUTH*</b>               | \$1,000.00                        | \$352.00                                     |  |
| <b>SUBTOTAL</b>             | <b>\$439,310.00</b>               | <b>\$391,075.64</b>                          | <b>\$455,410.00</b>                        |
| <b>Capital Improvement</b>  | \$45,000.00                       | \$58,814.00                                  | \$45,000.00                                |
|                             | (A/V Update)                      | (A/V Update)                                 | (Chip/Seal Parking Lot)                    |
|                             |                                   |  | (Paint Sanctuary)                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                | <b>\$484,310.00</b>               | <b>\$449,889.64</b>                          | <b>\$500,410.00</b>                        |

\* The Youth Activity Fund is used for youth activities. Curriculum is part of the Spending Plan. This year's curriculum materials and bibles were left over from the 2023 purchase.

### 2024 EXPENSE SUMMARY

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Total Budgeted Expenses                   | \$ 391,076.00 |
| Total Expenses (excluding capital appeal) | \$ 427,049.00 |
| Total Capital/Building Expense            | \$ 128,814.00 |
| Total Overall Expense                     | \$ 555,863.00 |

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## Foundation Board of Trustees

Submitted by Foundation Treasurer, Dan Sieling

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### TREASURER'S REPORT

January 2024 - September 2024

#### INCOME

|   |           |                  |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| Interest - Bremer CD                    | \$        | 114.99           |
| Dividend - Thrivent Money Market        | \$        | 182.34           |
| Dividend - Thrivent Moderate Allocation | \$        | 1,675.54         |
| Dividend - LCF Growth                   | \$        | 123.78           |
| <b>Investment Income:</b>               | <b>\$</b> | <b>2,096.65</b>  |
| Gift - Scholarships                     | \$        | 300.00           |
| <b>Income Received:</b>                 | <b>\$</b> | <b>2,396.65</b>  |
| Unrealized Gain on Investments          | \$        | 25,329.53        |
| <b>Total Income:</b>                    | <b>\$</b> | <b>27,726.18</b> |

#### EXPENSES

|                                |           |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Safe Deposit Rent              | \$        | 30.00           |
| Fund Administration Fee        | \$        | 496.00          |
| <b>General Expenses:</b>       | <b>\$</b> | <b>526.00</b>   |
| Scholarships - General Fund    | \$        | 3,200.00        |
| <b>Realized Expense:</b>       | <b>\$</b> | <b>3,726.00</b> |
| Unrealized Loss on Investments | \$        | 0.00            |
| <b>Total Expenses:</b>         | <b>\$</b> | <b>3,726.00</b> |

#### DIFFERENCE

**\$ 24,000.18**

The Financial Report being submitted by the Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation for the annual report of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church is as of September 2024. At the time the annual report was published, the Year-End Financial Statements from InFaith Community Foundation and from Thrivent Financials were not available. The December 31, 2024 Financial Report for the Foundation will be made available at a future date upon request.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dan Sieling  
Trinity Lutheran Foundation Treasurer

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# Cemetery Board

Submitted by Cemetery Board Treasurer, Ed Salonek

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## TREASURER'S REPORT 2024

### GENERAL FUND

|                               | <b>Beginning<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Gain/Loss</b>  | <b>Interest<br/>&amp; Dividends</b> | <b>Income</b>     | <b>Disbmt</b>      | <b>Ending<br/>Balance</b> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Checking Account              | \$10,050.44                  | \$0.00            | \$0.00                              | \$7,438.02        | -\$10,698.00       | \$6,790.46                |
| Savings Account               | \$2,392.59                   | \$0.00            | \$0.00                              | \$3.84            | \$0.00             | \$2,396.43                |
| Thrivent Global Stock Fund    | \$26,251.74                  | \$1,043.82        | \$2,863.57                          | \$0.00            | \$0.00             | \$30,159.13               |
| Thrivent Large Cap Value Fund | \$28,952.49                  | \$1,443.26        | \$2,241.88                          | \$0.00            | \$0.00             | \$32,637.63               |
| Thrivent Income Fund          | \$53,814.70                  | -\$669.22         | \$1,941.90                          | \$0.00            | \$0.00             | \$55,373.79               |
| Thrivent Lg Cap Growth Fund   | \$24,245.89                  | \$5,124.13        | \$2,128.52                          | \$0.00            | \$0.00             | \$31,498.54               |
| Mission Term Select CD        | \$10,000.00                  | \$0.00            | \$115.16                            | \$0.00            | -\$115.16          | \$10,000.00               |
| Mission Term Select CD        | \$10,000.00                  | \$0.00            | \$122.52                            | \$0.00            | -\$122.52          | \$10,000.00               |
| <b>General Fund Totals</b>    | <b>\$165,707.85</b>          | <b>\$6,941.99</b> | <b>\$9,699.96</b>                   | <b>\$7,441.86</b> | <b>\$10,935.68</b> | <b>\$178,855.98</b>       |

### PERPETUAL CARE FUND

|                                   | <b>Beginning<br/>Balance</b> | <b>Gain/Loss</b>   | <b>Interest<br/>&amp; Dividends</b> | <b>Income</b>     | <b>Disbmt</b>   | <b>Ending<br/>Balance</b> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Savings Account                   | \$339.19                     | \$0.00             | \$0.00                              | \$2,623.03        | -\$4.00         | \$2,958.22                |
| Mission Term Select CD            | \$1,000.00                   | \$0.00             | \$10.43                             | \$0.00            | -\$10.43        | \$1,000.00                |
| Mission Term Investment CD        | \$10,500.00                  | \$0.00             | \$91.44                             | \$0.00            | -\$91.44        | \$10,500.00               |
| Thrivent Divs. Income Fund        | \$40,501.20                  | \$0.00             | \$1,118.50                          | \$0.00            | \$0.00          | \$41,619.70               |
| Thrivent High Yield Fund          | \$48,902.38                  | -\$2,717.60        | \$2,951.02                          | \$0.00            | \$0.00          | \$49,135.80               |
| <b>Perpetual Care Fund Totals</b> | <b>\$101,242.77</b>          | <b>-\$2,717.60</b> | <b>\$4,171.39</b>                   | <b>\$2,623.03</b> | <b>\$105.87</b> | <b>\$105,213.72</b>       |

**COMBINED TOTALS**      **\$266,950.62**      **\$4,224.39**      **\$13,871.35**      **\$10,064.89**      **\$11,041.55**      **\$284,069.70**

Net Income/Loss      **\$17,119.08**

Respectfully Submitted,

Ed Salonek  
Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery Treasurer

*Complete details of Cemetery Board income and expenses is available upon request from the Trinity church office.*

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# Quilting Ministry

Submitted by Quilting Ministry Treasurer, Sarah Barfknecht

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## TREASURER'S REPORT 2024

Checking Account Balance 1/1/2024                      \$2,963.22

### INCOME

Donations and Memorials                                      \$300.00

Interest    \$5.58

### EXPENSES

Quilting Materials    -\$407.90

Ending Balance 12/31/2024                                      \$2,860.90

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## Message from the **Bishop of the ELCA Minneapolis Area Synod**

Bishop Jen Nagel

*On the evening of Jesus' resurrection, as two of his followers were walking along the road that leads from the city of Jerusalem to the village of Emmaus "talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them."*

- Luke 24

Grace and peace to you, beloved of Christ Jesus,

This resurrection story is a favorite. We walk together as church, and Jesus draws near and walks with us. The labors of the day, the content of our discussions, the swirl of society and politics, the hopes and fears, these things shift, and yet, Jesus walks with us and is known once again as we gather together around the table.

On May 4, 2024, you elected me to serve as your Bishop. On August 1, 2024, I took office, and on September 21, 2024, I was installed during a festive and moving worship service at Central Lutheran Church. This election represents a significant threshold in our synod's life as we continue by the Spirit's leading along paths yet unknown. Thank you for your trust and your continued prayers. We are particularly grateful for the intentional work of the Bishop's Election Committee. My deep thanks to Bishop Ann Svennungsen for her 12 years of faithful leadership, and for her generosity of wisdom and spirit as I learn the ropes. As I have restructured parts of our synod's ministry team, we have had several staff transitions. Some have completed their service, over the summer and fall we welcomed a few new staff, and in 2025 we will welcome more. Thank you to our staff for their patience, perseverance, faithful ministry, and good courage during a long transition.

Stepping into this role, I am more mindful than ever that we are Church Together: Learning Together, Listening Together, Serving Together, Worshipping Together. We give thanks to you and your congregation for your partnership in this ministry we share.

Bishop Jen Nagel

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