

Tribune - January 2025

Our Mission:

Gathering to receive God's grace and to grow in faith and service.

“But those who wait on the LORD
shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.”

Isaiah 40:31

ICR.org

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

820 Lockett Road
Kirkwood, Missouri 63122

office: (314) 822-8244
fax: (314) 822-9290
email: TLCKirkwood@gmail.com

Website: www.trinitykirkwood.org
Facebook: www.Facebook.com/TrinityKirkwood
YouTube: youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurchkirkwood

A congregation of the ELCA
(elca.org)

Sunday Schedule

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
10:45 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday Adult Bible Study

10:00 a.m. via Zoom

Pastor

Carrie McElfresh
tel: 507-279-7865
em: prcarrie@gmail.com

Administrator

Brenda Chatham
tel: 314-822-8244
em: TLCKirkwood@gmail.com

Choir Director

Shari Telaar
tel: 314-488-1067
em: stelaar@comcast.net

Organist

Cindy Donnell-Foster
tel: 314-822-8244
em: l_pray_2@yahoo.com

Parents' Day Out Director

Erika Duenwald
tel: 314-808-3850
em: trinitylutheranpdo@gmail.com

Council Members

President: Therese Munger
Vice President: Kris Miller
Secretary: Therese Munger
Treasurer: Dave Mizell
Addie Harrelson
Kevin Karcher
Melissa Sills
Sue Sullivan

Main Office Hours:

Monday—Thurs: 9 a.m.—5 p.m.
Friday: 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Pastor Carrie's Office Hours:

Monday: 10 a.m.—1 p.m.
Tuesday: Noon—2 p.m.
Wednesday: 11 a.m.—2 p.m.
Thursday: by appointment
Friday: Sabbath
Sunday: by appointment



God of light, Bless our home.

In a season of new beginnings, we choose how we want to enter into a new year. Often we make resolutions about what our focus for the new year will be. In the past I have offered you chances to pick star words to focus on or questions about how we want to live as a community.

This year, I think it is important for us to recognize, welcome, and share blessings with one another. The time of Epiphany is a recognition of who God is in our lives. We start with the story of the Magi who bear gifts for a king and messiah to the child Jesus. We see the heavens torn open and hear the voice of God proclaiming Jesus as his Son. We witness Jesus performing miracles like turning water into wine. All of these things bear blessings in the stories and in our lives. At the time of Epiphany it is traditional for us to begin the year by blessing our homes and all those who live there, visit there, and pass through those doors.

The following is a home blessing written by one of my colleagues that you can use in your own home. A piece of chalk, crayon or pencil will work well to mark your home with a blessing for this new year. May your life be filled with the revelation of who God is here and now in your life. And may you live this year as a blessing to those you encounter.

Peace, Pastor Carrie

The Epiphany Home Blessing is a way of marking our homes, usually at the front door or main entrance, with sacred signs and symbols as we chalk God's blessing upon those who live, work or visit throughout the year. In Exodus, the Israelites marked their doors with blood so that the Lord would pass over their homes; but in this service we mark our doors with chalk as a sign that we have invited God's presence and blessing into our homes.

In Deuteronomy 6:9 God tells the people of Israel: "These words that I command you today share be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house. You shall write them on the doorpost of your house and on

your gates." Chalking the door is a tangible way to honor God in our lives.

What do the numbers and letters mean?

The first and last numbers simply refer to our current year. The letters C M B come from the traditional names for the three kings: Caspar, Melchior and Balthazar. Some also suggest "Christus Mansionem Benedict" which means "May Christ bless this dwelling"

How It's Done:

Mark the door or doors people use to enter and leave your home with the symbol of blessing: 20+C+M+B+25.

You may say: The three wise men, Caspar (write C), Melchior (write M) and Balthazar (write B) followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand (write the 20 to the right of the letters) and twenty-five years ago (write a 25 to the left of the letters). May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. (Draw a cross between each letter/number) Amen.

You may want to say the following prayer after you chalk the door:

God of light, Bless our home.

Bless all who come and go through the door, both those who live here and those who visit. May all who enter through this door come in peace and find love and light. May the love and joy in this home overflow and spread. Christ has come to dwell in this home and in these hearts.

Amen

Adapted by Pastor Danielle Daggett Shealy from "Chalking The Door: An Epiphany Tradition" on buildfaith.org, worshippingwithchildren.blogspot.com and catholicbishops.ie/2020/01/02/chalking-the-door-for-epiphany-2020/



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Member Announcements

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Health Concerns:

Carol Heyde
Terrie Karcher
Pat Price
Donna Savage
Julie Viers
Marcia Nelson Wilson
Gayle Woolf
Pat Clark: Pr. Carrie's aunt
Sheryl Hoth: Pr. Carrie's mother
Mary Ann Strayer: Pr. Carrie's grand-
mother
Marvin Boyles
Susan Ludwig: cousin of Terrie Karcher
Deaconesses Ruth Dyer, April Hughes,
and Cheryl Sell
Tom and Regina Owens: friends of Cindy
Donnell-Foster's mother
Bill and Shirley Donnell: Cindy Donnell
Foster's father and stepmother
Deaconess Janet Conrady
Gail Helton: Chara Helton-Rodenhaus'
mother
Deacon Rodney West-Estell
Roger Sexton: Terrie Karcher's uncle

General prayers:

Zach Dillard
Pastor David Larson-Martinez
The victims of the California wildfires

For Those Serving in the Military:

Matt Brenner: nephew of Bob and Barb
Tuckett

Living with Cancer:

Krystal Beckner
Matthew Berry
Linda Lockhart
Bob Chatham: Brenda Chatham's brother
Bob Tuckett
Rory Gargus: Cindy Donnell Foster's
cousin
Raelle Jackson
Jeane Moora: friend of Kymberly
Blaksley
Cheryl Tributou: friend of Holly Graham



10	Maggie Heinze
14	Heather Morris Judge
16	Brad Elkin
20	Kathy Malnassy
21	Brigitte Bolton
22	Heiwet Keflom
22	Kay Poropat
26	Kris Miller
29	Abigayle Schutte

TRINITY'S PRAYER CHAIN

NEED A PRAYER?

Contact Linda Lockhart
(314) 304-3790,
lockhartls92@gmail.com

Our active prayer chain will pray
for two weeks and then will
continue if notified.

If you want to participate
as a member of the prayer chain,
please call us.

We welcome you!

"Dear GOD,
renew our FAITH as we begin THIS
new year. HELP US TO GROW CLOSER
TO YOU AND TO TRUST IN YOUR PROM-
ISES. MAY OUR FAITH BE A LIGHT TO
OTHERS. AMEN."

JANUARY

Sun

Mon

Tue

<p>29</p> <p>9:00 a Redemption Worship</p> <p>10:30 a Worship Service</p> <p>10:30 a Youth Sunday School</p> <p>11:30 a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary)</p> <p>5:30-7:30 p Redemp. small group mtg (lounge & FH)</p> <p>Church & PDO offices closed</p>	<p>31 NEW YEAR'S EVE</p> <p>Church & PDO offices closed</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 p N</p>
<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a Redemption Worship</p> <p>10-10:30 a Redemption Meet the Pastor (FH)</p> <p>10:30 a Worship Service</p> <p>10:30 a Youth Sunday School</p> <p>11:30 a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>6</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary)</p> <p>5:30-7:30 p Redemp. small group mtg (lounge & FH)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (lounge)</p> <p>7:00 p Model A Club (FH)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 a A</p> <p>11:30 a R</p> <p>room)</p> <p>5-8:00 p</p> <p>6:30 p N</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:00 a Redemption Worship</p> <p>10-10:45 a Redemp. Impact Team 101 (FH)</p> <p>10:30 a Worship Service</p> <p>10:30 a Youth Sunday School</p> <p>11:30 a Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:30 a Chumley group</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary)</p> <p>5:30-7:30 p Redemp. small group mtg (lounge & FH)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (lounge)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 a A</p> <p>5-8:00 p</p> <p>6:30 p N</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00 a Redemption Worship</p> <p>10:30 a Worship Service</p> <p>10:30 a Youth Sunday School</p> <p>11:30 a Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>11:45 a Council meeting</p>	<p>20- MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary)</p> <p>5:30-7:30 p Redemp. small group mtg (lounge & FH)</p> <p>PDO and Church Offices Closed</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (lounge)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 a A</p> <p>11:00 a R</p> <p>11:30 a R</p> <p>room)</p> <p>5-8:00 p</p> <p>6:30 p N</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 a Redemption Worship</p> <p>10:30 a Worship Service</p> <p>10:30 a Youth Sunday School</p> <p>11:30 a Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>5:00 p Redemption 5 Year Anniv. worship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary)</p> <p>5:30-7:30 p Redemp. small group mtg (lounge & FH)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>4-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (lounge)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 a A</p> <p>5-8:00 p</p> <p>6:30 p N</p>

RY 2025

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>NEW YEAR'S DAY A (fellowship hall)</p> <p>Church & PDO offices closed</p>	<p>2 5-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) 6-8:30 p Crossroads (fellowship hall & lounge)</p>	<p>3 No Childbloom guitar After 3:00 p Cleaning crew</p>	<p>4 8:30-9:30 a Organist practice (sanctuary)</p>
<p>Adult Bible Study Zoom Katie's Crew (lounge & quilt)</p> <p>Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) A (fellowship hall)</p>	<p>9 5-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) 6-8:30 p Crossroads (fellowship hall & lounge)</p>	<p>10 4-7:00 p Childbloom guitar (sanctuary) After 3:00 p Cleaning crew</p>	<p>11 8:30-9:30 a Organist practice (sanctuary) Noon-3:00 p Guitar make-up sessions (sanctuary)</p>
<p>Adult Bible Study Zoom Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) A (fellowship hall)</p> <p>TRIBUNE ARTICLES DUE</p>	<p>16 5-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) 6-8:30 p Crossroads (fellowship hall & lounge)</p>	<p>17 A.M. Hospitality mtg (lounge) 4-7:00 p Childbloom guitar (sanctuary) After 3:00 p Cleaning crew</p>	<p>18 8:30-9:30 a Organist practice (sanctuary)</p>
<p>Adult Bible Study Zoom Redemp/C of C (lounge) Katie's Crew (lounge & quilt)</p> <p>Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) A (fellowship hall)</p>	<p>23 5-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) 6-8:30 p Crossroads (fellowship hall & lounge)</p>	<p>24 4-7:00 p Childbloom guitar (sanctuary) After 3:00 p Cleaning crew</p>	<p>25 8:30-9:30 a Organist practice (sanctuary) Evening: Redemption sanctuary set-up</p>
<p>Adult Bible Study Zoom Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) A (fellowship hall)</p>	<p>30 5-8:00 p Childbloom Guitar (sanctuary) 6-8:30 p Crossroads (fellowship hall & lounge)</p>	<p>31 7:00 p Childbloom guitar (sanctuary) After 3:00 p Cleaning crew</p>	<p>1 8:30-9:30 a Organist practice (sanctuary)</p>

WELCA NEWS

Katie's Crew meets Jan. 8 & 22 at 11:30.

December 8th 7 women got together for our annual WELCA Christmas party. We played a game set up by Priscilla Ward where we guessed the candy after reading a description. The prizes were great – candy of your choice from the candy table. We also played our Christmas Bingo & enjoyed cake & fellowship.

On December 21st 5 women put together cookie trays to be sold on December 22. Thank you to those women for their work & thank you to all the bakers who made cookies. I am always amazed at how many cookies we get. We made \$355 to support our work for Lutheran World Relief.

Drive Up Communion:

January 12

11:45 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Upcoming dates:

January 26

February 9 and 23

March 9 and 23

April 13 and 27

May 11

If you are planning to participate in the Drive Up Communion, please call or email the church office no later than the Thursday before.

January 2025 Prayer

Dear Lord,

As we enter January 2025, we seek Your comfort and strength. In our challenges, we remember Your promise in Psalm 46:1, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Help us to trust You as Philippians 4:6-7 teaches, finding peace in prayer and thanksgiving. May we have the courage of Esther, trusting in Your plans for us as declared in Jeremiah 29:11.

In our struggles, we hold onto Psalm 34:18, knowing You are close to the brokenhearted. Guide us according to Proverbs 3:5-6, to trust in You and not lean on our own understanding. Thank You for Your love and mercy every day. Help us to face each day with faith, knowing You are with us.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

Report for November 2024

CASH FLOW SUMMARY

ACCOUNT BALANCES

	<u>November</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>		<u>10/31/24</u>	<u>11/30/24</u>
Direct Giving	\$ 13,884.72	\$151,997.78	\$140,088.00			
Other Receipts	\$ 8,914.02	\$ 91,492.81	\$ 89,930.00	General Fund	\$136,697.69	\$149,720.05
Tot Op Revenues	\$ 22,798.74	\$243,490.59	\$230,018.00	Foundation Acct	\$168,140.45	\$161,694.85
Spending	\$ 23,418.47	\$240,056.28	\$232,218.56	Youth Restr Acct	\$ 8,579.94	\$ 8,579.94
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ (619.73)	\$ 3,434.31	\$ (2,200.56)			

TREASURER'S DISCUSSION

- Receipts for November totaled \$22.8K. YTD our receipts total \$243.5K, which is ahead of our budget by about \$13.5K.
- Spending totaled \$23.4K and was over our monthly budget. YTD our spending totals \$240K, which is about \$7.8K over-budget. We paid a semi-annual workman's comp insurance premium in November which was scheduled for December. Several other expenses, mostly in property, were over-budget.
- Net, for November we had a deficit of \$619. YTD we have a surplus of \$3,434.
- Here's the update this month on building costs, which include our Property (operating) Expenses and our Property Re-

	2023 YTD Expense	2024 YTD Expense
Operating Costs	\$ 46,874	\$ 55,655
Repairs & Maintenance	28,989	28,658
Total Costs (10 months)	\$ 75,863	\$ 84,313

- At the end of the month, the Property Reserve Account had a balance of \$5,188.
- In November, PDO had receipts of \$18.8K and expenses of \$17.6K. PDO had a surplus in November of \$1.1K. PDO has a deficit YTD of \$1K. The financial picture has been improving since September.
- The balances in the Reserve and Restricted Funds at the end of the month are shown below.

RESERVE and RESTRICTED FUNDS

		<u>10/31/2024</u>	<u>11/30/2024</u>
Reserve	Operating Reserve	\$ 28,062.21	\$ 28,062.21
	Property Reserve	4,888.17	5,188.17
	Williams Bequest	33,358.80	33,358.80
	Pastor Reserve	7,613.20	7,613.20
Restricted	Youth & Family	3,430.83	3,430.83
	Seminary Ed	30,583.06	30,583.06
	All Other Restricted	6,634.83	6,046.03
	Total Funds	\$ 114,571.10	\$ 114,282.30

Council minutes from September, October and November 2024 are not yet available.

Respectfully submitted, Dave Mizell, Treasurer
12/09/2024

What's Going on at Trinity?



Sunday

Worship Schedule

10:30 a.m. Worship service

10:45 a.m. Youth Sunday School

11:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Adult Bible Study

**Wednesdays via Zoom
10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.**

No need to prepare anything before you come, just join us at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom any Wednesday you are available.

Email the church office
at TLCKirkwood@gmail.com
for the Zoom sign-in link.

Front cover artwork: <https://www.icr.org/article/january-2023-icr-wallpaper>



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820 Lockett Rd.
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