

Trinity Highlights

June 2025 Newsletter

309-346-1391 ~ www.trinitypekin.com

Rev. Mark Drews, Pastor ~ 701-390-6073

Stewardship Report:

General Fund Report:	April <u>Actual</u>	Year to Date <u>Actual</u>	Year to Date <u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 18,826	\$ 79,539	\$ 87,488
Expenses	<u>26,505</u>	<u>98,433</u>	54,734
(Deficit)/Surplus	(7,679)	(18,894)	

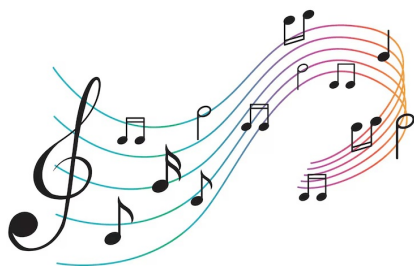
Giving in April is off quite a bit from what was projected while expenses stayed close to budget.

Work at the parsonage to renovate the two bathrooms is nearing completion. Expenses will be paid in May/June.

The General Fund balance at the end of April was \$244,779.67.

Let us give thanks to the Lord for His continued blessings and pray that we may continue to be faithful stewards until the day of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Rob Fornoff
Chairman - Board of Finance



Do you like to sing? Do you play the piano or any other instrument? We are looking for volunteers to share with us special music for church services during the summer months of June, July and August while the adult choir and the handbell choirs are on vacation. Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in Room 10. Please share your musical gifts with us!

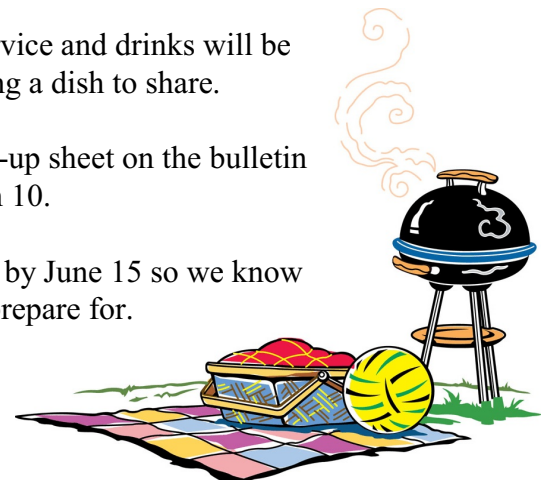
Church Picnic

Sunday, June 29, 2025 ~ 4:00 p.m.
Royal Avenue Shelter Pekin Park

Meat, table service and drinks will be provided. Bring a dish to share.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Room 10.

Please sign-up by June 15 so we know how many to prepare for.



From the Pastor's Desk

"Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw Him go into heaven." Acts 1:11

Dear Trinity Members,

It's been a long time since anyone on earth was able to touch, hug Jesus. A long time since he was pierced. At the ascension, Jesus' body ascended back to heaven. So what have we to hold on to? Just a spirit? If that's all, what does that say about our bodies? That they're essentially irrelevant? That the spirit is all that counts?

That's not the way it was *or is* with Jesus—and not with us either. The ascended body of Christ doesn't mean the absent (or irrelevant) body. The world wants to deny that Jesus came in the body to redeem all men. Nobody today can see, touch, poke Jesus' body. There's no body around to prove he's risen. There's no body to hug when we need comfort.

The bodily ascension of Jesus actually means that he is vital, active, bodily present for his church. Jesus is no myth! His real body was beaten, nailed, killed, pierced, and laid in a tomb. But then for forty days witnesses saw that he was alive, saw him eat, even held his body. Then the disciples saw his body ascend. He is forever true God and true man, one Person. He was the same man the disciples had known. Now he was received to God's right hand.

And because he is true man, with a physical body, he is active in our physical, bodily lives. He continues to preach through real, live men in the office of the ministry until he returns. He gives his very body and blood to us in physical elements to bestow heavenly blessings, forgiveness for all our sins of body and soul. He bestows the promise of the Father, the Holy Spirit, moving us to use our bodies and souls in God-pleasing lives. And the bodily ascension of Jesus means we will also ascend into a physical heaven to live, body with soul. See, touch Jesus' real, wounded, pierced but risen body. We'll do it forever. In the meantime, he lives in his body to care for us in ours.

As the Lord had said would happen, that victory came at a tremendous cost to our Redeemer, as that serpent Satan struck him a cruel, painful, and deadly blow. But in his very death, Jesus, the promised Seed, utterly defeated Satan by saving all of us from him. He crushed the serpent's head. He proclaimed that victory to the defeated powers of darkness in his descent to hell, and he publicly demonstrated that victory in his joyous resurrection from the dead.

So if Jesus has already won the victory over the devil for us, why do we still see the influence of the devil in this world, and why does God call on us in Scripture still to be sober-minded and watchful, resisting the devil who prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour? Why does it feel like the war isn't over, and why does it often feel like we're not faring so well in the battles we face daily in our hearts and lives?

Consider an example from another war. In World War II, when the allies were victorious on D-Day and had successfully landed a massive army back on the European continent, the outcome of the war in Europe was certain. The decisive blow had been dealt. The Allied army would push irresistibly toward the enemy German homeland. But the war in Europe didn't actually come to its completion until eleven months later, on V-E Day. The enemy fought tooth and nail until the end.

In a similar way, in his death and resurrection, Christ has already dealt Satan the decisive, fatal blow that guarantees the outcome of the war. But the war won't come to its final completion until Judgment Day, when Christ's victory will be complete. Meanwhile, we live in the gap between the "now" and the "not yet"—the period when the decisive battle has already been won but the fighting isn't yet over; Satan and his forces will fight until the bitter end.

As we wait, though, we do so with full assurance of the final result. Though life can feel like a battle as we continue struggling against the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature, we know how it all ends. We know that, in the end, we win because Christ has won the victory for us, and he shares his victory with us. By God's grace, through faith in Christ Jesus, victory is ours.

Looking back to World War II, we are reminded that World War I didn't live up to its billing as "the war to end all wars." But looking back to the victory Christ won for us on the cross, we see the good news that Christ has overcome all our enemies in the true "war to end all wars"—and that because of him, a life without war is not just a dream. It is an assured reality that we will one day experience—all because of the victorious Christ.

"Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Cor 15:57).

In Christ,

Pastor Mark Drews

Trinity's Service Volunteers - June 2025

ACOLYTES

06/01 9:00 a.m. Emily Anton
06/08 9:00 a.m. Lexi Brown
06/15 9:00 a.m. Ella Spaeth
06/22 9:00 a.m. Will Brown
06/29 9:00 p.m. Ella Spaeth

BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

Pick-Up Donuts:

06/01 Mike Seidell
06/08 *Open*
06/15 *Open*
06/22 *Open*
06/29 *Open*

Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:

06/01 Julie O'Conner
06/08 Julie O'Conner
06/15 *Open*
06/22 *Open*
06/29 *Open*

ALTAR GUILD

06/01 Melissa Deverman / Debbie Fornoff
06/15 Lynn Brown / Cori Spaeth
06/29 Kara & Kylie Cutting / Cori Spaeth

USHERS

06/01 9:00 a.m. Matt Deverman, Dave Harms
06/08 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Chris Whitley
06/15 9:00 a.m. Brad Juergens, Dave Harms
06/22 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Chris Whitley
06/29 9:00 p.m. Mike Seidell, Brad Juergens

ALTAR FLOWERS

06/01 Carolyn Cordts, *in memory of her father, Chesley Beasley's birthday on June 11.*
06/08 Mike & Kathy Seidell, *for their 54th wedding anniversary on June 12.*
06/15 Rev. David & Carol Spaeth, *for their 50th wedding anniversary on June 14.*
06/22 *Open*
06/29 Terry Knollenberg

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS / READERS

06/01 Mike Seidell (Communion Assist.)
Matt Deverman (Reader)
06/15 Brad Juergens
06/29 Eric Spaeth

READERS

06/08 Matt Deverman
06/22 Mike Seidell



Vacation Bible School
Good Shepherd Lutheran School
Sunday, June 8 - Thursday, June 12
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

This Summer, we're going on an Epic Adventure through Australia, and you're invited! We'll encounter amazing animals, lush landscapes, stunning sea life, and wondrous wilderness. And most importantly, we'll be guided by our Savior, Jesus Christ, Who tells us, ***"I am the way, and the truth, and the life"*** in our theme verse, John 14:6. Registration forms are available below the screen in Room 10 and there's a sign-up sheet for adults wanting to attend the Adult Bible Class on the bulletin board.

June Birthdays

June 1

Kinley Deverman
Joyce Thompson

June 2

David Spaeth

June 3

Kelly Link
Casey Whitley

June 7

Craig Cooney

June 9

Rozella Abbott
Katrina Addison

June 10

Will Brown
Christi Juergens

June 11

Janet Zevnik

June 13

Jessica Schuette
Braden Schultz

June 14

Ashley Erickson
Joan McDonough
Michael Timian

June 16

Linda Hollenback

June 17

George McAvin
Beth Utke

June 19

Conner Cordts

June 20

Brent Look

June 21

Tyler Kuhn

June 23

Sarah Hillig

June 24

Don Nash

June 25

Emily Harms

June 26

Kim Cordts

June 28

Haven Harms
Jace Link

June 30

Bill Bond

June Anniversaries

June 9

Chad & Kara Cutting

June 12

Scott & Pam Beccue
Mike & Kathy Seidell

June 14

Dave & Carol Spaeth
Happy 50th Anniversary!

June 15

Kevin & Jeri Dobbelaire
Dick & Darlene Ringwald

June 17

Dustin & Lindsey Watters

June 19

Andy & Brandi Seidell

June 26

Nocona & Katie Daniels

April Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Emily Anton - Zoey Portillo
Edith Spaeth - Ella Spaeth
Mabel Spaeth - Oliver Spaeth

Dollar for Missions

The current Dollar for Missions project is \$25,000 for masonry work and repointing at University Lutheran Church in Champaign. The church and student center building serves as an outpost of the Gospel to the 60,000 students annually at the University of Illinois. Portions of the brick and concrete structure are showing their age and are in need of repair. This project will fund targeted work at repairing and repointing sections of the building exterior, so that the Lord's Word and Sacraments can continue to be given out for many decades to come! There is a container on the chair in the back of the sanctuary for you to put your dollars in.

GSLS is has found an interim principal. Carol Gnem has accepted the position. She taught at PCHS for several years before becoming a dean at Pekin and then East Peoria. She most recently served as interim principal at Christ Lutheran in Peoria and then mentor to their new administrator. She is looking forward to being part of our school community and will be here sometime in the near future to meet people and introduce herself.

They have also filled the 7th/8th teacher position. Kristen Spangler has accepted this position and is excited to join the school team and bring her love of learning to her students. She has several years experience in the younger grades.

We praise God for bringing these great people to our school. Thank you to all of you who have continue to pray for the school and to support its ministry in our community.

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	2	3 6 PM BOARDS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE - EVANGELISM	4	5 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	6	7
8 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	9	10 6:30 PM GSLS BOARD	11	12 1:30 PM CONCORDIA	13	14
15 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	16	17 6 PM BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	18	19 6 PM BOARD OF TRUSTEES	20	21
22 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	23	24	25	26 7 PM BOARD OF ELDERS	27	28
29 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 4 PM CHURCH PICNIC	30					



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 S. Fourth St.
Pekin, IL 61554

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Pekin, IL

Permit No. 100

(Return Service Requested)



Church Picnic

Sunday, June 29, 2025

4:00 p.m.

Royal Avenue Shelter Pekin Park

