

# Trinity Highlights

May 2025 Newsletter

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## Stewardship Report:

General Fund Report:	March	Year to Date	Year to Date
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 24,750	\$ 60,714	\$ 63,741
Expenses	<u>24,246</u>	<u>71,929</u>	109,153
(Deficit)/Surplus	504	(11,215)	

Giving in March was right in line with projections and has recovered a bit year to date. Expenses were much lower than budgeted due to little expenses being incurred on the Parsonage bathroom renovation.

Work has begun at the parsonage to renovate the two bathrooms. Expenses will be incurred but have been included in the budget presented and approved in January. These expenses will show up in April and/or May.

The General Fund balance at the end of March was 252,185.01.

## Endowment Fund

\$11,200 from the Donald Wahls estate was added to the Endowment Fund in the first quarter. The balance in the fund at the end of March was \$152,452 of which \$31,782 is available for gifting to organizations as appropriate. (only unspent earnings are available for distribution)

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

Rob Fornoff  
Chairman - Board of Finance



ASCENSION SERVICE

THURSDAY, MAY 29

6:00 P.M.

*“And when He had said these things, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight.” Acts 1:9*

# From the Pastor's Desk

*"Behold, how good and pleasant it is  
When brothers dwell in unity!" Ps. 133:1*

Dear Members of Messiah,

Church meetings can be hard. It's one thing to sit in a pew and hear God's Word with fellow believers in Christ; it's something much different to sit in a meeting with those same folks, trying to make difficult decisions. I've noticed that there are often two types of people who throw their weight around in a congregational meeting. The first are those who are successful leaders in their other vocations—politicians, business people, and so on. They're used to getting their way, and they bring the mentality of their other vocations into the church meeting room. The second type are those who spend their lives in this world on the opposite end of the totem pole. For them, a church meeting is perhaps the only place in their lives where they can push people around. If both groups are exerting themselves, a church meeting can become quite cantankerous and disheartening.

The words of Jesus' high priestly prayer in the Gospel of John say "I do not ask for these (the Twelve) only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word (the Christian Church), that may all be *one*", and the praise offered in Psalm 133 give us a different path—the path of humility, of setting aside pride, that brothers may dwell in unity. And how good and how pleasant it is!

When I served my congregation in Mandan, ND, they often had this to say about their congregational meetings. They would hold them in January for two reasons:

1. The farmers couldn't work in the fields in January.
2. When members got angry with each other, they could step outside and cool off before they began to vote on a contentious matter...

It sounds funny, but sometimes, when we're ashamed of something, we make jokes about it, don't we?

In a couple of months, the Central Illinois District will be holding its convention in Springfield. In my years as pastor, I have attended about half a dozen District convention in South Wisconsin, Central Illinois and North Dakota. I have also attended one Synodical Convention (2013). In each of those conventions, there were disagreements among the voters. That's only natural, because we are all sinful and prone to make mistakes. But in between all of the differences that we discussed (most of them, fortunately, were minor), they all had a few things in common:

1. Time was spent in WORSHIP TOGETHER.
2. Time was spent in fellowship (meals, Gemutlichkeit, camaraderie)
3. Time was spent in Bible Study.

These all renewed our sense of unity and our synod and district's sense of unity of doctrine and scripture.

I humbly ask for your prayers as we approach this years convention, that we will be guided by the Holy Spirit in purpose and in doctrine, that we might, in humility, dwell in unity.

In Christ,

*Pastor Mark Drews*

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## Trinity's Service Volunteers - May 2025

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### ACOLYTES

05/04 9:00 a.m. Lexi Brown  
05/11 9:00 a.m. Emily Anton  
05/18 9:00 a.m. Ella Spaeth  
05/25 9:00 a.m. Will Brown

### *Ascension Service*

05/29 6:00 p.m. Lexi Brown

### BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

#### **Pick-Up Donuts:**

05/04 Mike Seidell  
05/11 *Open*  
05/18 *Open*  
05/25 *Open*

#### **Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:**

05/04 Julie O'Conner  
05/11 *Open*  
05/18 *Open*  
05/25 *Open*

### ALTAR GUILD

05/04 Lynn Brown / Lauren Juergens  
05/18 Melissa Deverman / Debbie Fornoff  
05/29 Melissa Deverman / Debbie Fornoff

### USHERS

05/04 9:00 a.m. Dave Harms, Matt Deverman  
05/11 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Chris Whitley  
05/18 9:00 a.m. Brad Juergens, Dave Harms  
05/25 9:00 a.m. Mike Seidell, Matt Deverman

### *Ascension Service*

05/29 6:00 p.m. Brad Juergens, Mike Seidell

### ALTAR FLOWERS

05/04 The Bernard Harms family, *in loving memory of Jeff Harms and Walter Harms.*  
05/11 Ron & Hermene Upchurch, *in memory of our parents and family members.*  
05/18 *Open*  
05/25 *Open*

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS / READERS

05/04 Brad Juergens  
05/18 Brad Juergens

### READERS

05/11 Matt Deverman  
05/25 Mike Seidell

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## May Diaper Drive

During the month of May please bring disposable diapers of any size to the church (infant, child, and adult sizes). Please join Lutherans for Life as they collect diapers again this year for area charitable organizations who serve women and their children, as well as seniors. Your generosity will benefit worthy life-affirming organizations including: Women's Pregnancy Center, Esther House, Lutheran Hillside Village, Washington Christian Village, and Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center. There is a box in Room 10 to put your donations in.

## Save the Dates!

**VBS:** Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday, June 8 - Thursday, June 12 at Good Shepherd Lutheran School from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. If you are interested in helping please contact Kelly Link or the church office.

**Church Picnic:** A church picnic is being planned for Sunday, June 22, 4:00 p.m., at the Pekin Park. Meat, drinks, and table service will be provided. Members should bring a side dish to share.

**Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast** – Saturday, May 10, 7:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m., St. John's rural Bath. You are invited to enjoy a menu of biscuits and gravy, corned beef and hash, ham, scrambled eggs and assorted homemade pastries all for a donation of your choice. Funds raised will go toward the support of the State Fair Booth for the Lutheran Layman's League of the Central Illinois District.

# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	2	3
4 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	5	6 6 PM BOARDS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE - EVANGELISM	7 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	8 1:30 PM CONCORDIA	9	10
11 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	12	13 6:30 PM GSLS BOARD	14 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	15 6 PM BOARD OF TRUSTEES	16	17
18 9:00 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	19	20 6 PM BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	21 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	22 6 PM BOARD OF ELDERS	23	24
25 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS	26	27	28 5 PM BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 6 PM CHOIR REHEARSAL	29 6 PM ASCENSION SERVICE	30	31



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 S. Fourth St.  
Pekin, IL 61554

Non-Profit Organization

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Pekin, IL

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*Ascension Service*  
*Thursday, May 29*  
*6:00 p.m.*