

TRINITY LUTHERAN

2024

ANNUAL  
REPORT

OF THE CONGREGATION



*Nurturing a Living Faith  
with Open Hearts  
and Serving Hands*



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# WELCOME

## Bless

the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name.  
<sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—  
<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,  
<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,  
<sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

### Psalm 103:1-5



**ALL ARE WELCOME**

As I began to reflection on this past year of ministry at Trinity Lutheran the phrase “Bless the Lord, O my soul...” came to mind. As a congregation we have been blessed again this year.

Blessed by the generosity of members who have shared time, talent and treasure. This is no minor miracle. In a world where family budgets are often stretch tight and schedules are crammed with activities it is a blessing when people share. Thank you to each and everyone of you for the way you have been a blessing this year.

Blessed by the creativity of people who have helped all of us worship and ponder faith in new and engaging ways. From a forest being built in the Community Center for Vacation Bible School, to the wonderful music every week but especially during the festival worship services of Easter, All Saints and Christmas Eve. To the willingness to welcome those who are re-entering the community after being incarcerated, showing them respect and Christ-centered welcome. To the beautiful quilts sent away to LWR but also shared with our high school seniors. We thank God for the gift of creativity.



Blessed by a council willing to really think about ministry and then put thought into action. Blessed by a staff who cares deeply for people, not just members, but all people who show up at our facility. Blessed by partners in ministry who make Gospel centered work meaningful.

We are blessed and I am so thankful that I get the honor of serving with you all. As you read this annual report I hope you stop often and say a short prayer of thanks to God for all of the ways we have been blessed this year. May we also continue to be a blessing to others.

God Bless,  
Pastor Mark Narum



## AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Opening Prayer – *Pastor Narum*
3. Additions to Agenda
4. Minutes of February 2024 Annual Meeting
5. The Year in Review – *President Kyle Gebhardt*
6. Board and Committee Reports
7. Trust Fund Update
8. 2024 Financial Report and Audit Report
9. Unfinished Business
  - Capital Campaign Update and Projects Update
  - Other Old Business
10. New Business
  - Presentation and Approval of Budget for 2025
  - Installation of Fire Suppression System in Kitchen as required by Insurance Company
  - Report of Nominating Committee and Election
11. Additional Business
12. Adjournment
13. Close – Lord’s Prayer

## SPEAKERS



**Mark Narum**  
Head Pastor



**Kyle Gebhardt**  
2024 Council  
President



**Sunday**  
**23 February 2025**  
**11:30 am**

Contact us for more info



[trinity@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:trinity@trinitybismarck.com)



701-223-3560

# 2025

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**President** - Matt McMerty  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** - Colleen Peterson  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** - Denise Wetzel

### **Council**

1. Dean Natwick
2. Lucas Teigen
3. Effie Carr (1-year unexpired term)

### **Audit Committee**

1. Kristi Gierke (3-year term)
2. Josh Essler (2-year unexpired term)

### **Synod Assembly Voting Members/ Missouri Slope Representatives**

1. Dean Natwick
2. Susan Ronning

### **Trust Fund Committee**

1. Tracie Seibel

### **Camp of the Cross**

1. Missy Kopp (1-year)
2. Kirsten McIntyre (1-year)

### **Nominating Committee**

1. Kyle Gebhardt
2. Kristi Thune
3. Deb Porsborg
4. Paula Schilling
5. Steve Schilling





# MINUTES

## 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024



The 115<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church congregation was called to order by President Danette Welsh at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Pastor Mark Narum offered the opening prayer.

Danette noted Bob Wefald was serving as parliamentarian.

Attendance: 88 in the Sanctuary and 4 via Zoom.

Agenda: Mike Horan moved approval of the agenda. Second by Sheila Peterson and carried by a voice vote.

Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting: Bob Wefald moved approval of the February 26, 2023 annual meeting minutes. Second by Brady Pelton and carried by a voice vote.

Minutes of a Special Congregational Meeting: Bob Wefald moved approval of the minutes of a special congregational meeting held May 21, 2023. This meeting was held to vote on whether or not to proceed with the installation of a fire detection/alarm system. Second by Eric Peterson and carried by a voice vote.

Year in Review: Danette highlighted the 'Council President's Report' (page 9):

Review and refinement of committees and small groups and thanked those who volunteer their time and talents; and Capital Campaign and Property Committee accomplishments: roof repairs, new gutters, foundation work, screens and projectors, carpet replaced, painting, nursery remodel, heating and cooling system repairs, entry area chairs, refinishing the Community Center floor, current work on the fire detection/alarm system, and updating Fellowship Hall lighting.

Board & Committee Reports: Mike Horan moved to accept the Board and Committee Reports (pages 12-21). Second by Kirsten McIntyre and carried by a voice vote.

Trust Fund Update: Dan Welsh reviewed the 2023 work of the Trust Fund Committee (page 16) and the Trust Fund financial report (page 29).

2023 Financial/Audit Reports: Matt McMerty reviewed the 2023 financial report (pages 32-33) and audit report (page 30). Matt noted the 2023 actual revenues of \$834,983 was \$63,806 over the 2023 budget of \$771,177. He thanked the congregation for its generosity in supporting Trinity's operations.

Matt also noted that the 2023 actual ending balance of \$39,286 allowed us to pay off the city special assessments of \$24,139.50, which saved us having to pay interest. The assessments were the result of street work on Avenue A, as well as alleyway work on the east side of our 4<sup>th</sup> Street parking lot. Susan Wefald moved to accept the 2023 financial report and audit report as printed. Second by David Hovda and carried by a voice vote.

## *Unfinished Business*

Capital Campaign Update: Troy Zander reviewed the Capital Campaign reports (pages 30-31) and thanked the congregation for its continued support to keep our building updated and safe. He highlighted the status of all projects as well as the fire detection/alarm system. Cash on hand in the Capital Campaign Restricted Fund as of January 1, 2024 is \$282,452.

## *New Business*

2024 Budget: Matt McMerty presented the proposed 2024 budget (pages 32-33). He noted two increases: the salary and benefits for our second full-time pastor, whereas last year that amount was for only ten months; and the Council added a \$5,000 line item for long-term building maintenance.

Matt noted on page 32 that the 2023 Budget amount for Property Expenses should be \$27,895 rather than what is printed as \$20,895. The 2024 budget amount is \$37,470, which includes the new Long-Term Building Maintenance Fund and a \$4,000 increase in property insurance. Matt McMerty moved the adoption of the 2024 budget. Second by Bob Wefald and carried by a voice vote.

Nominating Report and Election: Troy Zander presented the 2024 Nominating Committee report:

**President** – Kyle Gebhardt

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** – Matt McMerty

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** – Colleen Peterson

**Secretary** – Julie Leer

**Council** – Bob Baumann, Mitch Becker, Phil Murdoff, Brady Pelton (1-year unexpired term)

**Audit Committee** – Keli Berglund

**Synod Assembly Voting Members/Missouri Slope Representatives** – Cindy & Wade Anderson, Beth Campbell

**Trust Fund Committee** – Troy Zander, Dan Welsh

**Camp of the Cross** (1-year term) – Missy Kopp, Kirsten McIntyre

**Nominating Committee** – Danette Welsh, Jan Sparrow, Tracie Seibel, Julie Leer, Lucas Teigen

Troy Zander moved to elect the 2024 slate of nominees. Second by Margaret Fiechtner and carried by a voice vote.

Danette presented Certificates of Appreciation to Bev Cross, Sue Kolling and Londa Rodahl for their terms on the Council. She thanked Trinity committee members whose terms ended for their years of service.

Danette turned the meeting over to Kyle Gebhardt and he presented Danette with her Certificate of Appreciation for her term on the Council. Kyle asked for a motion to adjourn. Kirsten McIntyre moved to adjourn, second by David Hovda and carried by a voice vote.

Bob Wefald was recognized and asked that we thank Pastor Mark Narum, Pastor Martha HarriSon and the Council for their work and for the \$161,000 in the contingency fund. He also suggested that in the future when the agenda is completed that it should be asked if anyone has anything further to say.

Steve Helgeson asked that we thank Klarissa Pudwill for her fine work on the annual report.

Mike Horan mentioned that he recently became aware of the fact that the Council secretary has only a 2-year term while all other Council members have 3-year terms. He suggested the Council review this and change the secretary position to a 3-year term.

Pastor Martha HarriSon led us in the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Submitted,

*Londa Rodahl, Secretary*





*Council*

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Kyle Gebhardt*

To my Trinity Family,

Being a lifelong member of Trinity I am proud to tell everyone that Trinity is my home. My mom was the Parish Education Coordinator while I was growing up and I can't think of very many things that take place here that I haven't done or been involved in. A few years ago, I was asked if I would like to be on the church's council. I thought "Well, that is something I haven't done, yet" so I decided to see what it was all about. I found that there was nothing scary about being on council. I learned that the church follows a constitution which guides the members in ways to envision, plan, implement, and annually evaluate our congregation's ministry and mission.

After those 3 years on council, I thought my time serving Trinity was done and I would go back to my regular role as a congregational member. Then a few years later, I was asked if I would be interested in serving on the council's executive committee. Well, that was another thing I hadn't done yet, so after a few days of soul searching and praying I said yes. What a wonderful decision that was. Not only did I get to serve with two great leaders before me, but an absolutely wonderful group of people on council each and every year. We are so blessed here at Trinity to not only have great pastoral leadership, but just an outstanding staff overall here. Pastor Mark and Pastor Martha provide such a solid foundation for the church that I cannot wait to see what the future brings.

This past year has been an adventure to say the least! We started out with the gift of new lighting in the fellowship hall and areas throughout the building. What a gift it was to have a retired electrician as a member to help defray some of the costs for that project. Along with the lighting we were able to get the installation of the Fire Detection System completed and what a blessing that is to have.

We then started a little bit of staff turnover, but while change can be difficult it can also be good and revitalizing. Pastor Mary Lou re-retired leaving a void in the Worship and Music Position. A hiring committee was formed, interviews were held and we are blessed to now have Dr. Jason Thoms on staff.

Trinity continued to be involved in the United Way backpack program, started a "Re-Entry Meal," raised funds for Heart River Bridges of Hope and continues the "Loaves and Fishes" ministry as just a few ways to help out our community. We also were blessed to be able to open our doors and welcome in the congregation from Good Shepard Lutheran Church as they had to scale back during a construction project in their building. It is always so fun to meet new friends!

During the summer our insurance carrier cancelled our policy and a task force was quickly assembled and a new carrier was found without any lapses in coverage. What a blessing that task force has been.





The fall brought another staff member leaving in our financial director. Yet another committee was formed to find a new financial director. A candidate was found through a hiring process and she was hired on to staff. It was later discovered that this individual had provided fictitious information to the hiring committee and that funds were missing from the church's bank accounts. Our financial administrator was terminated in mid-December and the police were notified of what we had found. By the grace of God, Brent Winkleman was hired and brought with him significant accounting experience and knowledge of the church's financial management software system.

I would like to extend a personal thank you to our Executive Committee for their countless hours dedicated to the financial ordeal, to Pastor Mark for his calm leadership through it all, to Brent for coming in and digging in to bring order out of the chaos, to our personal banker and member Ashley Hoerner for her guidance and assistance, and especially to the Bismarck Police Department for their swift actions to build the case and continue to work through it, especially Officer Ritzke who has gone above and beyond working this case. While it is the job of the Police to do their jobs, they have gone far above what I ever expected in this case.

As your outgoing Council President, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every council member and Executive Committee member I have had the honor and privilege to serve with. As our year was filled with both joy and challenges, thanks to these amazing people, along with each and every one of our members and friends of our church, those challenges seem to have been lessened and made a little easier because of the generosity and support shown by all. I am so very grateful for all the encouraging words and help from you all.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to serve, it has been an honor!! Now I can say, "Council President – Yeah, I've done that!"

God's Blessings to each and every one of you,  
Kyle Gebhardt, Council President



# Congregationally Elected Entities

## Council (3 yr. term)

Kyle Gebhardt, <i>Pres.</i>	2024
Matt McMerty, <i>1st VP</i>	2025
Colleen Peterson, <i>2nd VP</i>	2026
Julie Leer, <i>Sec.</i>	2025
Bob Baumann	2026
Dean Natwick	2024
Brady Pelton	2024
Denise Wetzel	2025
Barb Pfeifer	2025
Mitch Becker	2026
Phil Murdoff	2026

## Executive Committee

Kyle Gebhardt, <i>Pres.</i>
Matt McMerty, <i>1st VP</i>
Colleen Peterson, <i>2nd VP</i>
Julie Leer, <i>Sec.</i>
Pastor Mark Narum

## Trust Fund Committee (5 yr. term)

Dan Welsh, <i>Chair</i>	2028
Wendy Burman, <i>Vice Chair</i>	2027
Susan Ronning, <i>Sec.</i>	2024
Todd Lang	2025
Troy Zander	2028
Matt McMerty, <i>Council Rep.</i>	
Pastor Mark Narum	

## Nominating Committee (1 yr. term)

Danette Welsh
Jan Sparrow
Tracie Siebel
Julie Leer
Susan Ronning
Lucas Teigen

## Audit Committee (3 yr. term)

Kristi Gierke	2024
Steve Schilling	2025
Keli Berglund	2026

## Assembly/Missouri Slope Delegates (3 yr. term)

Bob Wefald	2024
Dean Natwick	2024
Wanda Benz	2025
Jenell Gumke	2025
Cindy Anderson	2026
Wade Anderson	2026
Beth Campbell	2026

## Camp of the Cross (1 yr. term)

Missy Kopp
Kirsten McIntyre

## Congregational Ministry Groups

### Funeral Lunch Servers

Lois Kalbfleisch	Marion Kiefer
Lori Heiser	Penny Fischer
Ken Heiser	Cathy Nelson
Paula Schilling	Sue Kolling
Steve Schilling	Sheila Peterson
Diane Smith	Sharon Mertz
Dianne Herr	Effie Carr
Peg Erhart	Mark Carr
Christine Zeller	Wanda Benz
Cathy Kristensen	Louine Ness
Denice Peterson	Richard Lucas
Tom Peterson	Pat Aune
Louine Ness	Mary Lou Aune
Jane Clayburgh	Faye Rolfson
Londa Rodahl	Joan Inman
Lyn Raymo	Sherry Feist
Lucy Liebelt	

### Wedding Coordinator

Rachel MacDonald

## Council Appointed Committees & Task Forces

### Property Committee (3 yr. term)

Mike Horan	2024
Ray Monson	2024
Ron Kopp	2025
Zach Hoerner	2025
Eric Veidel	2026
Scott Boehm	2026
Mitch Becker, <i>Council Rep.</i>	2026
John Brintnell	
Pastor Mark Narum	

### Capital Campaign

Troy Zander
Wanda Benz
Renae Baltzer
Rick Clayburgh

### Stewardship Committee

Kirsten McIntyre
Terri Lang
Danette Welsh
Dean Natwick, <i>Council Rep.</i>
Denise Wetzel, <i>Council Rep.</i>
Pastor Mark Narum



# ALTAR GUILD

## Altar Guild Members

Cathy Nelson, President, *Treasurer*  
 Cindy Anderson, *Vice-President*  
 Kari Knudson, *Secretary*  
 Linda Evenson  
 Sherry Feist  
 Loralee Heiser  
 Pat McDaniel  
 Michelle Martin  
 Amy Oster  
 Kathryn Williams



In 2024, the ten members of the Altar Guild changed the altar paraments throughout the year using the five colors distinguishing the seasons of the church year. The members assisted in the noon and evening Maundy services. They gathered in March and October for a thorough cleaning of the altar area and dusted the pews in the main sanctuary and balcony. Each week, a member of the Altar Guild checked the candles and refilled them as needed.

We received a set of funeral palls designed and sewn by Brenda Hove given in memory of Reverend Muriel Jean Lippert. The large pall is made up of nearly 3,500 pieces. These small pieces that come together to make the quilt represent the individual people who come together to form the Body of Christ. We are grateful to have these beautiful palls.



## Quilters

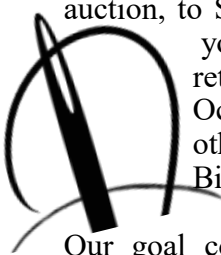
Bev Blumhagen	Cathy Nelson
Nancy Erickson	Helen Nelson
Linda Evenson	Faye Rolfson
Donna Hegle	Linda Strand
Pat Murray	Ramona Wanner



# QUILTERS

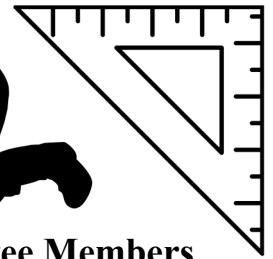


In 2024, the quilters completed 406 quilts. 250 quilts were donated to Lutheran World Relief. We completed quilts for our graduating seniors. Donations were also made to Camp of the Cross for their annual fund-raising auction, to Slumberland Furniture store for their annual gift to deserving children in our community, to the youth of Trinity for their silent auction to raise money for their summer mission trips, Church retirements gifts, and for display during the Christmas Day service. Our annual quilt sale was held in October selling quilts to members of the congregation raising funds to purchase fabric, batting and other supplies to continue our ministry. In December, we showcased and sold several quilts at the Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus Concert.



Our goal continues to be to provide warmth and comfort to those in need and to wrap those in God's love. Two members of the congregation sewed and donated quilt tops for our use. Member, Nancy Erickson, purchased flannel and sewed the blankets given to each baby at their Baptism.





### Property Committee Members

Ray Monson  
Michael Horan  
Ron Kopp  
Eric Veidel  
Zach Hoerner  
Scott Boehm  
Mitch Becker, *Council Rep.*  
John Brintnell, *Staff*  
Pastor Mark Narum



The Property Committee accomplished a lot of projects that enhanced beauty and improved the integrity of the buildings. This partial list serves as a reminder of what all of you have contributed to the strength and ownership of this property. Thank you, for your trust and support in maintaining this beautiful place.

This past summer we completed a repointing brick project around the old chimney on the North side and the east side of the 1931 church. The process involves grinding/chiseling out the old soft mortar until it gets to the original integrity mortar about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches. It is then replaced with fresh mortar. In some cases, the original brick had become cracked due to the infiltration of moisture causing us to have to replace the brick.

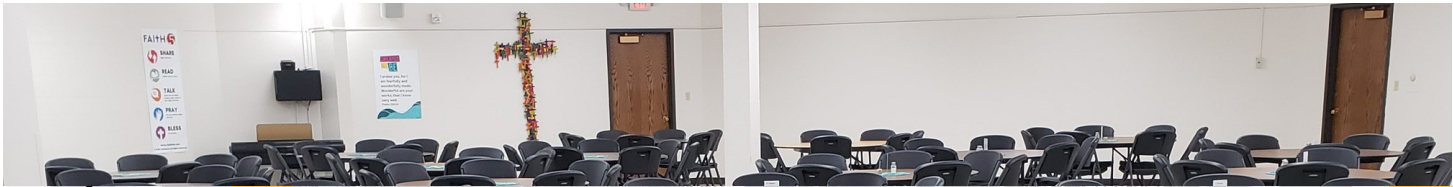
We finished the fire alarm system in July through the whole building. Some of you may not have heard that we had a visitor in the building after hours in December and he discharged a fire extinguisher in the lower youth room. This reckless act may have caused further damage to the other areas in the basement (Quilters Room and youth room) had it not been for the fire alarm system going off causing the unwelcome guest to flee the building. The contents of the extinguisher caused the sensor in the alarm to trigger and sound the alarm through the building.

We completed a lighting upgrade to all florescent lighting in fellowship hall, the kitchen, the quilters area, the lower youth area. This involved removing the 4-bulbs and 2 ballast in each light fixture and properly disposing of them. Replacing that with a 2-bulb lighting system with highly bright and efficient non ballast lighting. With the help of a couple of volunteers we were able to do the project in-house saving thousands of dollars.

During the summer, we were able to plant 4 hackberry trees on the east boulevard. We took advantage of a city incentive plan where the city paid for half the cost of the trees. Starting at 9 am and with the help of 5 volunteers we were able plant the trees ourselves. One of the volunteers has access to a bobcat and a tree planting bit. We added mulch and finished up by noon on a Saturday.

CW Structural Engineering did an analysis on the old church east wall and after completion they felt at this time the church east wall cracks was not in danger of structural failure. Cody Scharosch suggested the internal cracks be monitored and suggested we purchase some monitoring devices and start a log of the movement of the cracks. This is currently being monitored monthly.





# P R O J E C T S

Project	Completed by who	Location of funds
Fire Alarm system	Frontier Electric	Capital Campaign
Buried internet cable in conduit to the Peace Chapel's north wall	members	\$250 outside maintenance fund
Lighting in Fellowship Hall, Quilters room and lower Youth room	members with the help of Dean Kipp, lighting	\$5000 Capital Campaign
Replaced rock and fabric relandscape 3rd St. and by 1931 entry	members	no cost
Flower planting and replacing Day Lily's with Perennials on east side	members	\$300-\$400 member donation
crack seal and top seal 4th Street lot	Lots of Lines	\$2300 Trust Grant \$4000 Parking lot income \$6300
Added bottle filler to water fountain at main entrance	members and staff	\$900 Donation.
Planting hackberry trees on 4th Street boulevard	5 members	maintenance fund \$900 with City of Bismarck pay-
assessment of 1931 church east wall	CW structural engineering/members	\$2800 written report and monitoring slide gages
Fixed boys bathroom toilet, installed urinal, replaced sink and repaired drinking fountain	members and staff	aprox. \$5000 easter donation fund
repair roof over 4th street entrance	Tecta Roofing	Warranty
trimmed trees on 4th street and Ave. A	members	\$80 Member donation
Put wheels on old rugged cross platform used during noon lent.	members	\$25 member donated wheels.
raised the lights in the library so members can walk under them	staff	no cost
built a shelving unit in youth room	United Way Day of Caring Volunteers	time and material donated by the serve pro.
Installed a gutter on the west side of the garage	members, Pastor Mark	\$125 donation of the 25 ft gutter and brackets
crack sealing the south entry sidewalk and the cobblestone sidewalk on the east side.	University of Mary Service day Volunteers	\$400 outside maintenance fund
plaster 4th street entrance wall, repaired water damage in the 1931 church and painted	Adam Plastering and members and staff	\$5000 campaign money
painted the walls and halls of the lower youth room	members and United Way Day of caring	\$1400 trust grant.
Installed filtration system for the boiler water side	LindTech Heating and Air	\$4000 Trust Grant.



# WORSHIP & Music COMMITTEE



*Thank You!*



Thank you to all the musicians, designers, creators, and technology ministry partners who make every one of our worship services possible throughout the year. Thank you also to everyone on the Worship and Music team who help with special services including weddings and funerals. We have a rich worship life in our congregation, and it only happens through the work and time of talented and joyful people.

*Changes this year*

Pastor Mary Lou Aune retired from serving as the Director of Worship and Music at the beginning of the year. As Trinity did a search for the next Director, they elevated Scott Houser, Brenda Hove, and Marlene Seaworth to leadership positions for the worship services along with Amanda Samuelson who accompanies the musicians. In August, Dr. Jason Thoms accepted the position of Director of Worship and Music (part-time) and has enjoyed working with Scott, Brenda, Marlene, Amanda, and all the ministry partners who sing and play together each week.

# Highlights

- We have held around 200 worship services this year including Sunday mornings at 8:30 am and 10:30 am, Wednesdays at 6:00 pm, the new Sunday Evening Community worship services, weddings and funerals. Nearly every one of these services has been livestreamed.
- We have hosted concerts including from Concordia College, Arioso Music Academy, Bismarck Mandan Civic Chorus, Dakota Pro Musica, and the Bismarck Mandan Community Messiah.
- We enjoyed having outdoor worship in the warmer seasons.
- We have had instrumentalists join us for multiple worship services including many Trinity members both youth and adult alike.
- We improved the technology in the sanctuary for the pastors and musicians to be able to better see the texts and images that are on the screens.

## Worship & Music Committee Members

Renae Baltzer  
Sherry Feist  
Renae Hansen  
Kirsten McIntyre  
Paula Shilling  
Bob Baumann, *Council Rep.*  
Scott Houser, *Leader*  
Brenda Hove, *Leader*  
Marlene Seaworth, *Leader*  
Jim Lewis, *Tech.*  
Amanda Samuelson, *Organist*  
Pastor Martha HarriSon  
Pastor Mark Narum  
Jason Thoms, *Staff*

# We are Blessed!

Worship and Music are vital for our congregation. Worship is a time to come together in community to sing, hear God's word, listen to a sermon that helps us understand the scripture and guide us in our spiritual journey, and we frequently share in communion together.

Music at Trinity is special because we are blessed with many talented musicians who give of their time and talents for our congregation. In a time when many congregations are having to play pre-recorded music for their worship services, we are blessed with musicians who carefully plan and present music each week in a variety of styles. We are blessed!





# MESSIAH

## Committee

### 2024 SOLOISTS:

**HANNAH RAY-** *Soprano*  
*Alto* -**ELIZABETH WILHELMI**  
**JACOB HOEFER-** *Tenor*  
*Bass* -**BENJAMIN CLEARY**

Trinity hosted the 94th Bismarck-Mandan performance of Handel's oratorio "Messiah" on Sunday, November 24th, 2024. The community chorus and Missouri Valley Chamber Orchestra were directed by Dr. Jason Thoms.

Soloists were selected by Dr. Thoms from NDSU choral students. A grant from Dakota West Arts Council provided financial support for bringing in the NDSU soloists. Laura Prokopyk was the concertmaster, and Julie Schwartz was the rehearsal accompanist and continuo.

Following the concert, a reception hosted by Trinity volunteers was held in the Community Center. The 2025 performance of "Messiah" is tentatively scheduled for November 23<sup>rd</sup>.





# LEND A HAND *Ministry*

One of the greatest offerings we are given is to be valued and appreciated.



For the second year, a group of charitable people get together on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month to volunteer time helping improve the facilities and complete physical repairs around the church. This group starts with some fellowship and a cup of coffee at 9 a.m. and we finish each project by noon.



This idea has now been carried out on other days of the week/month where a person or group of people can pick out a time and a project to help with.

The best part of this is you do not have to be a specialist or professional to help. Most projects are at an easy level, and the fellowship is self-rewarding. If you can make time, we would love to see more of you but realize your time is valuable. If you would like to inquire further about some of the projects we do, please call John at the church.





**Faith**



**FORMATION**




**Committee**



**Faith Formation Committee Members**

- Missy Kopp, *Chair*
- Barb Pfeifer, *Council Rep.*
- Jenelle Gumke
- Naomi Keney
- Nikki Mills
- JenaLee Narum
- Susan Ronning
- Pastor Martha HarriSon
- Gracia Johnson, *Staff*



**Youth Protection Policy**

All volunteers working with youth have been through our youth protection policy screening process.



**Highlights of 2024**

- 8 youth and 4 adults from Trinity hopped on a bus with Camp of the Cross and headed to New Orleans to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering last July. It was a fun week growing in our faith with speakers, activities, service projects, and more.
- Our High School Youth Group continues to meet and has GROWN on Wednesday nights with the help of volunteer leaders & staff.
- Club 316 is held once a month for grades 2-5 & 6-8. At Club 316 we have a faith connection, food, and of course a fun activity. We played games, went mini golfing, did both a community scavenger hunt and a church hunt, went to a movie at the theatre and more!
- Soul Sisterhood, our ministry for middle school girls with Good Shepherd Lutheran, continues to meet. Each month we meet for a devotion and special craft or baking opportunity that connects to the theme of the lesson that month.
- Trinity Youth participated in the Middle School LYO Gathering in Western ND this fall.



**Church School Kids:**  
**97**

**2024**



**Confirmation Youth:**  
**42**

**9th Graders Confirmed:**

*Noah's Arc*



**21**

**VBS Attendees:**  
**41**



*Designed By:*  
*JenaLee Narum*



## Looking Ahead to 2025

- Our goal for the coming year is to continue to support and build up our existing ministries and explore how we can best support our families and grow in faith together.
- We continue to add Faith Milestones. Our goal is to have a Faith Milestone offered each year from Baptism to Confirmation. Milestones we already have in place are a Baptism Anniversary Party, Kindergarten receive a Storybook Bible, 1<sup>st</sup> Graders learning about the Lord's Prayer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade prayer partners, 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders receive a Bible, 4<sup>th</sup> graders learn about the Apostle's Creed, and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade first communion. This year we will be adding one for the Preschool & PreK group on worship. Each milestone includes a session for parents & child to experience together and a take home tool.
- Summer Plans
  1. High School Camping Trip
  2. VBS June 8-11
- We are planning to take a look at our Faith Formation here at Trinity and do some Strategic Planning as we look to the future. Deacon Beth Anderson will be our leader for this adventure. Deacon Beth is a Certified Coach and was Assistant to the Bishop in Western ND for many years as well. Be on the lookout for more information this winter & spring!

## Church School Leaders

Erin Becker, Sarah Feist, Betsy Hatlestad, Scott Houser, Missy Kopp, Ryan Kopp, Lisa Kosel, Mia Peterson, James McGrath, Rio Mills, Nadalie Narum, Fletcher Ronning, Londyn Sackman, Morgan Schatz, Georgia Seibel, Kendra Seibel, Taylor Seibel, Kelly Spilman, Susan Wefald, Denise Wetzel

## Confirmation Guides

Everly Arlien, Kayla Gannarelli, Sabrina Hojian, Naomi Keney, Lindsay Kostelecky, Samantha McGrath, JenaLee Narum, Jill Rodgers, Susan Ronning, Ashlee Schwark, Tracie Seibel, Dana Solem. MUSIC: Taylor Helgeson & Friends

## Vacation Bible School

Angel Abdallah, Jax Abdallah, Jill Anderson, Kaylen Barstad, Jon Fettig, Kortney Fettig, April Meckle, Bob Meckle, Chris Narum, JenaLee Narum, Nadalie Narum, Myranda Page, Amy Peterson, Everly Schaffer, Olivia Schaffer, Jennifer Stenerson, Steph Weltz. MUSIC: Taylor Helgeson & Friends

## High School Leaders

Kyle Gebhardt, Traci Schell



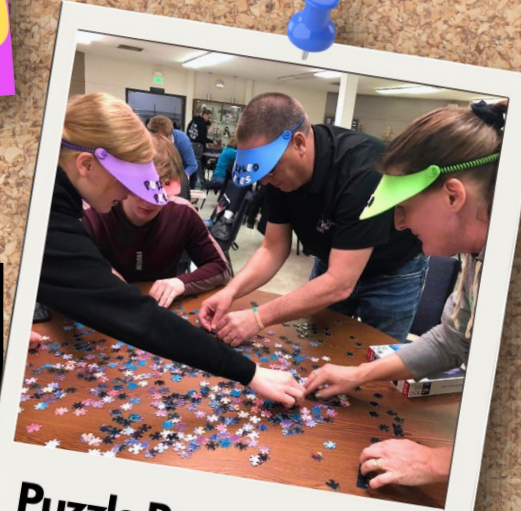
# COMMUNITY BUILDERS

## 2024 Members

Katie Veidel, *chair*  
Jill Anderson  
Marijke Leibel  
Phil Murdoff, *Council Rep.*  
Brady Pelton, *Council Rep.*  
Jennifer Person-Wohl  
Traci Schell  
Pastor Martha HarriSon

## Overview

Our focus remains steadfast: we aim to create opportunities for community members to engage with our faith by serving others and celebrating our community together.



Puzzle Race & Potluck



## Highlights

The community builders hosted several successful events this year:

- **1st Annual Puzzle Race & Potluck:** Teams of four competed to see who could complete a 500-piece puzzle the fastest, enjoying friendly competition and fellowship along the way.
- **Lark's Baseball Game:** church members were given the opportunity to attend a Bismarck Lark's Baseball game including food and fellowship with their fellow church and community members.
- **Annual Corn Feed & Block Party:** This event featured our beloved corn feed, family-friendly activities, and our inaugural Corn Hole Tournament!
- **Family Advent Event:** Families gathered to decorate cookies, create ornaments, and craft travel-friendly clay Advent wreaths, all accompanied by a take-home Advent devotional.

We look forward to hosting many of these same events in 2025 and perhaps looking to add even more!

Keep an eye in the church bulletin, bulletin boards and social media pages for more community events coming soon!

We're a lively and welcoming group dedicated to planning inclusive events that celebrate our faith and strengthen our community. We'd love for you to join us—please reach out!



Corn Feed & Block Party

LOOKING  
TO GET  
INVOLVED?

# MENTAL HEALTH & Substance Abuse TASK FORCE



**Get Involved!**  
 The task force has room for you! We are currently looking for more people to be involved in the task force. Meetings are just one hour each month, and we have a lot of fun working and planning together!

## Highlights

In 2024, the task force organized two events for the congregation and community: a mental health night in January, with a keynote speaker and panel discussion. The keynote speaker was Emily Schmid, a volunteer with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Emily shared with adults the impact of suicide in our state and community, and ways we can help be aware and have conversations about suicide. She presented a separate message for the youth.

In April, we held the “Hibernation Termination Celebration.” The event kicked off with breakfast and devotion in the fellowship hall, and then attendees were invited to try out different hobbies, such as ukelele, lefse making, painting, and more.

The task force also put together a team for the annual “Out of the Darkness” Suicide Prevention Walk in September. Trinity Lutheran Church sponsored the event, and the Trinity team, “Out of the Darkness, Into the Light” was one of the top teams raising money for the walk. Task force members set up a table for the event vendor fair before the walk, offering rocks to paint, a prayer wall, and information about Trinity and opportunities to worship with us. It was a hot September day, but we met a lot of wonderful people!

### Task Force Members:

- |                |                 |                        |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Marci Silrum   | Marijke Leibel  | Julie Leer             |
| Liz Schmidkunz | Steve Leibel    | Pastor Martha HarriSon |
| Dean Natwick   | Paula Schilling | Pastor Mark Narum      |
| Joan Inman     | Steve Schilling |                        |



# TRUST FUND ANNUAL REPORT



## Trust Fund Committee Members

Dan Welsh, *Chair*  
Wendy Burman, *Vice Chair*  
Susan Ronning, *Secretary*  
Todd Lang  
Troy Zander  
Matt McMerty, *Council Rep.*  
Pastor Mark Narum



The Trust Fund committee manages the Trinity Trust Fund, which currently contains over 2 million dollars. Last year we awarded \$11,400 in scholarships to Trinity members for higher education and more than \$70,000 in grants.

Grants included money for new monitors for the sanctuary, floor sweeper, quilting supplies for the quilting group, the United Way backpack program, block party and corn feed, 9-Square in the Air, new server and other technology updates, HVAC boiler filter system, parking lot maintenance, Campership, popcorn machine and Fresh Start kits. Requests anticipated for the coming year include new carpet along the communion rail and altar steps, additional repairs to the building and continued support for the United Way backpack program.

The Trust Fund committee is pleased to share that since 1992 the committee issued 263 scholarships for postsecondary education for Trinity members, totaling \$181,650.

Currently, the Trust Fund committee consists of five members elected by the Congregation. One member is elected each year at the Annual Meeting, with no member allowed to serve more than two 5-year terms. The Committee meets monthly to decide how to allocate money to best serve Trinity's ministry mission. All of the members, past and present, are committed to using these funds responsibly and effectively.





Recently, Pastor Martha shared a children's sermon where she told the young people gathered that at their baptism they all received a new name, beloved child of God. Boil down the activities of our congregation and that is what you find, an ongoing proclamation of the fact that all gathered for worship are beloved children of God. This is the central message of Sunday or Wednesday worship, of church school, vacation Bible school, confirmation, Bible Studies and more.

Splashed in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, sealed with the cross of Christ forever – we become God's very own. At its best, a congregation strives to help its members and friends live into that identity.

**Beloved Children Worship...** This is central to who we are, gathering to worship the God who has created, redeemed and sustains each of us. We gather to worship, not to earn heavenly brownie point but because God is worthy of praise. In the act of worship our relationship with God and the faith community grows deeper.

**Beloved Children Learn...** Our educational ministries are designed to help people of all ages grow a deep relationship with God. Together we learn through church school, confirmation, vocational Bible school, men's group, women's group and a variety of Bible Study opportunities. These activities allow space for honest questions and deep conversation.

**Beloved Children Serve...** Followers of the Risen Christ – serve out of joy and thanksgiving for what God first did for us. To serve is to learn humility. I appreciate the way leadership within this congregation continues to seek ways to be of service to our neighbors and our neighborhood.

**Beloved Children Invite...** We have been blessed to receive a number of new people into our worshipping community. Many of them end up here through an invitation from one of you. I encourage you to continue to invite, letting others know that God through the power of the Holy Spirit is up to something at Trinity. That this is a place where you get to meet Jesus and encounter his love, grace and mercy.

Thanks for letting me be a part of this Christ-centered community. May God continue to richly bless us as we seek to love and serve.

Pastor Mark



*Annual*

# PASTOR'S REPORT

*Martha Harrison*

Dear Friends in Christ,

It has been a busy and exciting year. It is a joy to look back over the ministry we have done together, to see where the Holy Spirit has guided us in this work that we do. Here are a few highlights to share:

## **Mission Projects:**

**Refugee Family** - We had the opportunity early in 2024 to work with Bismarck Global Neighbors. We were asked to partner with them in resettling a refugee family that was coming to Bismarck from Costa Rica. There was a positive response to this project.

**Prison Ministry** - In April, our staff and a few members of the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Task Force toured the North Dakota State Penitentiary. After that tour, we began wondering how we could help in the re-entry process - to help those being released from prison acclimate back into society. Two different projects have come out of this tour.

**Re-Entry Meal and Support:** We offer a meal on the first Thursday of the month to anyone who is in reentry. It is a time for people to support one another. We often have a short speaker at each event as well. We are currently partnering with Ministry on the Margins with this project.

**Fresh Start Kits:** We provide a backpack to people being released at the North Dakota State Penitentiary, Missouri River Correctional Center, and the Youth Correctional Center. The bags have toiletry items, socks, a towel, and a water bottle. They also have information about our church (or other churches who donate bags), our reentry meal, and local places where they can find support for housing, food, etc. We partner with Heart River Bridges of Hope and Ministry on the Margins on this project. There are currently 10 other churches/organizations who have donated bags to supplies to this project. We have distributed 115 backpacks so far.





**Serving Hands:** Serving Hands wasn't as active this year, but we hope to get back to monthly projects in 2025. Some of our projects this year were sorting food at United Way's Stamp Out Hunger event, providing a potluck meal at Heart River Lutheran Church for residents at the Women's Correctional Center, and more.

**High School Youth Ministry:** It has been an honor to work with our high school youth. Our youth group is slowly growing, and I am so thankful for Kyle Gebhardt and Traci Schell who faithfully help each week with our youth group. Traveling to New Orleans for the Youth Gathering was a highlight for the year.

**Committee Work:** Our committees are all functioning well. I am always encouraged by the work of the committees that I sit on (Community Builders, Worship and Music, and Faith Formation), and the work of all of our committees and task forces. It is a gift to be able to support our ministry partners as they give their time and talents to the mission and ministry of Trinity. Thank you for all your hard work.

It has been a busy and exciting year. It has been a blessing to be with you and to minister alongside you as we continue to work to be Christ's light in this world. I look forward to seeing where the Spirit will lead us in 2025.

Blessings,  
Pastor Martha



### Mission Committee

Because of our growing number of mission projects here at Trinity, we have formed a new mission committee. If you are interested in being on this committee or helping with any of these projects, please reach out to Pastor Martha.

# Parish Statistics

## 2024

### Ministerial Acts

<b>1. Baptisms</b>	
A. Infant & Child	15
B. Adult	2
<b>2. Confirmation</b>	
A. Youth	21
B. Adult	0
<b>3. Marriages</b>	6
<b>4. Funerals</b>	66

### Membership

<b>1. Additions</b>	
A. Baptism	15
B. Transfer	18
C. Adult Confirmation	0
D. Youth Confirmation	21
E. Reinstate	2
F. Other	0
<b>2. Losses</b>	
A. Transfer	10
B. Inactive	1
C. Released	1
D. Death	26
E. Other	0



### Membership Dec. 31, 2024

1. Baptized Members	2416
2. Confirmed Members	1838
3. Voting Members	554
4. Family Units	969



## Confirmation Class

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Photo credit: Platinum Photography

**FRONT (L-R):** Zachary Huber, Charlie Wegge, Joseph Leibel, Braxton Dutchuk, Brayton Bear, Erin Conoly, Millena Teigen, Halley Heustis, Haley Dockter, Peyton Jose, Lawsen Bartholomay;

**BACK:** Pastor Martha HarriSon, Isaac Johnson, Peyton Fitzgerald, Caiden Getzlaff, Breckyn Scott, Beau Raschke, AnnaClaire Bugbee, Kason Schwark, Dain Thompson, Jayden Simpson, Pastor Mark Narum

**PICTURED SEPARATELY:** Canon Schatz

### Weekly Worship Attendance

Average in-person attendance: **344**  
Average online attendance: **253**

Blessings to you from Camp of the Cross Ministries!

Here at CCM, our mission is Camping with Christ...for lives of faith...

Thank you as a constituent congregation for your continued support to CCM to help our continued successes. Camp would not be the ministry it is without your generous support through prayers, registrations as campers and retreat guests, donations, and financial support.

We had another successful summer camp season. Registration and participation were good with 262 campers registered. The children and youth had a blast.



We hosted our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary here at camp in August. Thank you to all that attended.

Our retreat season has been going well with some new retreat groups hosting retreats at CCM. We love to have everyone on site.

We held our annual Scandinavian Supper in November with over 80 in attendance. We had live entertainment by Marti Malachowski and a silent auction. Thank you to everyone for attending.



We added some new staff in 2024: Rose Brunsell joined us in January as our Part-time Housekeeper. Jordan Hines joined in May as our Hospitality Manager. Travis Lyle joined in May as our Food Service Manager. Abbi Zeiszler joined us in August as our Marketing and Outreach Manager. Sam Pemberton joined us in September as our Assistant Cook/Support Staff.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support!



**Western North Dakota Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

January 2025

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace in the name of our Savior Jesus the Christ!

In this season of Annual Reports, Annual Meetings, and elections of new congregational leadership, I pray that the Spirit walks with you and guides you along the way.



*Jesus says, "You are witnesses of these things." (Luke 24:48)*

As part of the Western North Dakota synod, you and your congregation are called to be witnesses of the good news of Jesus through the sharing of the God given gifts of your hands, feet, voices, and financial resources.

As the western North Dakota synod, here are a few small examples of the ways we witnessed to good news of Jesus in 2024...

*...walking together with God's children in every corner of the world - from Israel & Palestine to the Central African Republic to Crosby, ND.*

*...supporting 11 seminarians; nearly 100 pastors and deacons; and 36 synod authorized ministers (SAM) who serve alongside us in mission and ministry.*

*...learning together at events supported by the Growing in Faith to Seve (GIFTS) ministry.*

*...building new partnerships for new and renewing ministry within congregations, parishes, and non-profit organizations across our synod.*

*...in church basements and gifted leaders who are carefully listening to the Spirit's voice as we give thanks for all that God has done through our congregations and wonder what God might be calling us into next.*



Thank you for being a witness to the good news of Jesus! Simply stated, none of the work God calls us to do as church is possible without you. You are a gift for which I am incredibly thankful. May you and your congregation be filled with all joy and peace in believing throughout 2025!



Serving in Christ together,

The Rev. Craig A. Schweitzer  
 Bishop, Western North Dakota Synod - ELCA



<i>Offering to the Penny</i>	
<b>Congregation:</b>	Trinity Lutheran
<b>City:</b>	Bismarck
Our Congregation's 2024 mission support was:	53,728
Our Mission Support funded 50% Synod Ministries, 50% Churchwide Ministries	
	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Our contribution to Synod Ministries:</b>	<b><u>\$27,401.28</u></b>
<b>Luther Seminary</b>	<b>\$2,149.12</b>
<b>Campus Ministry</b>	<b>\$1,074.56</b>
<b>Operations/Facilities:</b> <i>Council, travel, audit, finances, admin</i>	<b>\$13,432.00</b>
<b>Synod Ministries:</b> <i>Care and renewal of congregations &amp; rostered leaders, call process, candidacy, developing leadership, LYO, events, communications, stewardship, and affiliated ministries</i>	<b>\$10,745.60</b>
	<b><u>\$27,401.28</u></b>
	<u>Amount</u>
<b>Our contribution to Churchwide Ministries:</b>	<b><u>\$26,326.72</u></b>
<b><u>Growing the ELCA in the USA</u></b>	<b>\$6,225.12</b>
serve their communities; develop resources for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.	
<b><u>Global Mission &amp; Interfaith</u></b>	<b>\$4,867.27</b>
countries; work with LWF; seek unity and dialogue, developing ecumenical partnership	
<b><u>Churchwide Ministries &amp; Governance</u></b>	<b>\$5,213.59</b>
database; HR; offices; archives; receive gifts; governance -CWA, council, bishops, boards.	
<b><u>Support and Develop Leaders</u></b>	<b>\$3,850.32</b>
recruiting and supporting rostered, lay, and retired leaders, engaging all baptized in ministry.	
<b><u>Communications, Technology &amp; Strategic Planning</u></b>	<b>\$2,666.25</b>
Connect members; branding & messaging; analyze trends; improve ministry for today	
<b><u>Stewardship</u></b>	<b>\$1,845.46</b>
Teaching and encouraging stewardship education; interpret ELCA mission; fundraising	
<b><u>Justice and Advocacy work</u></b>	<b>\$1,658.70</b>
Develop social statements & resources; equip members to advocate; social ministry.	
	<b><u>\$26,326.72</u></b>



# MISSOURI SLOPE

TAILORED CARE. INSPIRED LIVING.

— A ministry of Missouri Slope Lutheran Care Center —

November 4, 2024

TO: Trinity Lutheran Church

RE: Missouri Slope Year-End Report

Greetings everyone at Trinity from YOUR social ministry, Missouri Slope! We are thankful for the many blessings you bestow on us each day. They come in many forms: a visit from a pastor or church member, a new resident, tenant, or at home client needing our care, financial gifts to our M-Fund or other efforts, and daily prayers. We sense rejuvenation in our ministry with regards to your presence and input through the annual corporate member meeting and the board of directors meetings throughout the year where your church is represented well with Rev. Mark Narum serving the role of director.

“Growth” is the word which comes to mind to summarize 2024 at Missouri Slope. As we re-opened the North East Unit at our Hillview Nursing Facility along with the Veterans Administration Community Nursing Facility contract, we saw immediate and wonderful impact in serving this special group along. The Hillview campus had a water pipe burst late in 2023 which led to many months of remediation and repairs throughout the facility. Thankfully, most of the damaged areas were primarily in unoccupied areas of the building. Future use considerations ensue for the Hillview facility as we receive market studies and make decisions as to what services are needed presently and in the future.

Headquartered within the Hillview Campus is our new Missouri Slope at Home program which exists to provide non-medical care to our community members throughout the city and rural areas of Burleigh, Morton, McLean, and Oliver counties. The services offered continue to grow as our program and team members become more established. We are here to help people with their needs to remain well and safe in their homes, or to assist in transitioning back to home after a successful rehab in one of our nursing facilities.

The Assisted Living Facility on the Hillview Campus is reporting extremely strong occupancy as more people need and enjoy this service. Our team has seen change in key positions and additions in response to the growth and level of care provided. We are thankful to have the support of volunteers as well who assist both our tenants and our team with daily tasks to assure all needs are met.

# Trust Fund

## Trust Fund Financials - 2024

Restricted Fund	
Principal	\$ 481,030.00
2024 Additions	\$ -
Total Principal	\$ 481,030.00
Investment Value 1/1/2024	\$ 572,402.94
Investment Gains/Loss	\$ 64,409.32
Gains captured for grants	\$ (22,804.80)
Investment value 12/31/2024	\$ 614,007.46

Unrestricted Fund	
Principal	\$ 925,000.00
2024 Additions	\$ 17,317.50
Total Principal	\$ 942,317.50
Investment Value 1/1/2024	\$ 1,220,686.00
Investment Gains/Loss	\$ 118,278.00
Gains captured for grants	\$ (52,180.00)
Investment value 12/31/2024	\$ 1,286,784.00

## Endowment

Principal	\$ 172,500.00
2024 Additions	\$ -
Total Principal	\$ 172,500.00
Investment Value 1/1/2024	\$ 232,959.03
Investment Gains/Loss	\$ 18,814.99
Gains captured for grants	\$ (8,708.00)
Investment value 12/31/2024	\$ 243,066.02



# Capital Campaign

It is amazing to think of the incredible progress members of Trinity Lutheran have made in tackling a wide variety of deferred maintenance issues. It was 2021, just as the pandemic was beginning to wane, that members of this congregation chose to enter into a \$1.3 million dollar campaign to replace the HVAC System in the sanctuary, replace windows in the administration/education wing of the church, replace the entire thermostatic control system of the building and more. In May of 2023, members of the Congregation approved adding \$352,000 to the campaign to install a fire detection and alarm system throughout the building.

Through the end of 2024 \$1,306,311 has been spent on these projects. Your generosity has meant that we have never had to take a loan out, which means we have not had to pay an interest to complete these projects. Trinity's Council and Property Committee has worked since the beginning to find ways to decrease the costs of each of the projects. Those efforts have meant that even though we did not reach the goal of raising \$1.3 million we have been able to complete almost all of the identified projects. Two projects remain – installing new LED light fixtures in the sanctuary and figuring out weatherization for the North and South Entrance doors.

Your generosity and the hard work of the Campaign Committee, Property Committee and Council has made all of this possible. We look forward to celebrating the completion of the Campaign later this year.

Cash on Hand 1/1/2024	\$280,566.62
Donations	\$ 80,146.39
Sub-Total	\$360,713.01
Expenses	\$282,900.32
Adjustment	\$ -76.56
Ending Balance 12/31/2024	\$ 77,736.13

## Ways to Give

[www.trinitybismarck.com](http://www.trinitybismarck.com)

### Electronic Giving

Trinity offers the option of Electronic Giving as a simple way to contribute. Simply Giving forms and Give + options are available on our website, in the office or at the Welcome Center.

### Vanco Mobile App

Another means of electronic giving is downloading Vanco's Mobile App to your cell phone.

- Download **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement** (in your Apple App Store or Google Play Store)
- Search **Bismarck**
- Select **Trinity Lutheran Church**
- Sign-up using your email address and create a password

You may choose to give using a credit card, debit card, or your bank account.



If you have questions or need assistance with electronic giving, please feel free to call Brent Winkelman @ 223-3560 ext. 7. Thank you again for your continued financial support.



# 2024 Financial Report/Budget Proposal

	<u>Budget 2024</u>	<u>Actual 2024</u>	<u>Proposed 2025</u>
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>			
Offering - envelopes, electronic, loose	730,950	716,364	756,822
Major Revenues - Rental, Ministry Partner, Parking Lot	79,446	67,745	81,390
Miscellaneous Revenues - Sunday Coffee, Church School	13,450	19,459	13,450
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>823,846</b>	<b>803,568</b>	<b>851,662</b>
<b><u>Expenditures:</u></b>			
<b>Benevolence</b>			
Camp of the Cross	3,655	3,581	3,784
ELCA Mission WND Synod	54,821	53,728	56,762
Local Benevolences	3,655	3,582	3,784
Ministry on the Margins	3,655	3,581	3,784
Missionary Support	3,655	3,581	3,784
Missouri Slope Center	3,655	3,582	3,784
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>73,096</b>	<b>71,634</b>	<b>75,682</b>
<b>Christian Ed</b>	<b>8,130</b>	<b>4,399</b>	<b>8,130</b>
<b>Parish Outreach</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>11,333</b>	<b>9,700</b>
<b>Property Expenses</b>	<b>37,470</b>	<b>38,559</b>	<b>52,050</b>
<b>Salary &amp; Benefits</b>			
Synod Assembly Delegate Expenses	1,500	1,250	1,500
Salaries - Pastoral and Staff	378,818	339,500	348,354
Pastoral Expenses - except Salary	132,450	132,747	129,975
Staff Expenses besides salary	78,512	87,802	76,108
Other Salaries: Music, Tech, Grace, Driscoll	1,200	9,035	39,550
<b>Total Salary &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>592,480</b>	<b>570,334</b>	<b>595,487</b>
<b>Services &amp; Supplies</b>			
Accounting & Payroll Service	6,300	8,641	9,000
Church Expense	5,000	3,309	5,000
Computer & Tech	3,000	1,706	3,000
Computer Maintenance & Support	4,500	967	4,500
Copier			
Lease	3,800	4,375	4,000
Supplies	700	3,331	3,000
Subtotal for Copier	4,500	7,706	7,000
Custodial Supplies	5,500	4,034	5,000
Kitchen Supplies	720		720
Office Supplies	4,000	3,783	4,000
Postage	1,500	662	1,500
Processing Fee	1,200	1,467	1,500
Security Service	1,600	1,370	1,600
Utilities			
City of Bismarck	5,600	8,444	7,500
Internet		825	
MDU	45,500	41,287	45,500
Telephone	6,200	4,958	6,200
Waste Management	2,700	2,850	2,700
Subtotal for Utilities	60,000	58,364	61,900
<b>Subtotal for Services &amp; Supplies</b>	<b>97,820</b>	<b>92,009</b>	<b>104,720</b>

## Continued...

<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>3,300</b>
<b>Worship Music &amp; Fine Art</b>	<b>8,565</b>	<b>9,452</b>	<b>9,315</b>
<b>Youth Ministry</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>725</b>
<b>Totals for Operating Expenses</b>	<b>831,286</b>	<b>801,878</b>	<b>859,109</b>
<b>Other Revenues - Interest Income</b>			
Totals for Interest Income	500	8,298	500
<b>Other Expenditures - Other Misc Expenses</b>			
Totals for Other Misc Expenses	652	391	652
<b>Other Financial Sources-Uses - Operating Transfers</b>			
Transfers In: From Trust for Radio Broadcast & Accounting	7,600	3,600	7,600
<b>Summary of Finances:</b>			
Income - Giving, Fees and Rental	823,846	803,568	851,662
Total Interest Income	500	8,298	500
Total Transfers In	7,600	3,600	7,600
Transfer Out		(13,190)	
Total Income	831,946	802,276	859,762
Operating Expenses	831,286	802,276	859,109
Misc Expenses	660	398	653
	831,946	801,878	859,762
Balance	-	-	(0)

### Budget Commentary:

The 2025 budget proposes a 3.3% increase in spending as compared to the 2024 approved budget. Why the increased spending:

- our property and liability insurance almost doubled in cost, from about \$15,000 per year to \$29,500.
- healthcare costs continue to rise - staff Blue Cross/Blue Shield increased 14%.
- we are adding a contract to help maintain our boiler and heating system, in hopes of increasing the life span of the system.
- our continued commitment to try to keep up with maintenance issues throughout the building.

At the same time the budget is a spending plan we hope makes it possible for faithful and engaging worship services, vibrant Christian Education for all ages, hands on opportunities to live out our faith and space to continue to dream about where God is calling us in mission and ministry.

The budget includes our commitment to share 10% of all offerings with our ministry partners. We do this because we understand that ministry is about working together with others.

In some ways this is a stretch budget. It will take all of us, continuing to share generously what God has first provided. It will take careful management and stewardship of all funds shared.

One last note, at the end of 2024 Council transferred \$12,000 to a long term reserve fund which has been established for future roof replacement costs. That transfer meant that we ended the year with a \$0 balance.

Thanks for your generosity. May God continue to bless you and Trinity Lutheran.



## **Radio Broadcast**

Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
Radio Broadcast on  
1270 Super Talk or the  
“Listen Live” link on  
[www.supertalk1270.com](http://www.supertalk1270.com).

# *Worship Schedule*

## **Sundays**

**8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship**  
**10:30 a.m. Blended Worship**

## **Wednesdays**

Dinner served @ 5:15 p.m. - 5:50 p.m.  
**6 p.m. Contemporary Worship**

We are happy to partner with  
Grace Lutheran in Driscoll.

Bulletins are posted on our website under “Bulletins.”

*Services held outside in the summer.*

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**701-223-3560**

502 N 4th St. Bismarck, ND 58501  
[www.trinitybismarck.com](http://www.trinitybismarck.com)



## **Video Worship Links**

Videos are posted on our  
Facebook page and on our  
YouTube page.

- Congregational updates posted as necessary.
- Trinity To-Go posted weekly by a pastor.
- Livestream available for worship services.

