

Worship Helpers

You can sign up to help in worship on the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall or online at: trinityhammond.org

Sunday, January 11

Greeter: Jean Peterson
 Ushers: Kerry & Marti Peterson
 Acolyte:
 Lector: Marti Peterson
 Slide show:
 Sound/Video:
 Teacher/Vol. (None needed)

Sunday, January 18

Greeter: Barb Schrank, Lois Koosmann
 Ushers: Kathy & Brody Nusbaum
 Acolyte: Beckett Millar
 Lector: Jody Hough
 Communion
 Slide show:
 Sound/Video:
 Teacher/Vol. Jess Millar

This Week at Trinity

Sunday, Jan. 11	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:15 a.m.	Fellowship, NO BOLT
Tuesday, Jan. 13	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Office staffed
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts meet here
Wednesday, Jan. 14	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Office staffed
	6:30 p.m.	Confirmation and BAM
Sunday, Jan. 18	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:15 a.m.	Fellowship, BOLT
	6:00 p.m.	Girl Scouts meet here

Giving

Thank you for supporting the ministry and mission of Trinity Lutheran Church!

1/4/26- Attendance: 40 Online: 7

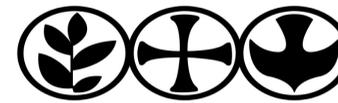
December Financial Report

Account Balances as of 12/31/2025
 General Fund: \$ 9,708.94
 Youth Org: \$ 4,810.56
 Memorial Fund: \$32,100.48
 WELCA: \$ 4,001.82

December Numbers
 Income: \$ 13,696.49
 Less Expenses \$ 14,355.47
 Income Less Exp: \$ - 658.98
 Outstanding Checks: \$ 5,322.90
 \$ - 5,332.90
 Less December 1 Bills \$ 2,993.50
 January 2 Balance \$ -8,985.38

Year-to-date Numbers
 Income: \$186,314.46
 Expenses: \$177,886.84
 Income Less Expenses : \$ 8,427.62
 Less Outstanding Checks
 and Jan. 1 Bills \$ 8,326.40
 \$ 101.22

As of 1/5 we have received \$17,317.72 toward the \$20,000 matching gift! That is over 86.6% in 5 months, good progress!



Trinity Lutheran Church

Contact us: Office 715-796-2788
 Pastor Julie Brenden: 715-553-3858
trinitylutheranhammond@gmail.com

Weekly Newsletter
 Sponsored by:

January 11, 2026

Kathy Jensen—Happy Birthday
 to all those having January birthdays!

Giving to Trinity made easy!
 Scan this QR code and you will be taken to Trinity's "Give" page. Scroll down for the yellow "donate" button. Thank you!



SCAN to GIVE to TRINITY

Trivia Challenge of 2026

Come and participate in the first Trivia Challenge of 2026 at Trinity after you pick up your coffee or snacks after worship on Sunday, January 11th. This Trivia Challenge is for all ages! A few months ago, the church council heard a suggestion that the congregation have some fun together. This Sunday there is an opening for that as BOLT is not scheduled until January 18.

Here is how it works. A team will sit around a table. The host will address a question to a table, if they answer correctly, they get the points. If the answer they give is wrong, the question goes to the next table. Tables will all take turns to answer questions. There will be six categories of questions and a final question where your table can wager the number of points they have earned in the round against other tables. The winning team has the most points at the end of the game. And remember, the points don't matter!!

One more thing, I need you to write the questions and answers and bring them for the Trivia Challenge. That's right - you participate by creating questions to be used for the Trivia Challenge, too! Please write questions to fit in these categories: Sports; Wisconsin Gems and Treasures (cherished things about the state); Geography; Animals of North America; Food & Drink Fun Facts; and Are You Smarter Than a Teacher?

Write each question you bring on a separate piece of paper, noting the category, the question, the answer, and your name. Six baskets will be out in the fellowship hall to place your questions as you come to church. Kids are encouraged to write out questions and answers. We will try to keep it to 30 minutes! You participate by supplying trivia and being part of a team. Oh, and when your question is asked, you will not be allowed to help with the answer.



Star Words for 2026

If you were unable to pick up a Star Word last Sunday, see Pastor Julie today. Star Words are still available. Watch the Spiritual Practice in the Weekly Newsletter for how to engage your Star Word or ask Pastor Julie. This week the focus is on how to pray.

The Bible in One Year

A resource out of Luther Seminary is www.enterthebible.org. This year they are creating a weekly podcast going through the bible, from Genesis to Revelation. The podcast drops on Wednesdays. Check it out, Pastor Julie has previewed week one and recommends it. You can find it [here](#). The episode on Genesis is about 40 minutes long. You may listen to the podcast or watch it in video form. Notice all the other resources on this website that can enrich your understanding of scripture!

\$20,000 Match Challenge

A member of Trinity, filled with gratitude, has given \$20,000 to the General Fund in August. They challenge members and friends of Trinity to give above and beyond their regular giving and match the \$20,000 by **February 26, 2026**. Gratitude is social. Let us with gratitude in our hearts sing praises to God and we meet this challenge. **The current total received is \$17,317.72!**

Jesus – the Humble and Holy Servant

Frederick Dale Bruner, in *Matthew: A Commentary* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004), says that he considers Jesus' first miracle to have occurred at his baptism. The miracle is that Jesus was humble. The divine Son of God humbles himself by allowing John to baptize him. This act of humility is an act of obedience to God and solidarity with all humankind. Jesus has no sins to be forgiven. However, for us, he goes down to the river of repentance with all the other sinners to be baptized. Jesus' baptism, his first adult act as recorded in Matthew's gospel, gives us a clear indication of how Jesus will act for his entire life. The Son of God will come down with us, on our level, identifying with our needs. His baptism, then, foreshadows how his life will end, on the cross. In his death, Jesus experiences the worst we could ever experience as mortal humans. But, because Jesus united with us in baptism, we are united with him in both his death and resurrection. The barriers that separate us from God, including the barriers of sinfulness, mortality, and death, are broken by Jesus' obedience to God, through his humility to come down to us in the depths of our humanity.

Let's Learn Spanish

Deacon Lidixe Montoya, director of the synod's Neighbor to Neighbor ministry, is offering another opportunity for learning Spanish. Last month's participants had a great time and are going to help lead the Neighbor to Neighbor worship service this weekend at Immanuel Lutheran in Eau Claire at 6 p.m. The two-day interactive language learning class will be offered Jan. 15 and 16, from 9:30-2:30 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Eau Claire. Cost is \$100 per participant. Please register at nswi.org or use the QR code on the poster in the narthex.

Synod Meeting Invitation

The Synod Creation Care team wants to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in Creation Care to attend their next online meeting on January 21 at 1 p.m. You can find the link at the synod website: nswi.org/events Or go to your Zoom app and use these codes: The Meeting ID is: 811 4473 3838 Passcode: 739625



Prayer Requests: Leo Bork (Sue's brother)
Prayers for the homebound and those in Care Centers:
Jerry Afdahl, Beth Monson

Prayer Point: – for living in times of conflict

God, our refuge and strength, you have bound us together in a common life. In all our conflicts, help us to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, to listen for your voice amid competing claims, and to work together with mutual restraint and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Evangelical Lutheran Worship p. 76)

Spiritual Practice: – How to Pray

The Hand Prayer Guide: Thumb (Closest to You) – Pray for those closest to your heart – family, friends, and loved ones; Pointer Finger (Points the Way) – Pray for those who teach, guide, and lead you in life and faith – parents, pastors, teachers, and mentors; Middle Finger (Highest Practice) – Pray giving thanks for all that God provides – people, creation, daily needs; Ring Finger (Weakest) – Pray for those in need, who are sad, sick, lonely, struggling; Pinky Finger (Smallest) – Pray for yourself, what you need, and for your relationship with God and Jesus.

To Submit a Prayer Request: Please fill out the blue prayer request sheet found in the sanctuary and place in the offering plate, or email: tlchwelca@gmail.com, or call the church office and leave a message at 715-796-2788.