

TrinityLutheranChurch
309 Taylor Ave.
Park Hills, MO 63601
(573) 431-3442



Those Serving our Congregation in January, 2023

Altar Guild

Toni Pepper &
Family

Ushers

Duane Giesselmann
Gary Oliver

Elder on Duty

Mike Montgomery

Trustee on Duty

Norman Feltmann

Acolytes

T.J. Jerrell

Katarina Oliver

Aden Montgomery

Anderson Montgomery

Grace Troup

Avery Troup

Caleb Troup

Mackinzie Moore

Sunday

1-1-2023

Counting Team

Terri Schmitt

Charlotte Dole & Jan Faskell

1-8-2023

Kathy Huchison

Donna Mullins

1-15-2023

Del Weinhold

Donita Tressner & Jan Schmidt

1-22-2023

Stan & Sue Cook

1-29-2023

Charlotte Dole

Lois Poth

Liturgical Color

White

White

Green

Green

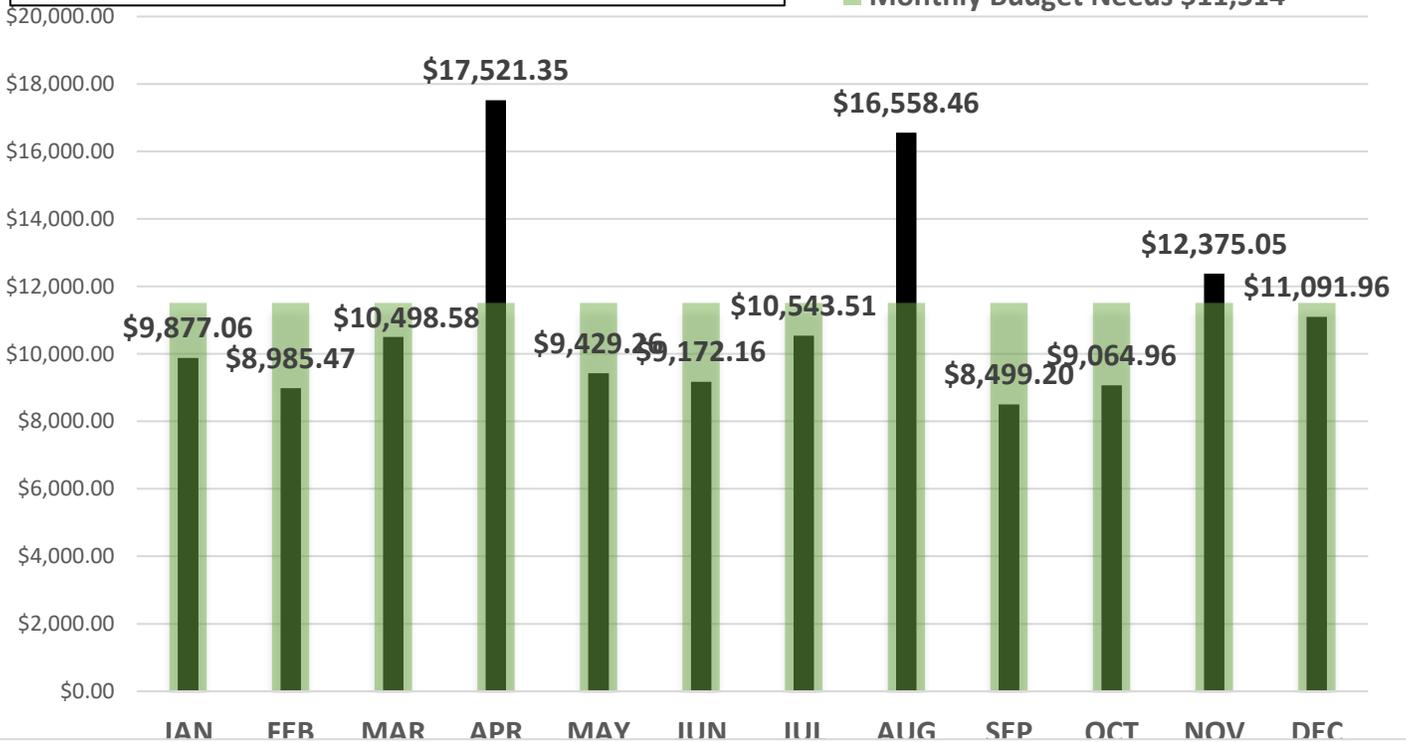
Green

OUR CHURCH'S

FINANCIAL
 Summary

2022 Monthly Offering Report Jan 1-Dec 30, 2022

■ Total Monthly Offerings
 ■ Monthly Budget Needs \$11,514



2022 Overall Summary



Trinity Lutheran Church Giving	2022 totals
Loose Plate Offerings	\$5864.42
Member Offerings-Envelope & E-giving	\$123,728.25
Special Offering for Helping Hands	\$1022
Special Offerings for Radio Ministry	\$635
Special Offering for Sunday School & Bible Study	\$1,620.35
Special Offering- St. Paul Lutheran High School	\$435
Anonymous Groups Envelope Offerings	\$312
Total	\$133,617.02
Cumulative "Budget Needs Met?"	-\$4546.98

Please direct any questions you may have to Terri Schmitt, Financial Chairperson

Trinity Times

January, 2023

Mission Statement

To grow in faith in the Triune God, we teach and study God's Word, receive the Sacraments and serve as a joyful witness to believers and unbelievers



Greetings!

As we have entered into the season of Epiphany, let's take this time to briefly examine what this season is all about. "Epiphany" means "to shine light upon." And in Jesus, God reveals who He is. Let's just look at a few examples"

Matt. 2:1-2

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

Jesus is the one worshipped by magi. Gentiles are brought into the fold. There may be times when we doubt our worthiness to be in the fold of Jesus. And we are correct to acknowledge that our sin should keep us from God. But all people who believe are grafted into God's chosen people. Even the most

unworthy. Being in God's chosen people was *never* about bloodline anyway. It was always about those who trust the promises of God. And God, in bringing these magi to Jesus, gives another reminder that the Good News of God's love and forgiveness in his Savior is for *all* who would believe.

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Jesus is the Son of God. We know who his earthly parents are. But now, God makes a bold statement of who his real Father is... and just what the qualifications of this Savior are. We each deserve death for our *own* sins. We certainly could not die for *another*... we've got our own sins to pay for. When this Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world dies on our behalf, the sacrifice... is a sacrifice of God himself. God the Son has come to offer himself.

John 2:7-10

⁷ Jesus said to the servants, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. ⁸ And he said to them, “Now draw some out and take it to the master of the feast.” So they took it. ⁹ When the master of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom ¹⁰ and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.”

Jesus is the Lord of Creation. Here at a wedding, a fairly common occurrence, Jesus does something *most* uncommon: Changing of water into wine. The water, the molecules, the atoms themselves all change at the direction of the one who put them all together in the first place. He wills the water to become wine... and it can do nothing else *but* what the Lord of Creation wishes.

Luke 4:17-21

¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Jesus is the keeper of promises. God has been promising a Savior from the beginning. Jesus himself is now claiming to be that long-awaited promised one.

Luke 4:33-36

³³ And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, ³⁴ “Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” ³⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. ³⁶ And they were all

amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!”

Jesus is the King over all Creatures. Even the rebellious demons obey his every word. There is nothing else for them to do when the Word of God become flesh speaks to them. When the Word of God, who was present at the creation of the world... when the original creator even of *these* now-rebellious creatures... commands them. They must obey his authority. And so he proves that no one can snatch us out of his hand.

Luke 9:29-31

²⁹ And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. ³⁰ And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, ³¹ who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

Jesus is the one who fulfills the Law and the Prophets. Even when mankind couldn't keep the Law of the Lord. Indeed, when humans were doing nothing *but* rebelling against God... in selfishness *or* in fear... God himself would keep these commandments on our behalf. He fulfills the obligations of mankind... and he fulfills the promises of God.

The story of Epiphany is how God Himself *shows up* in love... and how His love moves Him to save us... so that we would be with Him forever. Amen.

Pastor Jeremy May



Our Mighty Mites

**December \$101.49 – Bonne Terre Food Bank
January – Missouri District**

Our January service project is to provide St. Paul Lutheran High School with toilet paper! At least 80 rolls! Help from Trinity members is always appreciated.

The LWML January meeting is scheduled for Sunday the 15th after worship services. At this time, we will also collect Mission Sock money to provide for the four missionaries we support who faithfully serve the Lord: The Beckendorfs, Lutheran Bible Translators in Botswana; Gary and Stephanie Schulte in West Africa; Carol Halter in China; Delwyn and Lenita Campbell in Gary, IN.

Thanks,
Charlotte

“Serve the Lord with Gladness”
Ps. 100:2



Bethany Caruthers	1-2
Darren Martin	1-3
Luke (Schmitt) Marshall	1-5
James Schmidt	1-6
Elizabeth Bess	1-10
Ava Montgomery	1-12
Darren Ellis	1-13
Pastor David Schmitt	1-13
Pastor Jeremy May	1-14
Robert Gibson	1-15
Michael Duncan	1-15
Terri Schmitt	1-16
Sue Cook	1-19
Bryanna Jones	1-20
Dawn Spell	1-22
Joshawa McSpadden	1-23
Jan Streckfuss	1-24
David Behrens	1-25

Symantha McSpadden	1-26
Matthew Froidl	1-28
Bonnie Ratcliff	1-28
Tim Troup	1-29
Jovie (Schmitt) Marshall	1-29
Carrie Chambliss	1-30
Carl Johnson	1-31
Erin Gibson	1-31
Thomas Wahlers	1-31
Lana Gibson	1-31



James and Karen Poth
1-3

Matthew and Debbie Sopko
1-8

Michael and Tennille Montgomery
1-19



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Your Past Does Not Define Your Future

New Year's is a celebration of the past and the future. We take stock of the past with thanksgiving and sometimes even relief (that it's over), and we look to the future in hope and anticipation, and perhaps with some worry, for what it holds.

The point is that New Year's celebrations remind us of who we are as opposed to who we would like to be, what we have done in comparison to what we want to do. It reminds us of our accomplishments, but mostly it reminds us of our failures. What we've lost. Who we've lost.

New Year's is our own version of Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*. And we all play Scrooge. We are visited by the ghosts of our pasts, presents and futures.

St. Paul writes: "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. As it is written, 'He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.' He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for all your generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God" (2 Cor. 9:6–15).

St. Paul tells us that the Lord will both supply and increase what we need to give to the church for its work in the world. He tells us that this work God does in us will enrich and bless us in every way, and through this, will produce thanksgiving to God. With this in mind, here is some practical advice to help you take stock of your giving in years past and change what needs to be adjusted, improved, or done away with altogether.

First, attend the Divine Service to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. If you've not been faithful in attending worship to hear the preaching of God's Word, to receive forgiveness and feast on the rich food of our Lord's body and

blood for the eternal benefit of your body and soul, then repent and come to receive the gifts God freely gives. God doesn't want your money. He wants you — all of you (Matt. 22:20–22).

Second, pray for the Lord's help. Your right as a Christian is to speak with your Father, the King of all creation, freely through His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. Go to the throne of grace and ask for strength and wisdom to follow His bidding faithfully (John 15:1–16).

Third, consider what the church is and what the church does. The church is a place of mercy. It inhales the mercy of the Father by the death, resurrection and ascension of His Son through the preaching of the Gospel and the Sacraments. It exhales this mercy in love toward neighbors. You are a member of the church, of God's family. Thus, you are not only a recipient of God's mercy, but a bearer of that mercy for the life of the world. You spread that mercy through the generous giving of your income to support the work of the church in the world, as the Israelites did in the Old Testament (Lev. 27:1–34).

Fourth, take stock of your current giving in light of the New Testament's teaching on supporting the work of the church. Are you giving of your first fruits, taking it out of your paycheck first, or does God get what's left over? Are you giving voluntarily and cheerfully? Are you giving proportionally and generously? The Old Testament required a tithe, or ten percent. The New Testament gives freedom to be generous, to give more for the Church's work. Are you relying on God's promise to provide and increase what you need to do His work? If your answer is no to any of these, repent. If God gave you His only Son, will He not provide for you all things, even physical things? Trust Him, His Word, and heed it.

So, don't let your past define your future. Rather, commit for the year a generous proportion of your

income, which is God’s gift to you for this body and life.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry:
lcms.org/stewardship



December Church Statistics

Date	Worship	Bible Study
12-4-2022	51	20
12-4-2022 Advent	33	--
12-11-2022	67	12
12-11-2022 Advent	23	21
12-18-2022	47	17
12-18-2022 Advent	20	--
12-24-2022	50	--
12-25-2022	44	??

Financial Report

See the Financial Report page.



Bible Quiz

Complete this proverb: “Like snow in _____ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool.”

- A. springtime
- B. summer
- C. seedtime
- D. autumn

Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.)

Bible Quiz

Where did the child Jesus and his parents flee for safety?

- A. Ethiopia
- B. Syria
- C. Rome
- D. Egypt

Answer: D (See Matthew 2:13.)

Bible Quiz

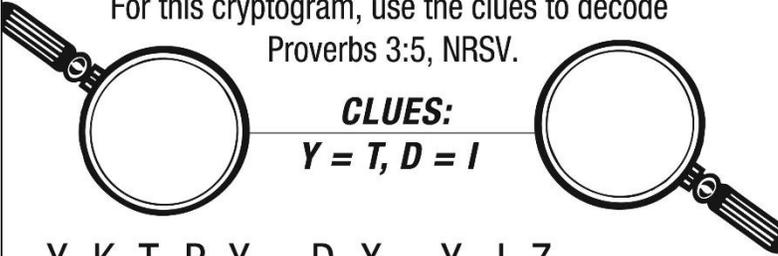
Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: “In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach.” What “former book” did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John

Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4.)

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode
Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.



CLUES:
Y = T, D = I

Y K T P Y D X Y J Z

 V Q K R F D Y J O V V

 C Q T K J Z O K Y, O X R

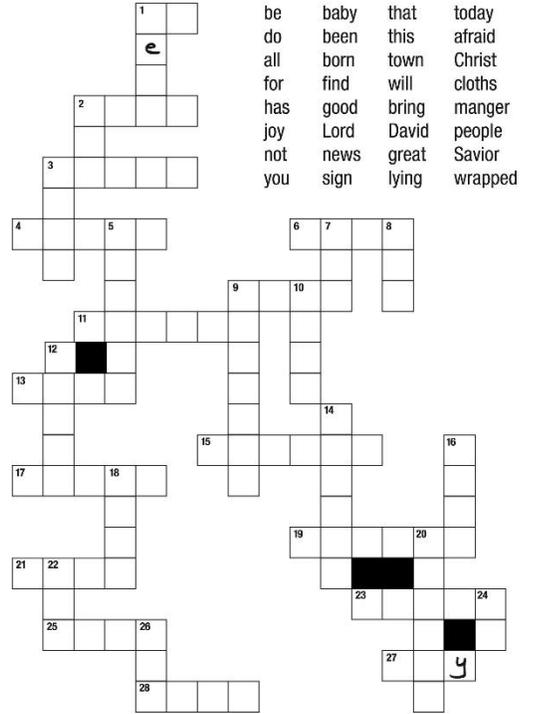
 R Q X Q Y K Z V C Q X

 C Q T K Q F X D X P D L J Y.

Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV

Puzzle!

The word list contains the angel's Christmas message to the shepherds. Fit those words into the crossword squares. Then write them on the correct lines below to complete Luke 2:10-11, NIV.



- be baby that today
- do been this afraid
- all born town Christ
- for find will cloths
- has good bring manger
- joy Lord David people
- not news great Savior
- you sign lying wrapped

" _____ I _____ the _____ of _____ in the _____ of _____ a _____ to _____; he is _____ the _____." Luke 2:10-11, NIV

Answer: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11, NIV.

Puzzle!

Unscramble the Christmas-themed words below, writing each extra letter on the blank to the right. Then place those extra letters in the correct spots below to discover what we receive at Christmas.



1. TGLBEHHEME _____
2. NEAGLO _____
3. NRMEDAG _____
4. ODEKSNY _____
5. AMGYR _____
6. OHESJIP _____
7. EFJUSS _____
8. ITEENMSW _____
9. SPHDSREEO _____
10. EMCFAL _____
11. TLSRA _____
12. CSSNUEO _____
13. HEVSPPE _____
14. ENIN _____

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____
 9 _____ 10 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____ 13 _____ 14 _____

Answers: Bethlehem (G), angel (O), manger (D), donkey (S), Mary (G), Joseph (I), Jesus (F), wise men (T), shepherds (O), camel (F), star (L), census (O), sheep (V), inn (E); God's gift of love

Color the page and give to a friend or give to a loved one.

