



THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

February 2026

*The Holy Trinity Herald is the official monthly publication
of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.holytrinitymarshall.com + (608) 655-4246

Pastor Lisa Nelson
605 Madison St. (PO Box 52)
Marshall, Wisconsin 53559

Staff email: htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com

Office manager: Karen Browne

Tue-Wed-Thur 10:00am – 2:00pm & 2nd Tues of
the month hours are 8:30-12:30

Pastor office hours: Tu, 11:00am-2:00pm, Wed, 5:15pm-6:15pm

nelsonkosky@gmail.com

FROM PASTOR LISA

Lent begins on February 18th at 7 p.m. with Ash Wednesday

(Note: The time is different than the normal Wednesday worship.)

Lent begins in a quiet way—with ashes that remind us that we are human.

“Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” These words are not meant to frighten.

Instead, they tell the truth about who we are: Fragile, finite, and deeply loved by God.

You may have heard Lent described as a time to “give something up.” That can be meaningful, but it’s only part of the picture. Lent can also be a time to take something on: More prayer, more honesty, more compassion, more awareness of our neighbors’ needs. The question isn’t “What should I sacrifice?” but “What might help me make space for God in my life?”

Lent is also something we do together. We pray together. We worship together. We show up for one another in the midst of ordinary moments, like doctor’s appointments, school events, and kitchen tables. In Lent, we remember that faith is never a solo project.

As we move through this season, I hope that Lent feels meaningful to you. And hopeful. Because Lent always points beyond itself—toward Easter, toward the resurrection, toward the promise that death and brokenness never get the last word.

Wherever you find yourself as Lent begins—eager, weary, curious, or unsure—know this: God is not waiting for you to get it right. God promises to stick with you on the journey.

REMINDER:

If you need to reach Pastor Lisa, email her at nelsonkosky@gmail.com. The pastor@holytrinity-marshall.com email is no longer checked on a regular basis. Thank you.

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT *Submitted by Candy Lauby*

Hi everyone – this last month has been eventful. As most of you know, 2 of our furnaces went out and fortunately we have enough funds to cover the replacement of them. There are 3 other original furnaces and 2 of the 3 A/C units are original. Over the course of 2026 we will hold a few fundraising activities to help replenish the building maintenance fund knowing at some point we will have to address the remaining HVAC equipment.

We had a wonderful turnout for our Christmas service. It feels so magical singing the Christmas hymns and lighting our candles for our final song. It was suggested that we consider using battery operated candles to help reduce the amount of wax that can end up on the floors and seats. Council is looking into getting a few battery candles which can be used by children for future Christmas services. Hopefully this will reduce or eliminate wax cleanup.

Please consider volunteering to be an usher. It's a nice opportunity to greet your fellow members as they come into worship. Readers are also needed from time to time. We appreciate any time and talent you can share with Holy Trinity. Please see any Council Member or Pastor Lisa if you have interest and we can get more information to you.

I ask if you could please take a moment to thank Gary Waalkens and Carol Woldt next time you see them. Their 3-year term has ended for council, and we truly appreciate their time, ideas and dedication to the church.

Continued thanks to all our staff, Pastor Lisa, Karen Browne, Carol Johnson-Hohol, Larry Legro and Dave Kiersten. Also, a big thank you to all of the volunteers with regards to Council Members, WELCA, Sunday school, 2nd Harvest, readers and ushers. All of you make our church a better place. 2026 will be a great year!!!

DECEMBER COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS *Submitted by Carolyn Madaus*

Karen Browne was the only one missing from the meeting. Minutes for November were approved.

The Treasures report was approved

Candy and Carol met with Owen for the 2026 budget.

Candy attended the Scouts meeting and they were making cookies.

Pastor received a wish list for the Care net Pregnancy Center in Marshall.

Jean Juedes is at Capital Lakes for Rehab.

Pastor had the funeral for Barb Parpart. Pastor attended the WELCA Christmas Lunch. Kids did the Christmas Program.

Kevin Ramming with the Scouts was at this Council meeting. He stated they have one Co-ed Charter and asked Council to only allow one Co-ed Group. Transitioning all females to the co-ed group called Scouting America. They will use the guidelines as before just one unit. The Boys Scouts renew their Charter at the end of the year. Kevin will give council a copy of their Insurance Certificate. Motion was made and passed so that all scouting, boys, and girls, can merge. Kevin said the older scouts can help clean and maintain the church. May want to install a lock on the garage. The scouts would like a to do list from us.

Chairs are needed and Owen said a memorial was received for \$300 from Pastor Buck and we can use that money to buy some chairs.

Annual meeting needs to be in the Bulletin. Owen and Kathy Deneen will work together to make her a Checkbook signer.

Use Gift Cards that we have for bingo prizes and for local needs. Karen will track supplies on a spreadsheet. Pastor mention having items members can pick and buy and then wrap and bring in the item.

Candy mentioned sending a mailer to the community. Weather related to church issues, check social media.

2025-2026 CHURCH COUNCIL

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Lisa Nelson, Pastor | 608-655-4246 nelsonkosky@gmail.com (church office) |
| Candy Lauby, President* | 608-235-3807 candyann258@gmail.com |
| Matt Stensven, Vice President* | 608-219-6123 mattstensven@gmail.com |
| Carolyn Madaus | 608-444-1220 zarolena@gmail.com |
| Gary Waalkens | 608-655-4989 gwaalkkens1952@yahoo.com |
| Kathy Schluter | 608-658-1796 schluterka49@hotmail.com |
| Kathy Deneen, Secretary* | 608-279-0588 kldeneen@gmail.com |
| Karen Browne | 608-212-6963 kbrowne_5@yahoo.com |
| Cindy Wortuba | 608-358-7490 cynw81@hotmail.com |
| Student Representative | VACANT |

We are still in need of a Council youth representative. All confirmed members up to age 30 are eligible. Please contact Candy Lauby if you would like to be the voice for youth in our church.

Owen Raisbeck, Treasurer: 608-225-3149 owenraisbeck@yahoo.com

Laurine Martin, Financial Secretary: 608-712-4069 aurinemartinbk1010@gmail.com

FLOWERS AROUND THE ALTAR AT CHRISTMAS

The poinsettias around the altar

Carol Johnson-Hohol & Larry Legro in memory of Wade Hohol
Cheryl & Dave Kiersten in memory of Michael Kiersten
Osterlie Family in memory of Wayne Osterlie & John Ray Osterlie
Linda Baldrige in memory of Chuck Baldrige
Darlene & Owen Raisbeck in memory of Ernie & Lucy Wirth, and
Shelby & Doris Raisbeck
Karen Browne in memory of Mel & Grace Kammers and
Ross & Margaret Browne

SUNDAY SCHOOL Submitted by Susy Pawl

This month in Sunday School we will be continuing the celebration of Jesus' birth with lessons from the New Testament. Sunday School in February will be on Sunday, Feb 8th during service.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS submitted by Gary Waalkens

First communion classes will be February 4, 11, 18, and 25 from 5pm to 6pm. If you have a child or children in the fifth grade or higher, please let me or the office know. The course is four weeks long. First communion service will be March 1. Please have your children signed up by January 23 so we can have time to get enough materials for them.

EVENT PLANNING *Submitted by Linda Baldrige*

The Event Planning Committee will meet Thurs, February 12 at 5:00 PM at the church. Please join our planning committee, all are welcome. We need more Holy Trinity members to be involved. Bring your ideas and your energy.

First on the agenda for this meeting is a discussion of the Annual Pancake Breakfast that will happen after worship on Palm Sunday, March 29. The second item of business will be the selection of the date for our spring Spaghetti Dinner Drive-thru.

Our task. Bring our church members and friends together to enjoy special events that will benefit our church and our community.

DECENBER FINANCIALS

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Income received in Dec | \$6,651.50 |
| Obligations paid in Dec | \$7,181.15 |
| Balance for Dec | -\$529.65 |
| BALANCE ON HAND | \$9,667.54 |

SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY Second Harvest Food Bank has taken over operation of the Marshall mobile food bank. They have changed the food bank dates to the **SECOND MONDAY** of each month at 3:30 pm in the high school parking lot. **If you wonder if there is a cancellation or not, go to Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, Find Food, Mobile Pantry Schedule.** The next few distribution dates are:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Monday-February 9 | 3:30 pm | high school parking lot |
| Monday-March 9 | 3:30 pm | high school parking lot |
| Monday-April 13 | 3:30 pm | high school parking lot |

RENTALS OF FELLOWSHIP HALL The fellowship hall is available to rent. The price for active members is a one-time event fee of \$25.00. The fee for all others is **\$50.00 per hour**. If you are thinking you may be interested in renting the hall, please contact the church office by calling 608-655-4246 or sending an email to htcstaff@holyltrinity-marshall.com, to check on scheduling and details. **REMINDER: No beer, wine, or alcohol of any kind is allowed in the building or anywhere on the church property.**

SIMPLY GIVING

The program was created by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and is operated by Vanco Services, LLC. Simply Giving is an easy-to-use and trusted platform for you to give money online through electronic giving. This program allows you to set up automatic, monthly withdrawals from your bank account. You can get the form from the church office, fill it out, and return it to the office.

PLANNED GIVING TO HOLY TRINITY

1. One way to ensure a bright future for our church is to make a planned gift that names HOLY TRINITY **in your will**. A bequest is a meaningful way to support the church's ministry without

affecting your cash flow during your lifetime. Your attorney can include it when you prepare or revise your will, or you can add a codicil at any time.

2. Gifts that do not restrict their use (**unrestricted gifts**), allow Holy Trinity to use these resources where they are most needed.
3. **Restricted gifts** are monies designated for a specific purpose that advances our mission, such as support to a specific initiative or program.
4. Give to the church's **Endowment Fund**. You may now use our online giving, through holyltrinitymarshall.com to make a gift directly to our Endowment Fund. At a time when secular non-profits are realizing the need to build their endowments, churches are still asking for operating support only. An **endowment gift** helps move us into a more sustainable position. (Dan Timpel has joined the Endowment Committee, replacing Jack Erb. If anyone has questions or wants to make a donation to this fund or the Memorial Fund, they should contact Dan Timpel, Todd Madaus, or Owen Raisbeck.)
5. You could also choose to designate **a portion of the proceeds of your IRA to Holy Trinity** each year. We are grateful to members who have chosen this option as a way to make a sizeable annual gift.
6. Naming Holy Trinity **as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy** can convey assets in larger amounts without disrupting your current cash flow.

CHURCH NEWS

Worship every Sunday at 8:30

Worship every Wednesday at 6:30/Catechism at 6:00

First Communion Class is on Wednesday Feb 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th 5:00-6:00

M/W Food Pantry Feb 4th 12:00-1:00

Sunday School at 8:30 following Children's message Feb 8th

Bake Sale Feb 8th right after church

Second Harvest (HS parking lot) Feb 9th at 3:30

WELCA Feb 10th at 12:30/Council meets at 6:00

Event Planning Feb 12th at 5:00

Quilt Tying Feb 17th at 12:30

Ash Wednesday Feb 18th at 7:00

Quilting Day Feb 21st 9:00 – 3:00

Ash Wednesday is February 18th at 7:00

HEADS UP! WAY UP!!!

If you wish to submit an announcement for a bulletin, you **MUST** submit it to the office (htcstaff@holyltrinity-marshall.com) by the Wednesday prior, as bulletins are printed on Thursdays.

For articles to be included in the newsletter for the following month, they MUST be received in the office by the 22nd or they will not be included! Waiting for late articles puts more stress on office staff and newsletter helpers. Getting your newsletter information in on time is a courtesy to others involved in the process. Your cooperation is needed and appreciated.

Quilts for LWR As quilt-making continues here at Holy Trinity, we always have an ongoing need for the supplies that go into making the quilts. Thank you to all our members and friends who keep an eye out for fabric that family members are disposing of and fabric that is available at garage sales and estate sales. We continue to request new bed sheets, used bed sheets, tablecloths, large pieces of fabric, etc. Even well-worn sheets are useful as the middle layer of a quilt. We welcome anyone who wants to get involved in making quilts either by meeting at church, by sewing at home or by cutting fabric squares at home.

One of our quilt groups meets at church 12:30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of each month to sort donations, prepare donations for use in a quilt, and tie the layers of a quilt together. Our other quilt group comes to church on the 3rd Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 am. Sewing machines will be provided.

Please join in various quilt tasks on our quilt days for whatever amount of time you have to contribute. We are grateful for all the support we receive from our Holy Trinity family that allows us to donate quilts to the Lutheran World Relief mission of providing quilts to people in need in the US and around the world. **Please continue to provide new fabric that can be cut into squares for making quilts. It's then possible for someone to take the next step and cut 11-inch squares of fabric and donate them. **

ELCA MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS. Per Constitution and bylaws of the ELCA, a person must give a monetary gift and receive Holy Communion at least once every calendar year to be a member. Holy Trinity is required to keep records of both giving and communion. (If you put cash in the collection plate, which is not a contribution of record. We need to know if your contribution came from you. There are extra contribution envelopes on the Welcome Desk in case you need one.) Please fill out a communion card at least once a year and on the day that you commune. That way we can make a record of it. Place your last name and first name of each person taking Communion on the card along with the date. You may place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. You may also request a visit from the Pastor on this card.

Electronic newsletter to save paper, you may prefer to receive this newsletter electronically if you do not already. Just e-mail htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com and let us know that.

Our website, holytrinitymarshall.com, is regularly updated. With all the latest news and information that you might need. And share the link to our online services with family and friends!



Our thanks and gratitude to those who continue to give so much for the sake of this body of Christ such as our organists, office manager, treasurer, financial contribution secretary, custodian, ushers, readers, communion assistants, WELCA, Altar Guild, those who lead Sunday School, provide catechism instruction and First Communion instruction, and worship leaders. Thank you also, goes out to those who serve on our Church Council and the Event Planning Committee. Thank you to our quilters,

volunteers who continue to work the Second Harvest mobile food bank, and volunteers on the Wednesday noon shift the first of each month at the Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry, as well as those who helped at the Food Pantry during the month of April. Thank you to those who care for our grounds and parking lot. We also appreciate the helpers who assemble the newsletter for mailing, and everyone so willingly donate time and materials to maintain the church. Apologies if anyone was missed. Thank you all.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Marshall-Waterloo Food Pantry Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry is on the lower level at 117 E. Madison Street (Hwy. 19) in Waterloo. (Please use the door in the alley.) People may visit the food pantry once each month. If you or someone you know needs help, make use of this resource. The hours are Wednesdays from noon-1:00 pm and again Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm. Saturday hours are from 9:00-10:00 am. Thank you to everyone who volunteered in October.

Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry is Monday –Dec 8th at 3:30 in the HS parking lot.

Did you know that Staples will take several electronic items in-store for recycling? Call your local Staples store with questions or check their website.

Foodshare Helpline 877-366-3635 If you are in need, or know someone who is, contact this agency to see if they can help.

Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Program at 1-866-432-8947 or 608-267-8601 is available if you need help with your utility bills. Give them a call to find out if you qualify.