

# Trinity Lutheran Church

## Monroeville, Ohio

**"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11**

### Important Reminders!

**Red Cross Blood drive** at TLC, is January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please log onto [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org), to schedule your appointment to give blood.

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
January 4<sup>th</sup>

**Sewing Group** - Wednesday  
January 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

**Christian Ed Mtg** - January 7<sup>th</sup>  
@ 5:30pm

**Council Meeting** - Wednesday  
January 14<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

**Bible Study @ TLC**  
Thursdays @ 4:30pm

**Bible Study @ Arter's - Norwalk**  
Monday's @ 4pm

**Choir Practice**  
Wednesday's @ 6:30pm

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### Pastor's Letter

#### *Thank You*

This new calendar year begins with my gratitude.

Thank you...

...Trinity Lutheran Church for you very generous Christmas gift. It certainly made traveling back east to visit family much easier.

...TLC for extra help and flexibility to let me honor and celebrate the life of my mother after Christ took her home to be with him forever.

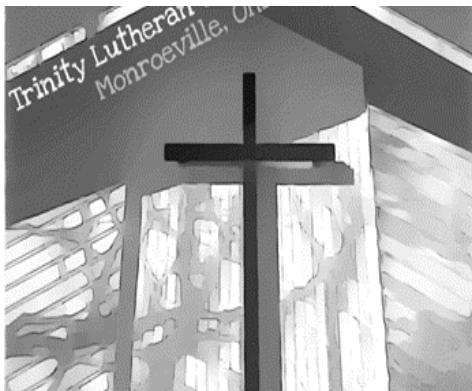
...active members of our congregation for delivering the gospel so well in word and deed to all who would hear it, whether it's the next generation or the one that still does understand why Jesus is still coming to them.

...leaders of committees, teams and task forces for diligently pursuing the tasks set before you, asking for God's guidance to get those tasks done gracefully, and for seeing your given work through to its end.

...faithful friends and worshipers who make up our community of faith in a way that reminds us we are never alone in Christ.

...leaders of our mission district, mission region and denomination for putting yourselves in front of all to see how God can call you to lead his saints triumphant in the war against evil, complacency, apathy, false doctrine, waffling spiritually, and all the ways of sin that draw us from God.

...those in our faith community who welcome others into their

**Council****President:** Ken Underwood**Vice President:** Rob Ludwig**Treasurer:** Sharon Heyman**Secretary:** Jeff Little**Christian Ed:** Missy Kluding**Youth:** Jennifer Miller**Parish Life:** Cindy Schuller**Worship/GIFTS Team:****Misson Team:** Lorie Pierce**Property Team:** Dan Smith,

Ken Underwood,

Gary Underwood

**Staff (volunteer & paid)****Volunteer Coordinator & Office Assistant:** Tonia Smith**MYC Director:** Jenn Miller & Tonia Smith**Organist:** Andrew Morfier**Organist:** Julie Roeder**Custodian:** Jenn Miller**Pastor:** Rev. Dan Pennington

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Email: [dan@pastorpennington.org](mailto:dan@pastorpennington.org)*Trinity Lutheran Church**121 Broad Street**PO Box 497**Monroeville, OH 44847**419-465-2480**Facebook Page: Trinity Lutheran Church, Monroeville, Ohio**Website: [tlcmonroeville.com](http://tlcmonroeville.com)*

view of how God works through us to accomplish his will among us, even inviting us to be a part of your mission in Christ.

...those in our congregation who are not satisfied with how things went this past year, no matter how well they went, and want to do those same things better this year or do totally different things in order to accomplish our mission Christ gave us to do

...those among us who truly understand accompaniment ministry and engage it with those in our community who most need it.

...Almighty and Ever-present God, our most precious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and both comforting and motivating Holy Spirit for making it all worthwhile. We cling to life with you now and forever.

Grace and peace, always,

**TLC Prayer List****Keep the following in your continued prayers**

Natalee Newland\*, Olivia\*, Leslie Warnke\*, Travis Seip\*, Amy\*, Wesley Newland\*, Ila\*, John Clayton, Pr. Wayne, Lonnie & Alice Laser, Jerry Strong, Bobby Martin, Sue Underwood, Eric, Sue Hall, Megan, Jason Funk, Gary Underwood, Mike Smith, Bobby Jaycox, Joann Pratt, Trace & his Dad.

*Military Personnel:* Anna Little, Owen Roeder, Jeff Schuller, Nick Tommas, Nate Tommas.

# Church Council Updates

## Annual Meeting Minutes December 7, 2025

**Present:** Quorum of 42 voting members

**Meeting:**

Ken introduced the ballot and issues we would be voting on to the congregation and informed them that "There is a 2.5% increase across the board."

He asked if there was any discussion. There was a question about the 2nd budget line dealing with pay for the music accompanist. He was not sure why there was a 2nd line for that item. No other council members knew why there was a 2nd line for that item.

Ken called for a vote.

TLC Constitutional amendments were approved unanimously.

NALC Constitutional amendments were approved unanimously.

All current council members were reelected.

The budget passed with 36 Yes votes, 4 No votes, and 2 abstentions.

While ballots were being counted Ken asked for a vote to approve minutes from the 3 most recent congregational meetings. Motion passed.

Motion to Adjourn the meeting made by Tonia, seconded by Cindy, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Little, TLC Council Secretary

## Council Meeting Minutes December 10, 2025

**Present:** Ken Underwood, Rob Ludwig, Jeff Little, Missy Kluding, Dan Smith, Cindy Schuller, Gary Underwood, Pastor Dan (participated by phone for part of the meeting)

**Absent:** Jennifer Miller, Lorie Pierce

**Devotions & Prayer:**

Jeff opened with prayer

**New Business:**

Ken brought up his concern that the weather forecast for Sunday, during the scheduled Journey to Bethlehem, was extremely cold and windy. Council discussed the option of having fewer scenes and presenting it indoors. We decided that with only a few days to plan and make changes, it would be better to cancel the event this year.

We discussed that maybe in the future we could have a contingency plan to hold it indoors. We also discussed gathering a small team to assist Lori Griffith with planning in the future, with the team put together with plenty of time to repair or replace sets and props.

**Treasurer's Report and Minutes:**

Minutes from regular and special council meetings were reviewed and accepted. Rob moved to accept, Gary 2nd, motion passed.

Treasurer's report and minutes reviewed and accepted with the note that the furnace replacement has not been accounted for in any budget spending line. Missy moved to accept, Lorie 2nd, motion passed.

**New Business:**

1. Pastor Dan joined the meeting by phone call. He noted that committee reports for our annual report need to be prepared.

Property - Gary

Christian Ed - Missy

Missions - Lorie

Parish Life - Cindy

Worship - Pastor or his designate

Gifts - Pastor or his designate

Sewing ladies - unassigned

Journey to Bethlehem - Lori Griffith

2. Council had a very short discussion about how we would help the pastor and staff annually to evaluate their calling or employment. We determined that this process may take some time to plan and that we should have this planning session at a future meeting.

3. Ken informed us that he had misspoken at the Congregational budget meeting when he stated the budget included 2.5% across the board increases. Those increases came only in the areas related to Pastor Dan's pay. He was concerned that Tonia and Jen did not get pay raises and asked what should be done about that. Pastor Dan commented that he was very happy with the work that Tonia and Jen both do. Jeff brought up that we just approved our annual budget and the time to discuss raises was when our budget committee meets to establish the budget each year. He also noted that there was another concern that came to light during the budget meeting regarding a 2nd budget line for "worship music accompanists." We reviewed the budget voted on and the draft and found that there was a typo. The budget line should have read "worship."

4. Jeff also discussed that he would be bringing a calendar to future meetings to start filling in dates when teams needed to get together to complete their work prior to any deadlines.

**Closing:**

Rob moved to adjourn, 2nd by Jeff. Closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Jeff Little - Secretary



Dear Trinity Lutheran,  
 Thank you so very much  
 for your donation to our little  
 library. We are so blessed to  
 have such a supportive community.  
 Happiest Holidays to you all!  
 Jozi Heckef  
 Director, Monroeville Library

# TLC Happenings



January: Huron County Humane Society - \$150.65  
 February: MOPC Feeding Program - \$177.36  
 March: Lexi Hare Medical Bills - \$159.41  
 April: Community Service Day - \$116.02  
 May: MOCP Scholarships - \$179.71  
 June: The Love Bus - \$108.65  
 July: The Love Bus - \$130.35  
 August: Humane Society - 154.05  
     In Memory of Charlene Henney  
 September: NALC Disaster Response - \$112  
 October : Lydia Scheid - \$202.25  
 November: Monroeville Library - \$92  
 December: Malawi Students - \$86.54

## Prayer Board GIRLS NIGHT

Come join us to create your own prayer board to grow in relationship with God.

When: Friday, January 23rd  
6 pm to 9 pm

Bring your own snacks & wear comfy clothes!

**Everything you need to make the prayer board will be provided!**

Where: 121 W Broad St, Monroeville, OH 44847



Mondays @ 4pm - Arter's in Norwalk  
 Thursdays @ 4:30pm - Trinity Lutheran Church



Thank you to all those who bought gifts this year!

*Christmas in the Barn.....This year the Nuhfer Family hosted a 10pm Christmas Eve Service in their barn. Maybe a new tradition in the works??*



*We love all the children during children's time.*

*Just a little message left written in the snow*

## Sunday School Giving

*January: Coffee Cups w/ items for the elderly  
February: Making New Bookmarks for church bibles*

*Bring in items or money that will be used to purchase items*

# January Worship Assistants

Date	Lector	Greeter	Acolyte
January 4	Miriam Tommas	Carolyn Adelman	
January 11	Carolyn Adelman	OPEN	
January 18	Daniel Clinker	OPEN	
January 25	Candi Kinn	Don & Miriam Tommas	

Altar Workers for January: Carolyn Adelman

## January Coffee Hosts



January 4	Cindy Schuller
January 11	Steve & Donna Colvin
January 18	
January 25	Darlene White

## December Offering

December 7	\$6264
December 14	\$3531
December 21	\$2326
December 28	\$2324
December Online Giving	\$220

We needed \$2524 each week to make our budget. Thank you for continuing to faithfully support the Lord's work.

We ended 2025 **behind \$2254.70\***.

Please remember your gifts when you are away.

Our ministry depends on your generosity.

You can give to the Lord's work here at TLC by scanning the QR code or going to:

<https://giving.servantkeeper.com/tlc-monroeville>



\*as of December 31, 2025

# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	:Lindsey Gfell B-day		Anna Little B-day Linda Myers B-day		2 Nora Long B-day	
			Bible Study 4:30			
			Sewing Group			
			Christian Ed Mtg 5:30			
			Choir Practice 6:30			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	Anthony Gfell B-day	Alec Schafer Baptismal Anniversary	Audrey Gaston B-day Morgan Griffith Baptismal Anniversary	Leah Lavallee B-day		
	Baylee Smith B-day		Church Council Mtg 5:30	Bible Study 4:30		
	Julia White B-day		Choir Practice 6:30			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	Randy Anderson B-day	Dennis Henkle B-day	Clyde Anderson B-day			
	Bible Study @ Arter's Coffee Shop 4pm	Sewing Group	Liam Gerber B-day			
		Choir Practice 6:30	Barron Wilhelm B-day			
			Bible Study 4:30			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Tyler Tonelli B-day	Aiden Sc B-day	Bret Gfell Baptismal Anniversary			
	Bible Study @ Arter's Coffee Shop 4pm		Choir Practice 6:30			