

December Events at Trinity:

Mondays: Dec. 1, 8, 15, & 22 – Harvest Workers,
10am & 6pm, here in the fellowship hall

Dec 2—Stephen Ministry Barnabas Time, 5pm

Dec. 3—Decorate the Church—4:30pm, All are welcome to join Altar Guild at and decorate for Christmas!

Thursdays: Dec. 4, 11, & 18 – Bible Study, here

Dec. 6—Hall Reserved by member, 9am-3pm

Dec 7—2nd Sunday in Advent
“Sip & Something” Women’s art project activity, 3-5pm, FH

Dec 10—Ladies Game Day, here at Noon
Council Meeting, here at 6pm

Dec 13—Men’s Ecumenical Breakfast hosted by Trinity’s Men’s Group, 8 AM, FH

Dec 14 3rd Sunday in Advent
Angel Tree/Blessing Project Gifts due to church today!

Dec. 16—Women’s Group Christmas Party, FH
Men’s Group meets, TBA

Dec. 21st—4th Sunday in Advent
Youth Angel Tree/Blessing Project Gift Wrapping TODAY at Noon!

Dec. 24—5 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion

Dec. 25—Merry Christmas!

Dec. 31—Annual Reports for 2025 from committees due to the church office by today. The Church Office will be closed from Christmas Eve until January 5, 2026. In a pastoral emergency, please contact Jerry Gass, Council President, at 210-273-7645 or Angie Daniels, Office Administrator, at 830-385-0518.

Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco, Texas

Where God is Seen

1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; 2 Cor. 6:19

Love is Felt

John 13:34-35

Lives are Changed

Romans 12:1-2

Ministers All People of Trinity
Pastor David Mayer

Music Director Leta Garcia
Media Director Sheila Mercer
Parish Administrator Angie Daniels

How to Contact Trinity:

- P.O. Box 487,
703 North Main Street,
Blanco 78606
- Office: 830-833-4771
- Email: trinityblanco@gvtc.com
- Website: www.trinityofblanco.com



Pastor David Mayer
Email: dtmayer75@yahoo.com
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Sermon: What is Your Wish?

What if I took six Sundays in Epiphany and preached on topics that came from you, the congregation?

I can't guarantee that I will preach on every suggestion, however, I am looking for ideas that you would like to know about or want addressed. Please submit an idea or two and I will choose from the ideas I receive.

Membership Process

Come Join Us As Members! Membership is an intentional act of commitment and belonging to Trinity Lutheran Church. If you are interested in finding out more or want to join, please contact me.

The Church Calendar or Year

The church calendar is a way for us to remember important events or ideas in the life of Christ or the church. Note the colors we usually use for each season or time.

Advent (Blue)

The beginning of the church year or calendar is the time of preparation for the Incarnation or the birth of Jesus as well as the anticipation for His Second Coming. Advent means, "Coming, or Arrival." The focus can be on prophecies about Jesus' birth or incarnation or when Christ brings the fullness of the Kingdom of God when He returns.

Christmas (White)

In the early church Christmas was celebrated on January 6th, Epiphany. Later it changed to December 25th. There are twelve days of Christmas.

Epiphany (White and Green)

Epiphany is a time to celebrate the revelation of the identity and glory of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It includes Jesus' baptism, the coming of the Wisemen, as well as the Transfiguration.

Lent (Purple)

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and it is a 40 day period of preparation for Holy Week. It can include a time of austerity, giving up something a person cherishes, but it doesn't have to be. It is a time for special contemplation and study of discipleship and self-denial.

Holy Week (Purple and Black)

Palm Sunday begins the last week of Jesus on earth leading to His death on the cross. We celebrate Christ's Last Supper on Maundy Thursday and His death on Good Friday.

Resurrection or Easter (White)

This is the Jewish festival of First Fruits. God planned that His Son would be raised as the First Fruits of salvation on the first day of the week or Sunday. Easter is a day as well as a season. It includes the Ascension of our Lord, 40 days after Passover.

Pentecost (Red and Green)

On Pentecost we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. It marks the beginning of the church. Pentecost begins the "Season of the Church" or "Ordinary Time."

In the season of Pentecost we also celebrate Trinity Sunday (White), Reformation Sunday (Red), All Saints Sunday (White) and Christ the King Sunday (White) which ends the church year.

Your brother in Christ,
Pastor Dave

Veterans' Sunday

Trinity's military veterans participated in the service on Veterans' Sunday, November 9, 2025. Held yearly on the Sunday closest to Veterans Day, November 11th, Trinity's service honors those who have served in the U.S. or an allied nation's armed forces. We salute our veterans and thank them for their service!

Trinity's Altar Guild—December Schedule

Thank you to Marcie Wagner, Pam Nabers, Connie Cox, and Rosalind Ellis for their service to the altar and to Sunday worship during the month of November! During the month of December, Marie Anna Lindeman, Sharon Cox, Karla Riley, and Connie Russell will be preparing the altar for worship. If you can pitch in during the busy December, please contact an Altar Team member to help.



Wednesday, Dec. 3rd DECORATE FOR CHRISTMAS—The holiday season is ramping up and help is needed to decorate the church and sanctuary for the Christmas Season! We will meet at church at 4:30pm to decorate the building and the tree in the sanctuary! Contact Bonnie Triesch for more information at 210-705-2811.

Sign up for poinsettias! If you would like to help off-set the costs of poinsettias for the church to decorate the altar during the Christmas season, please sign up on the bulletin board to purchase a poinsettia. The cost per plant is \$7/each and may be designated “in Honor” or “in Memory” of loved ones. A complete list of will be included in the bulletin for Dec. 24th.

Women's Ministry December Events

Sunday, Dec. 7—Women's 1st “Sip-N-Something” Event—Join us in the fellowship hall from 3-5 PM to paint angel boards. If you have paint, brushes, or wood planks you may bring them, but don't buy anything—all supplies will be provided. Bring whatever your own drinks and plan on a FUN FELLOWSHIP EVENT! For more info, contact Mary Jo Pfeiffer at 210-213-7615.

Tuesday, Dec. 16—Women's Group Christmas Party, 6 PM in the fellowship hall. There will not be Bible Study tonight, but instead an opportunity to gather and celebrate Christmas. Bring an appetizer, beverage of choice, and a \$20 gift for a gift exchange (if you want to play.) All Women are invited to join us!

Great Food Race – Sunday, Nov. 16th

At this year's Great Food Race, an annual Trinity Tribe Youth service project to collect food for the Blanco Good Samaritan Center's Food Pantry. We are missing four kids who had to be dropped off for basketball practice. But we collected over 700 lbs of food.

Sunday School News!

2025 The Angel Tree/Blessing Project—There are several ways to participate!

Full Sponsor: take a child from the board and purchase their clothing and wish list.

Partial Sponsor: take a child from the board and purchase either their clothing or wish list.

Donating Sponsor: choose a name and donate to that name or just make a general donation towards all Blessing Project kids. Dedicated shoppers will use the funds donated to make sure every child receives their special gifts.

Item Sponsor: donate general items that can be divided where needed. Some common wish list items are coloring books, coloring supplies, arts & crafts, sports balls and stuffed animals. Also, common needs are socks and underwear.

Bike Sponsor: donate towards the bike fund, there are children this year that have a bike on their wish list. We will be watching ads to get the best deals possible on bikes.

ALL GIFT DONATIONS ARE DUE BACK AT CHURCH BY SUNDAY, DEC. 14TH
And after Sunday School Dec. 21st, we be wrapping gifts and organizing the project!

EVERYONE is welcome to join! For more information, contact Ashley Finch (830-237-6288)



Mission Moment

by Pastor Bryce Formwalt
Director of Mission Growth



Generosity: A Spiritual Discipline

I enjoy personal and organizational financial planning and take pride in managing financial affairs well in order to make the most of the resources available. When I think about stewardship, first and foremost in my mind is God's call to be wise and faithful managers. Yet within the realm of stewardship lies a practice that runs against the grain and can almost seem contradictory and foolish. This is the practice of generosity.

Generosity is freely giving resources away without any expectation of return or personal benefit. Biblically, we understand that generosity included sharing resources in common with other members of a local church; giving cheerfully to missions; tithing (giving a tenth of one's increase) to the local community of worship; and caring for the poor, the hungry, the orphans, and the widows. In our human way of thinking, it doesn't really make sense to give away that which we "worked hard for" or at least worked hard to manage well. But in God's economy, generosity is a key practice in a faithful, trusting walk following Jesus as his disciples.

Years ago, I attended church men's group where a member of my congregation shared something profound. When we were talking about tithing, he shared that he believed that God chose 10% completely on purpose to develop our trust in God. He reasoned that had God called us to give a smaller percentage, our human self-reliance would likely kick-in with the Devil leading us to think we could "handle it" on our own. But this isn't the case with a call to give 10%. The call to tithe compels us to trust God. It is too much for us to do apart from trusting God each day to give us our daily bread. The spiritual discipline of generosity helps to break us from our sin of self-reliance.

There are many other good things that come about when we practice generosity. Another that comes to mind is how God tends to multiply our offerings, sometimes in miraculous ways. Consider the story of the feeding of the 5,000. Jesus took the gift of one boy's lunch and then instructed the disciples to be generous with it and share the food with the crowds. In their faithful generosity, the Lord multiplied the small offering and created an abundance that to this day still amazes us. But this is what God does with our generosity.

Friends, I would like to encourage you to be good stewards and manage your financial affairs with wisdom and faithfulness. And I also invite you to consider anew Jesus' call to the spiritual discipline of generosity: Tithe to your local church, give cheerfully to missions and causes that align with your faith, and care for the basic human needs in your local community and beyond as the Lord gives you opportunity.

Giving Tuesday is December 2, a day dedicated to celebrating and encouraging generosity. This is a great time to make new commitments to grow in generosity. If you would like to contribute to the mission of LCMC Texas District or Harvest Workers, go to www.lcmctexas.org/giving-tuesday to find out how to double your donation.

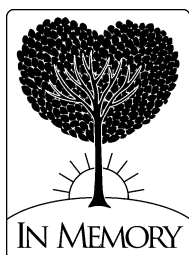
Pastor Bryce Formwalt is the Director of Mission Growth for LCMC Texas District and Program Director of Harvest Workers, an online ministry training program (learn more at www.harvestworkers.net). Residing in Georgetown, Pastor Bryce is available to coach congregations on mission. Please contact him with any questions or comments: 512-942-7776 or bryce@lcmctexas.org. © 2025 Bryce J. Formwalt, All Rights Reserved. Reprinted with permission. November 2025

DECEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

**Please use this handy section to keep track of monthly responsibilities organized by Sunday. Each Sunday there are many important opportunities to serve your church.

	Dec 7	Dec 14	Dec 21	Dec 24 5pm Candlelight Worship	Dec 28
Altar Flowers	Hal & Sandy Switzer	Laura Walla	Clara Gourley	<i>poinsettias</i>	<i>OPEN</i>
Usher Team	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley	David Hesskew David Barker Charles Riley
Worship Asst.	Cindy Hawkins	Cindy Hawkins	Jim Clifton	<i>TBA</i>	Jim Clifton
Greeters	Barb Geistfeld	Richard Palmer	Sandy Switzer Sherri Wicker	Wayne & Martha Gosnell	Hal & Sandy Switzer
Lectors	Ron Bigler	Arlene Hamlin	Mary Jo Pfeiffer	<i>TBA</i>	Roland Pfeiffer
Communion Assistants	<i>No communion</i>	Wayne Gosnell (both services)	<i>No communion</i>	<i>TBA</i>	Sheri Riley (9) Karen Wagner (11:15)

Altar Team on Duty in December: Marie Anna Lindeman, Sharon Cox, Karla Riley, & Connie Russell



Memorials in November

In Memory of Judy Brewer

By Arlene Hamlin

Worship Schedule in December

Dec. 7 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

9 AM, Traditional Worship
 11:15 AM, Contemporary Worship

Dec. 14 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

9 AM, Traditional Worship
 11:15 AM, Contemporary Worship

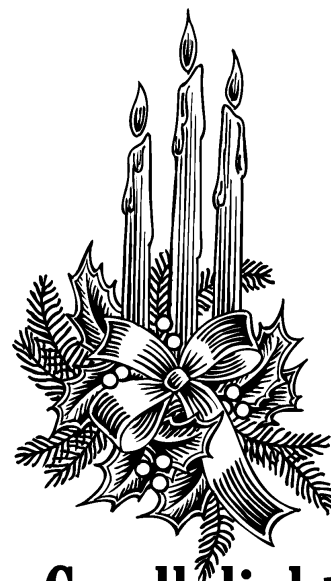
Dec. 21 – 4th Sunday of Advent

9 AM, Traditional Worship
 11:15 AM, Contemporary Worship

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 5 PM with carols, communion, & candle lighting

Dec. 28 – First Sunday After Christmas

9 AM, Traditional Worship
 11:15 AM, Contemporary Worship



Candlelight Service

Trinity Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 487, Blanco, TX 78606 830-833-4771 email: trinityblanco@gvtc.com

DECEMBER 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR--TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO

Pastor David Mayer—Traditional Worship: 9 AM - Sunday School: 10:15 AM – Contemporary Worship: 11:15 AM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Harvest Workers Class, 10am & 6pm	2 5pm Barnabas Time	3 4:30pm Altar Guild Decorates the church/sanctuary tree for Christmas!	4 11am Pastor leads Bible Study, here	5	6 9am-3pm Hall Reserved
7 - Communion 2nd Sun. in Advent 9 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Contemporary Worship 3-5pm Women's Group hosts "Sip & Something", FH	8 Harvest Workers Class, 10a & 6p	9 Newsletter articles due TODAY!	10 Noon Ladies Game Day, here 6:00pm Council meeting	11 11am Pastor leads Bible Study, here	12	13 8am Men's Ecumenical Breakfast hosted at Trinity, FH
14 3rd Sun. in Advent 9 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Contemporary Worship Blessing Project/Angel Tree gifts due to church today!	15 Harvest Workers Class, 10a & 6p	16 5pm Women's Group Christmas Party, FH 6pm Men's Group, meets TBA	17	18 11am Pastor leads Bible Study, here	19	20
21 - Communion 4th Sun. in Advent 9 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Contemporary Worship Blessing Project/Angel Tree gift-wrapping TODAY	22 Harvest Workers Class, 10a & 6p	23	24 5 PM Candlelight Communion Service	25 Merry Christmas! <i>Church office closed until Jan. 5th 2026</i>	26	27
28 9 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM Contemporary Worship	29	30	31 Annual Reports for 2025 due to the church office today			

News From Your Council of Ministries

Jerry Gass—President	Travis Kersten—Worship
Hal Switzer—Vice-President	Karen Wagner—Fellowship
Karen Steiger—Secretary	Norman Eubank—Property
Keith Morgenroth—Treasurer	Ashley Finch—Education/Youth
Sheri Riley—Financial Secretary	Sally Anderson —Evangelism
Wayne Gosnell—Stewardship	

Notes from the Church Council Meeting on October 15, 2025

In President Jerry Gass' absence, Vice-President Hal Switzer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Council members present were Norman Eubank, Wayne Gosnell, Travis Kersten, Pastor David Mayer, Keith Morgenroth, Sheri Riley, Karen Steiger, Hal Switzer, and Karen Wagner. Pastor David's devotional came from I Thes 4:13-18, II Cor 5:6-8, Luke 23:40-43, and Dr. David Gooding's book, Changing Us for Glory. When death has meaning, life has purpose. His prayer included asking The Holy Spirit to guide the Council members in wisdom & truth as we make decisions for Trinity.

There were no corrections to the Minutes of the September 17th Council meeting. The Action Items were discussed. Travis made a motion to accept the Minutes, Keith seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion. Sheri gave the Financial Report through September 2025. Keith gave the Treasurer's Report and reviewed the accompanying graphs as of September 2025. The overall summary was all is good.

Pastor David submitted his report. Teagan Finch celebrated her first Communion on October 12th during the second worship service. The Polka service will be held on Sunday, October 19th during the first service. There will be a Fall Festival lunch and afternoon activities until 4:00pm after the late service. Harvest Workers will begin studying the Psalms, and the Thursday morning Bible Study is studying Proverbs. New Stephen Ministers will be consecrated during the first service this Sunday. He gave a summary of the LCMC National Annual Gathering that he attended on October 5-8 in Lakeville MN.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Youth and Education – In Ashley's absence, Karen W reported that the preparations for the Fall Festival are going well. Ashley put out a call for Sunday School volunteers with no responses, and she checked with other churches and very few have Summer Sunday School programs.
- Stewardship – Wayne's report consisted of thanking Rocky Chisholm for filling in for him while he was on an extended vacation.
- Evangelism – In Sally's absence, Travis reported that she has gotten quite a few good donations for the Fall Festival's Silent Auction. Sally received many kudos on a job well done in her areas of concern.
- Fellowship – Karen W's report was short & sweet. She has been very busy buying things for the Fall Festival Fundraiser.
- Worship – Travis reported in all his areas. Kathy Kersten has been doing the Media duties during the second service. She has trained Darby to help. When Grayson helps Sheila, she pays him. In line with previous discussions of engaging a willing teenager, Norman made a motion to pay Darby \$25.00/service, Keith seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion. When the Kerstens are out of town, Brenda Moore has been doing the job.
- Property – Norman submitted his report. All systems are operational. The regular Maintenance items have no issues. See Pending items in his report for further notes. An annual maintenance visit on the refrigeration equipment should be sufficient.

The Council members acknowledged that the reports were given and accepted.

Old Business – Wayne passed around 3 Appreciation Letters... one thanking us for our donation to the July 4th Flood efforts, Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center, and Ethnomedia. And Pastor announced that he was again thanked in person from the Pastor of the Estonia Lutheran Church.

The Communion Assistants schedule was updated.

Pastor David led a summary of the Council Workshop held on September 28th, paying special attention to the Action Items that resulted.

Hal announced that his Nomination Committee for filling the expiring Council positions will be Charles Riley, Sheri Wicker, Hal Switzer (as chairman), and Pastor David (providing input). Hal also announced the Budget Committee composed of Keith Morgenroth, Hal Switzer, Bob Perez, and Kevin Hawkins would formulate the 2026 Budget.

The Congregational Meeting was changed to Sunday, November 16th, because of all the other activities happening on November 9th, Veterans' Sunday. The meeting will be conducted at 10:00am – between the services and we will still have Sunday School. The expiring Council positions are Youth, Stewardship, Evangelism, and Fellowship.

New Business – The Benevolence breakdown was shown/discussed for the 3rd quarter. Council members decided to include the \$5,000.00 (in HEB & Walmart gift cards) donated to the July 4th Flood victims through Zion Lutheran Church of Kerrville; even though, the money came out of our reserves on the Balance Sheet.

A Christmas Eve service is planned for Wednesday, December 24th at 5 PM.

Hal had requested that Andrew Forsberg give us several estimates on various security related projects. After much discussion Travis made a motion to have Andrew do the Media room doors right now (money taken from the General Fund) but do more research on the other options, presenting Council members with a cost spreadsheet of the different options. Norman seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion. Perhaps the 2026 Budget could reflect some Capital Improvement projects related to these security issues.

Travis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sheri seconded the motion, and the Council members approved the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm with everyone reciting The Lord's Prayer.

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2025 DUE BY DECEMBER 31st According to Trinity's constitution, "All committees, ministries, and organizations within the Congregation shall submit reports to the church office at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the Annual January Business Meeting. These reports shall be made available to the Congregation the Sunday prior to this annual meeting." **December 31 is the deadline to submit reports. Please email reports to trinityblanco@gvtc.com or drop off a copy in the church office.**

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES—You may pick up your 2026 offering envelope sets on Sunday mornings from the narthex table. Each member, that chooses to use envelopes for their weekly offerings, is assigned a contributor number, and confidential contribution records are recorded each time an offering is received. It is your decision whether or not to utilize the envelopes.



At the end of the year, each contributor receives an annual contribution statement, which totals contributions of record for the year. Members are also able to use one envelope and one check to make multiple contributions to separate funds. If you do not find a box of contribution envelopes with your name on them, and would like to use a set, please call Angie in the church office, 833-4771. Thank you!



greeters

BE A GREETER! Each Sunday morning a dedicated team of volunteers stand at the door of the narthex to greet members, friends and visitors to worship. If you are interested in learning more about serving as a Greeter, please contact Wayne Gosnell at gosnelltexas@gmail.com or call him at 830-833-0586.

Wayne schedules Greeters for each Sunday of the year and sends reminders when it is your Sunday to Greet. Join the greeters and welcome everyone that comes to worship.