



January 2025



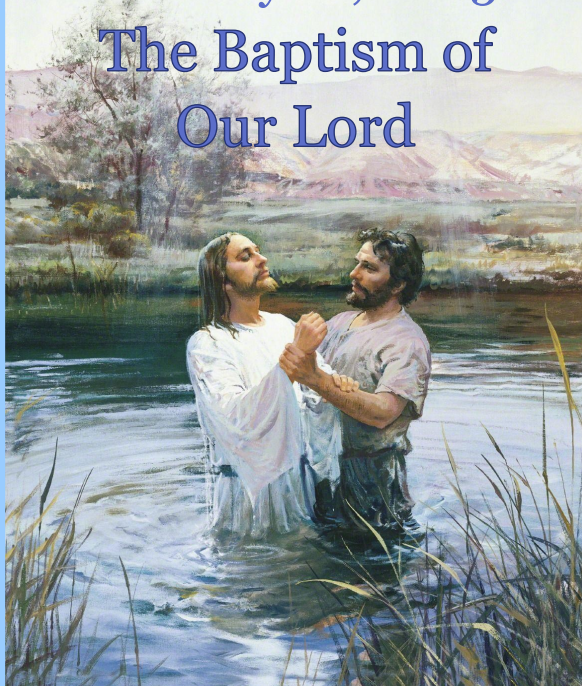
# The Epiphany of the Lord

January 6, 2025

(celebrated on January 5, 2025)



# January 12, 2025 The Baptism of Our Lord



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*If you would like Pastor to visit, please contact him at 412-841-9359 or call the church office.*



# Pastoral Letter for January

Dear People of First Trinity Lutheran Church:

So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Psalm 90:12

The New Year always makes me think about how we name and measure units of time. Some months are named for Roman gods. For instance, January is named for Janus, the god of time, beginnings, and transitions. He was imagined to be a god with two faces, as if looking back to the past and forward to the future. Other months were named by their place in the calendar. September, October, November and December were the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth months, until July and August were added in honor of Julius Caesar and Caesar Augustus.

Genesis tells us that God created the heavens and earth in seven days. But the names of those came to be associated with celestial bodies and Norse gods. Sunday is obvious; Monday is for moon day. Thursday was Thor's day and Friday was Freida's day. Most things in our culture have the number 10 as their base, probably because we have ten fingers. But there are 60 seconds in a minute and 60 minutes in an hour. Perhaps that has something to do with the number 60 being divided evenly by, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 20, and 30.

There are 365 days in a year. Actually, it takes 365.25 days for the earth to revolve around the sun. That's why we have leap years. Every four years we add an extra day to February, as we did in 2024. Some months have 30 days, some have 31, and February has only 28? Why? I don't know. A lunar month, the time it takes to go from a New Moon to a Full moon, is 28 days. It would be nice if all months were 28 days, but 365 is not divided evenly by 28. If all this seems confusing, it is because it is confusing.

As Christians, we know that our times are in God's hands. He sent His Son to be our Savior at just the right time. God put us here at this time to serve His purposes. He has a plan for your life. And that will unfold over time. Whatever this New Year will bring, whatever joys and sorrows there will be, we know that our Lord Jesus will always be with us, leading, guiding and guarding us. And when our time on this earth is through, or when Jesus comes again at the end of time, we will be with Him in eternity. So, this New Year, step out in faith, hope, love, and peace, trusting in God to make 2025 a good, productive, meaningful year.

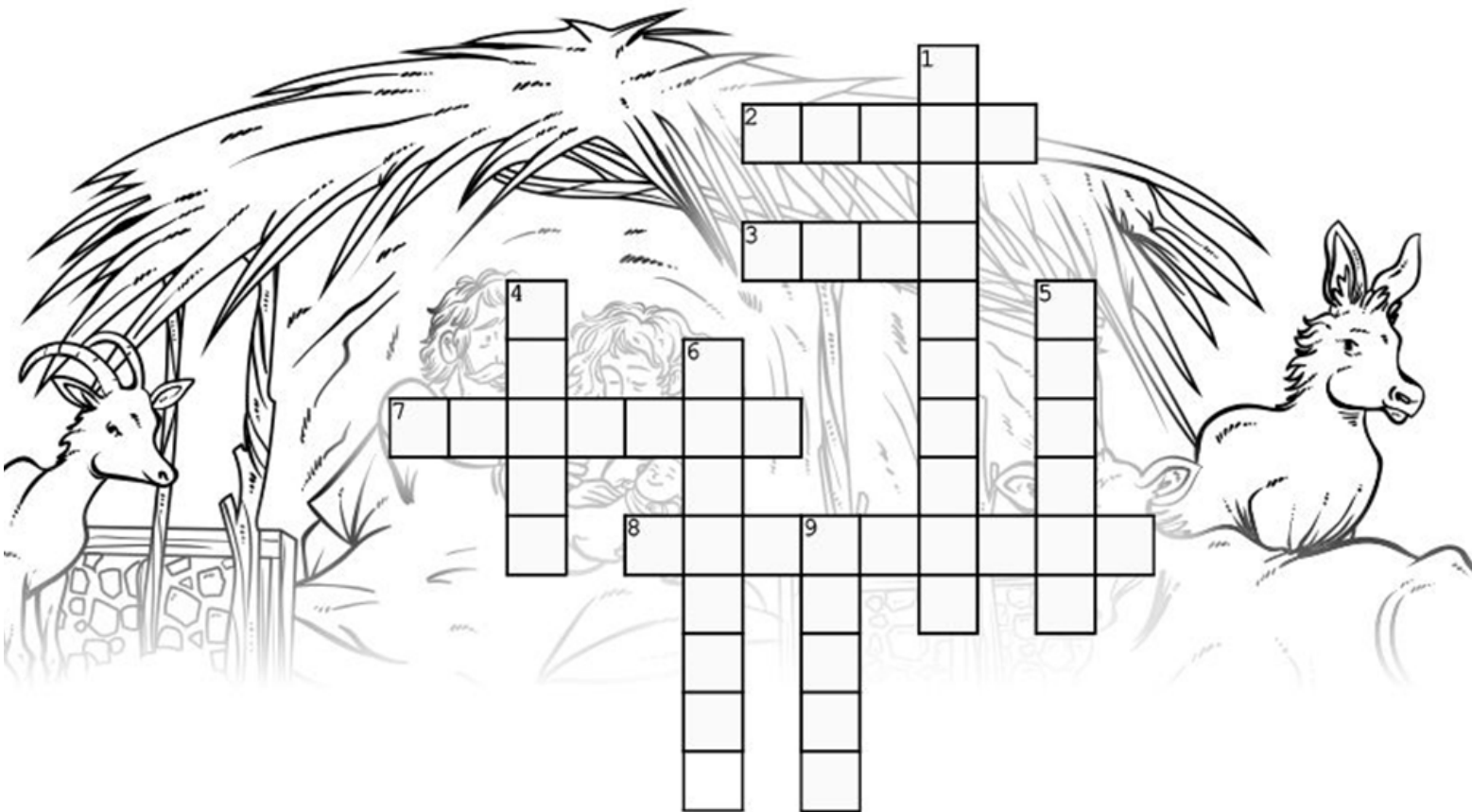
In His Service, Pastor Ash

Added Bonus: A little humor and a witnessing tip - If someone says Jesus is not relevant in 2025, ask them "It's been 2,025 years since what?"

# JOURNEY OF THE WISE MEN

## A CHRISTMAS STORY

### Matthew 2:1-12



#### Across

2. King \_\_\_\_\_ was greatly disturbed by the Magi's news of a new King.
3. The Magi went through Jerusalem asking, "Where is he who has been born king of the \_\_\_\_\_?"
7. The Magi declared, "For we saw his star when it rose and have come to \_\_\_\_\_ him.
8. What city did the Magi find the new-born King, Jesus?

#### Down

1. When the Magi at last found the young Messiah, they fell on their faces and \_\_\_\_\_ Him
4. The Magi were convinced that the bright light in the sky was a sign of the Messiah's \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Secretly, the wicked King did not want to worship Jesus; he only wanted the wise men to discover where He was so he could have Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The Magi are also known as \_\_\_\_\_.
9. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your \_\_\_\_\_.



# Council Highlights

Council did not meet on December 16th, our regular date to meet. Being a holiday month, and a busy one too, we felt we could do any Trinity business via email.

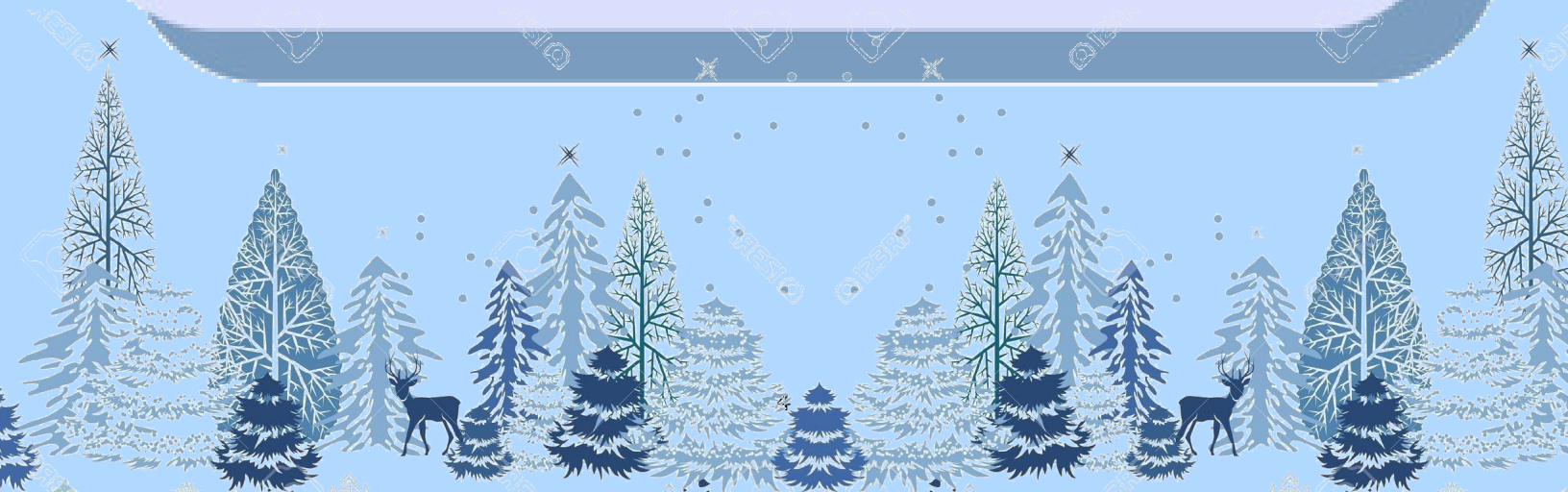
We only had a few topics to discuss, one being the money raised from the Sauerkraut Dinner. Taking into consideration the votes from the two weeks of presenting this to the congregation, it was decided 75% stays in the church and the other 25% goes to the Hart Comfort House. Thank you everyone for sharing your thoughts on this.

The other topic is our copy machine. Nothing huge. It's still with us. But after a small situation, we feel it necessary to have someone we can call on if needed (our go-to business we used retired and didn't let us know). Pete has reached out to a few businesses and found some people that work with copiers. This will be worked out with some phone calls. Thank you, Pete for taking the lead on this situation.

We still need someone to step in to be President of Council. As I said in church at the Congregational Meeting, it's not that hard of a job. I have been praying one of you will hear the Lords calling and accept the position. Council will welcome you with open arms.

Our beloved Trinity needs helpers.

Marsha Sick  
Council President, Pro Tempore





# LADIES AID

Ladies Aid met up on Monday night  
To box some homemade treats,  
To give to those who no longer come  
To the church where they had seats.

We had some pretty Christmas boxes,  
Each one was filled overflowing,  
With cookies, bananas, apples and oranges  
To people it's been nice knowing.

Our hearts were filled with joy that night  
Knowing it will make many smile,  
Those who receive, though they may never know  
The packagers true profile

Each lady brought goodies made with love  
To give back to the world, in part,  
The labor of baking, boxing, and delivering  
They did all this with a servants heart.



They say the holidays bring out the best  
Like we can't be our best all year,  
Each lady that night, though a few were missing  
Know the true meaning of Christmas cheer

Ladies Aid has been a terrific outreach  
Within our doors and also outside,  
Let's keep it going, we are truly needed  
In a world that is so full of divide

So come next year, we will meet in April  
Put all the meeting dates in your phone,  
I'm certain you will be blessed that you did  
You will be serving the one on the Throne.



Ever grateful for all the ladies  
Marsha Sick  
President, Ladies Aid

*Thank you to the many members of Ladies Aid for the nice cookie boxes. The cookies were yummy and the fruit was juicy. A very big thank you for your thoughtfulness.*

*-Carol English*

# JANUARY



## Birthdays

- 4 Janet Vargo
- 11 Dorothy Cornish
- 15 Kayla Vossler
- 30 Sophia Fahs

## Anniversaries

- 22 Glen and Brenda Kruger
- 22 Mark and Diane Vossler



# Celebrations





Ava Vossler - Banner bearer  
Grace Cole - Cross bearer  
Abigail Ives - Assistant



### GOALS FOR THIS WEEK

- 1) Put God first
  - 2) Pray more
  - 3) Thank God everyday
  - 4) Forgive those who have hurt me
  - 5) Focus on Jesus more than this world
  - 6) Ask God for help more often
  - 7) Trust God always
- If you're grateful to God, Amen.



Enjoying a Christmas Party.  
Katrina Savitcheff,  
Kelly Vossler, Stephanie  
Vossler, Deborah Vossler.





**As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary in the "new" building, longtime member Judy Brainard shared with us her memories and testimony:**

*Pastor Krentz was my pastor from the beginning until the flood. He was always there when we needed him. How he knew, I don't know, he just came for a visit then. Like the time 2 little girls were invited for lunch after church. Mom and dad were both in Rochester taking care of our sister in Strong. I remember his cripple hand during Vacation Bible School being held over "This Little Light of Mine". He taught my confirmation class.*

*Last week was the sermon on Genesee Street. It brought back many memories. There was the altar, the statue of Jesus, the stained-glass window, and downstairs was the room where the choir practiced.*

*Across the road was the Parish House. It was where the little kids had Sunday School. Where we learned songs for Christmas, and where we got our first pins for attendance for not missing more than 4 Sundays.*

*From there we graduated to the Parish Hall where the older kids had Sunday School, practiced for the Christmas plays, Walther League, and choir. There was also Easter breakfast, the Sauerkraut Dinner, and Confirmation Class.*

*We were married in the church and Kelly was baptized there. My family was baptized there by Pastor Krentz. He was a big part of our lives for many years.*

*Thanks to his teachings, I am not afraid to have surgery and thanks to the Holy Spirit, the giver of life.*

*I just wanted to share my feelings with you. Pastor Krentz helped to make me what I am.*

*Judy*

## **2025 Flower Chart**

*The "Flower Chart" for 2025 is posted. Please feel free to sign up for a specific Sunday.*

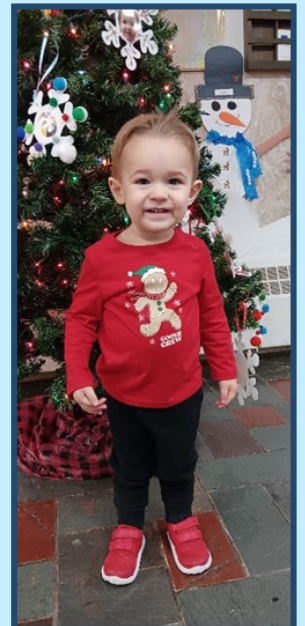
*The church does not purchase the flowers. If you sign up, you are responsible for providing and placing your own flowers.*

*Flowers can be displayed in celebration of an anniversary, birthday, or any special occasion. They can also be placed in memory of a loved one.*

*If you would like a message in the Sunday bulletin stating what your flowers are commemorating, please leave a note on the secretary's desk or send an email to [trinitywlsv@gmail.com](mailto:trinitywlsv@gmail.com).*



# Daycare





# The Baptism of Jesus

As Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." Mark 1:10-11

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
H	S	D	W	C	Y	P	B	N	I	T	Q	M	U	X	J	E	F	O	R	V	L	G	Z	K	A

1. 3-19-21-17 \_\_\_\_\_
2. 20-17-7-17-9-11 \_\_\_\_\_
3. 5-19-9-18-17-2-2 \_\_\_\_\_
4. 8-26-7-11-10-24-17 \_\_\_\_\_
5. 2-7-10-20-10-11 \_\_\_\_\_
6. 2-10-9-2 \_\_\_\_\_
7. 4-26-11-17-20 \_\_\_\_\_
8. 1-17-26-21-17-9 \_\_\_\_\_
9. 21-19-10-5-17 \_\_\_\_\_
10. 1-17-26-21-17-9 \_\_\_\_\_





# Decorating Our Church





# HAPPY New Year

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
The Lord make His face  
shine upon you, And be gracious to you...



## First Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Daycare Director: Nancy Link (585) 593-3820  
Director of Music: Carole A. Aldrich  
Church email: [trinitywlsu@gmail.com](mailto:trinitywlsu@gmail.com)



Church office hours:  
Monday– Thursday, 9 AM– 12 PM