

Trinity Lutheran Church

A welcoming faith community
living together in God's love to
share the joy of Jesus Christ.

TIDINGS



Graduation Milestone

Join us the weekend of May 26 & 27 to bless our graduates. We will celebrate this milestone in worship as we surround our graduates with support and prayer. If you have a graduate, please email amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org their name, picture, where they are graduating from, along with a very BRIEF statement of what they will be doing in the future, before Sunday, May 19!!

Wild Life VBS | June 10-13 9am-12pm

Think about the weirdest animals you know. What noise does an armadillo make? Is an axolotl really smiling? Is a wombat a type of a bat? It is wild that God helps each animal grow and thrive....and us, too! VBS is for PreK-5th grade. Registration now open, register [HERE](#).

Adult Forum

May 5 Come learn about our fellow members' trip with Pastor Rick to Greece!

May 12 Hannah Norris will share with us how Arboretum Coffee on Prospect Road helps immigrants and refugees lay the groundwork for upward economic mobility and real community.

May 19 Come and hear from our middle school students about their Confirmation experience, what they are learning, questions they have about their faith, and how they live out their faith every day.

May 26 On break for Summer! Join us again after Labor Day!

instruments, humming, singing, kazoo-all we want is YOU!

Do you sing or play an instrument? Since choir and bells will be on break for summer, we want to add some fun diversity of soloist to the Worship Services. Email carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org if you are interested!

Songs of the Summer

We want YOU to pick the songs that are sung at Worship Service this summer. Have one in mind!?! Email carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org with the title of the song.

BBQ & Bluegrass

Join the Sky Ranch Community at Trinity Lutheran for the Annual BBQ & Bluegrass on **Sunday, June 2 from 3-6 pm**. There will be live music, yard games, bounce house, and delicious BBQ and Desserts! For this event we need approximately 25 (9x13) pan of bars, brownies, or cookies, basically, a handheld dessert option. Note, we NEED some gluten free options as well. Sing up to bring desserts at signupgenius.com/go/60B054EAFA62DA3FA7-48923928-panobars.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



www.trinitylutheranfc.org

Phone: (970) 482-1226

After Hours Emergency:
(970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS
MON-THURS 9AM-3PM

WORSHIP TIMES
SAT: 5 PM | SUN: 10:30 AM

Senior Pastor: Rick Reiten
On Sabbatical until Aug 5

Sabbatical Bridge Pastor
Richard Fennig
richard_fennig@msn.com

Education & Family Minister
Deacon Katie Kline
katie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Office Administrator: Deana Andrist
office@trinitylutheranfc.org

Financial Manager: Brenda Moore
bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Communications & Volunteer Coordinator
Amanda Backsen
amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org

Church Musician: Carrie Hansen
carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Choir: Tessa Espinosa
choir@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Handbell Choir: Jill Hunt
bells@trinitylutheranfc.org

Saturday Worship Leader
Clinton Ellerbe
saturdayworship@trinitylutheranfc.org

A/V Techician: Claire Pickerel
claire@trinitylutheranfc.org

Sunday School: Jennifer Reeve
childrensminister@stpauls-fc.org

Nursery Coordinator
Tiffany Klijewski
tiffany@trinitylutheranfc.org

TLC Preschool Director
Brenda Harju
brenda@trinitylutheranfc.org

Sabbatical Bridge Pastor

Welcome Reverend Rich Fennig

Pastor Rich is a graduate of San Diego State University, and Princeton Theological Seminary. From 1975 to 1990 he was the Campus Minister at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. Then from 1990 to 1997 he was pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Arcata, CA, before moving to Fort Collins in 1997 to become pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church. He retired in 2013. He is delighted to be able to step in to assist Trinity during Pastor Rick's sabbatical.



TLC Preschool Update

Happy Spring, Trinity! It's so hard to believe that we're nearly at the end of the school year at TLC Preschool! Most of our students this year will be moving on to kindergarten, ready for bigger adventures. We could use your recommendations and referrals for our little program for the 2024/25 school year, whether someone wants to attend as a younger preschool student or through Universal Pre-K as a Pre-K student. We have openings and are ready to welcome new faces! People can access our information through the church website or our own website at tlcpreschoolfortcollins.weebly.com.

Our school year is ending with plenty of fun activities. We viewed the eclipse through special glasses, we had "Superhero Day" and we had a nature/cleanup walk around the church property for Earth Day. Coming up in May are camping activities, a visit from one of Fort Collins Police Department's finest and some fun "critters" visit right before the end of the school year! Never a dull moment...

Please help support our ministry by purchasing Gulley gift cards during our fundraiser this spring! The preschool receives 20% of the proceeds from the card sales and every little bit helps out our program. They make wonderful gifts for Mother's Day or Father's Day, or save them for Christmas, because they never expire! Better yet, buy a couple more for yourself and go immerse yourself in the beauty of flowers!

We appreciate the ways you continue to support our ministry here at Trinity. I'd like to shout out to Pastor Rick and Deacon Katie for their dedication in providing chapel time for our students, and to Shelley Aust for continuing to provide additional music and fun for our little group! We love all three of you!

Blessings and many thanks to you all in this season of rebirth and renewal!

God's Peace, Brenda Harju, Director

TLC Preschool Fundraiser

Gift cards of \$20 increments for Gulley Greenhouse & Garden Center will be for sale from **April 27-May 19** and are good toward any purchase at Gulley. A portion of each gift card goes to TLC Preschool. The gift cards do not expire. Don't want a gift card but want to support TLC Preschool, donations in the form of Cash, Check. You can purchase gift cards from Deana in the church office. There will also be a sales table set up in the narthex during upcoming services. Get an early start on your planting season, teacher appreciation, Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts.

Highlights from Co-Op Committee Meeting

The Co-Op Committee composed of clergy and lay leaders of each faith community discuss the functioning of the faith partnership, coordination of collaborative projects, and other items affecting the faith communities. At the 21 Mar 24 meeting the following items were discussed:

Shared History: Each faith community discussed traditions of their faith communities and opened discussion to questions.

Sign Policy: The communication people from each faith community will meet once a month to plan what will appear on the electronic sign. The plan will be presented to Co-Op at their monthly meeting before being posted.

If you would like to receive a copy of the minutes of the Coop Meetings, please email your request to Deana at office@trinitylutheranfc.org.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Volbrecht

301 Faith Partners (FP) – Working Together

301 FP Quilters The 301 Quilters meet **Fridays from 10am –12 pm** in Room 2. All are welcome - male, female, any age, any skill level, & as often as you are able. Come, meet, and connect with others in the 301 family. All you need to bring is your helpful heart and your favorite coffee mug or water bottle.

301 FP Fellowship Get-Togethers take place the **2nd Thursday of the month, May 9 at 3:30 pm**, the location is picked closer to the date, so check the e-News. All gatherings are informal and no RSVP needed.

301 FP Prayer Group will be on break for May, join again on **Monday, June 24 at 10:30 am**. The Spirit continues to be doing something new at Trinity, as St Paul's, Mary of Magdala, and Trinity continue to live out our commitment to the 301 Covenanted Partnership.



Birthdays

Barbara Baggs	5/1	Barb Keyser	5/12	Dale Schilling	5/24
Katie Kline	5/1	Jahna Prebel	5/13	Cheryl Smith	5/24
Heidi Zuniga	5/1	Josanne Lucas	5/14	Timothy Anderson	5/25
Katie Dryg	5/4	Bob Keyser	5/15	Bob Beckman	5/25
Theo Kline	5/5	Corrine Hoffmann	5/16	MaryAnne Carr	5/25
Anne Thompson	5/5	Faye Huddleston	5/18	Theresa Knutson	5/25
Reuben Jackson	5/6	Kelli Schueler	5/19	Marie Propp-Houglum	5/25
Mary Raich	5/7	Martha Burke	5/20	Tedd Schilling	5/25
Rick Aust	5/8	Marilyn Hartig	5/21	Rocky Knutson	5/27
John Raich	5/9	Jim Rose	5/22	Joshua Schairer	5/30
Daphne Gorsky	5/11	Cayden Hopkins	5/23	Kate Stieben	5/30

Anniversaries

Dean & Wendy Gebhardt	5/4	Dave & Jodie Burgoon	5/22
Dick & Jan Morton	5/4	Sherry Albertson-Clark & Ken Clark	
Bonnie & Ron Bend	5/20		5/27

Small Groups

Trinity Readers Group will meet on **Monday, May 6 at 9:30 am** in room 2 to discuss *Horse* – a historical novel by Geraldine Brooks about the enslaved black groomsman who in 1850 trained the most successful race horse in history. Looking ahead to June, our selection will be a memoir by Ivan Doig *This House of Sky* about his growing up years in Montana and about the connections to those who help shape our values. Join us in person or via Zoom: us02web.zoom.us/j/85358221885?pwd=RWx6dTEwRzIzc0xuNmtkaWFzZlZldz09

JOY Luncheon will gather on **Monday, May 13 at 12 pm**. With a slideshow from the Greece Pilgrimage and the meal catered by Garbanzo Mediterranean Fresh it is sure to be an adventurous time. JOY delights in welcoming all older adults and those young at heart to join, no registration is required but an RSVP is requested for each luncheon. Cost for this luncheon will be \$12.50. Please RSVP [HERE](#) or by emailing amanda@rinitylutheranfc.org by May 9. You can pay day of via check/cash or online at secure.myvanco.com/L-Z88G/home.

Yoga - All Levels! A beginner friendly and gentle, stress-relieving yoga class to stretch and strengthen the body gradually. Cost is \$10 per class with professional instructor, Kati Thompson. Classes are **Wednesdays May 8 & 22 from 10am-11am**. Yoga will be in Room 2. If you would like, you are welcome to park in the southeast back parking lot and enter the door next to the preschool.

Pub Theology is on pause for May and a wrap up meeting will be scheduled by the end of the month.

Chapter Two Readers will meet on **Thursday, May 16 at 6 pm** to discuss *We Are Not Ourselves* by Matthew Thomas. If you're interested in more information or would like to receive email updates/reminders about Chapter Two Book Club, please email Maddie Fairfax at madeline.b.fairfax@gmail.com.

Quilting group meets almost all **Fridays from 10am –12 pm** in Room 2, for the month of May they will NOT meet on Friday, May 17.

TGIF Come and enjoy an evening of fun, conversation, and connecting at the home of Linda Cavazos (3337 Green Lake Dr, Unit 1, Fort Collins) on **Friday, May 10 at 6:30 pm**. For those planning to attend please park on Green Lake Drive as this is in a town-home development and feel free to RSVP to Linda at 928-853-5641. As a reminder water and some drinks are provided. Bring your own beverage an app/dessert to share. If you like to sign up to Host, please contact Liz Johnson at 402-320-3699 or lizj8485@gmail.com.

Saints & Sinners Golf Sinners & Saints Golf Group is looking forward to the upcoming season of golf and ministry with folks at Trinity. Please join for some or all of the dates listed below. The plan is to golf 9 holes followed by a time of fellowship. Golf will be scheduled at municipal courses in Fort Collins, Loveland and west Greeley – all within 30 minute drive for most players. Mark you calendar now to save these Saturday mornings. If you would like to join the group send an email to donnadauner@gmail.com. Watch for registration notices about 2 weeks ahead of the event for location and further details. We are not available to coordinate a golf event for September. If you would like to volunteer to coordinate that month, let Donna & Dan Dauner know. Saturdays, May 18, June 15, July 27, August 17, October 19.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Are you an eligible Thrivent member and have choice dollars available to direct? Please keep Trinity in mind, there are a lot of small groups that could use one like, Prayer Cards, Quilting, Sweet Treats, Little Pantry, Garden, and many more! Talk to Deacon Katie for more information.

MAY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
5 9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 11:30 am Worship & Music	6 9:30am Trinity Readers 12 pm I Love to Tell the Story 6 pm Property	7 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem 5:30 pm Soc/Eco Justice 6:15 pm 301 FP SEJ
12 9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	13 12 pm I Love to Tell the Story 12 pm JOY Luncheon 3 pm Trust	14 9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem 4 pm Finance 6:30 pm Executive
19 9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 6:30 pm Grace Tables	20 12 pm I Love to Tell the Story	21 9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem 6:30 pm Council
26 10:30 am Worship <i>Graduate Recognition</i> 11:30 am Fellowship	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28 9:30 am Volunteer @ Irish Elem 5:30 pm FP Eco Justice

e-News

Are you getting Trinity's e-News? The e-News is an electronic way TLC shares what is happening in the life of our church. Each week, an email is sent out with the weekend's happenings, upcoming events, and news to share. We also use this method to inform members of funerals and other time sensitive news. If you would like to receive Trinity's emails, please email Amanda at amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org.

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 12:40 pm Volunteer @ Irish Elem 5:30 pm Bells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir	2 9:30 am Bible Study	3 10 am Quilting Grp	4 5 pm Saturday Praise
8 10 am Yoga 12:40 pm Volunteer @ Irish Elem 5:30 pm Bells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir	9 RSVPS needed for JOY Luncheon 9:30 am Bible Study 3:30 pm FP Get Together 4 pm Finance	10 10 am Quilting Grp 6:30 pm TGIF	11 5 pm Saturday Praise
15 12:40 pm Volunteer @ Irish Elem 5:30 pm Bells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir	16 9:30 am Bible Study 6 pm Chap 2 Readers	17	18 Saints & Sinners Golf 12 pm Sweet Treats 5 pm Saturday Praise
22 10 am Yoga 12:40 pm Volunteer @ Irish Elem	23 9:30 am Bible Study 6 pm 301 FP Co-Op 7 pm Immigration	24 10 am Quilting Grp	25 5 pm Saturday Praise <i>Graduate Recognition</i>
29 12:40 pm Volunteer @ Irish Elem	30 9:30 am Bible Study	31 10 am Quilting Grp	

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

May 4/5 / Jack Lipscomb
May 11/12 / Amelia Snyder
May 18/19 Vicki Volbrecht / Kathy Lipscomb
May 25/26 Vicki Volbrecht / Shelley Aust

**PULL ME OUT! HANG ME UP!!
 PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!**

301 FP Joint Ecological Team (JET) ECO Tip of the Month

I once took the deputy superintendent of Yellowstone and the International President and CEO of the Michelin corporation on a tour of the Upper Geyser Basin. I have to admit that I was very aware of who he was but tried my best to give him the same educational tour that I gave to everyone (in spite of believing that Michelin's ground up tire path was leaching petrochemicals into the Firehole River). I remember that he sat down at Morning Glory as I talked about all the trash that had cooled the pool and caused it to forever change color. He turned to me, and he said in a very strong French accent, "this seems to me to be very overwhelming. How do you keep hope? Do you still have hope?" I answered that I always have hope and that hope motivates me. How do we remain hopeful while facing climate change head on? Just remember that small actions add up.

The endless energy and knowledge of young people, the resilience of nature and the human spirit, and faith in God, can give us hope. But what can one person do? One person can do a lot. Here are five...ok, six small steps to take that make a BIG impact on climate change.

1. Walk or bike somewhere you'd normally drive today. Walk or bike wherever and whenever possible to reduce emissions. Join the 301 Faith Partners and participate in "Bike to Work or Wherever day."
2. Climate change is causing an alarming loss of biodiversity including a decline in many pollinators. Plant native plants in a mini pollinator garden. Cultivate your garden without pesticides and fertilizers that can harm pollinators and run off into the rivers and streams. Ask local nurseries about native plants that work in Fort Collins and northern Colorado or look [here](#). If you don't have a green thumb or space, join the 301 Faith Partners in the garden. This year we are planting mini pollinator gardens in addition to our normal vegetables.
3. Use **PLANTS** whenever possible. Eat them, use them to clean and use them in skincare. Did you know that many famous brand dish soaps, laundry detergents, body washes and lotions contain petroleum-based ingredients? These ingredients can pollute too. Ditch the petrochemical soaps and replace them with plant-based soaps. Buy formulas whenever possible, that come in cardboard. Did you know that you can buy hand soap in powder packets, laundry detergent and fabric softener in small sheets that go right into your washer, cleaners in small packets that you add water to make glass cleaner, all purpose cleaner, bathroom cleaner etc.? Buy as many things as possible without plastic containers. Contribute plant-based foods to the Little Pantry.
4. Live green but also live blue. Say no to single use plastics that pollute our rivers, streams and oceans. Water is life, make sure that the products you use are water friendly as part of the water web that surrounds us. Good examples are body scrubs that don't contain plastic beads and sunscreens that don't contain reef killing chemicals. Even polyester clothing pollutes water when it's washed. Try returning to natural fibers like wool and cotton. Is this issue important to you? Join the Social and Eco Justice team as they help the Snack Attack in their cleanup of Spring Creek!
5. Don't forget the Reduce part of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Buy less. Consume less. Reduce emissions from delivery of goods. Reduce energy consumption in your home...yeah, turning out lights when you leave the room, turning your heat down by 2 degrees and your cooling up by 2 degrees works. Thanks Mom! Passionate about this issue? Join the Property Team!
6. Choose one project or cause in your community and become involved. Join the Social and Eco Justice team to be part of your 301 Faith Partner community and take action to reduce climate change impacts or join the Joint Ecological Team to work on environmental issues at the church. Other actions can help too...that's the premise behind Roots and Shoots, Jane Goodall's climate action group, one small action [even one click actions](#) can help. Tell your story about community involvement. Share it with friends at church. Create positive ripples in your community. Climate change is no match for the human spirit.

The Joint Ecological Team meets as needed to plan educational events, bike to work day, volunteer opportunities and advocacy. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, April 30 at 5:30 pm**. Be sure to check out the JET table and bulletin board in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall. Please email any suggestions for future Eco-Tips to the Trinity church office.

Volunteers Needed

Signing up is easier than ever, thank you SO MUCH for helping to make our church possible!

SATURDAY Sign Up Here—> <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4fafa929aaf49-tlcsaturday>

Communion Preparation: Set up and Clean up Elements for Saturday Service

Communion & Assistant: Readings for Service & Help Serve Communion

Fellowship: Prepare treats (i.e. wine, cheese, & crackers), greet attendees after Saturday Service

Greeter: Unlock/Lock doors, turn on/off lights, greet, hand out bulletins, count offering for Fellowship, count participants in service

SUNDAY Sign Up Here—> <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b054eafa62da3fa7-sunday>

Welcome Table: An usher and a greeter had a baby, that baby became the Welcome Table Host.

Fellowship Host: Make a fresh pot of coffee during postlude, then clean up at 12 pm.

Ways to Give at Trinity

Become a Realm giver! Call the office to get an invite to REALM, our new giving platform. In Realm you can donate from a checking account, savings account or your credit card. Donations can be done weekly, monthly, or annually. Also, you can look at the history of your giving and even print a statement for your taxes. Check it out!

For **One-Time Donations** go to www.trinitylutheranfc.org and click on “Give” at the top of the webpage. Find One-time Donation and follow the prompts from there. Again, you can have the donation come from a checking account, savings account or your credit card.

Are **charitable rollovers** an option for you? If you are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, you might be able have the check payable to Trinity, and not pay taxes on the distribution (please check with your tax advisor, or financial institution). The same applies if you have a charitable donor advised fund. Check with your financial institution on the frequency that works best for you.

Does your bank offer their customers a **bill paying option**? You can check with your bank about this. Some banks do not charge for this convenience. Have **automatic deductions** from your checking or savings account, done weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly.

Have the Venmo app? Trinity is also on Venmo! We are “Trinity-LutheranFC”.

Use Regular Offering **Envelopes**-either brought to worship or mailed in.

Thank you for taking a moment to consider these options. Please feel free to call the office if you have any questions or need help; 970-482-1226 or email bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org.

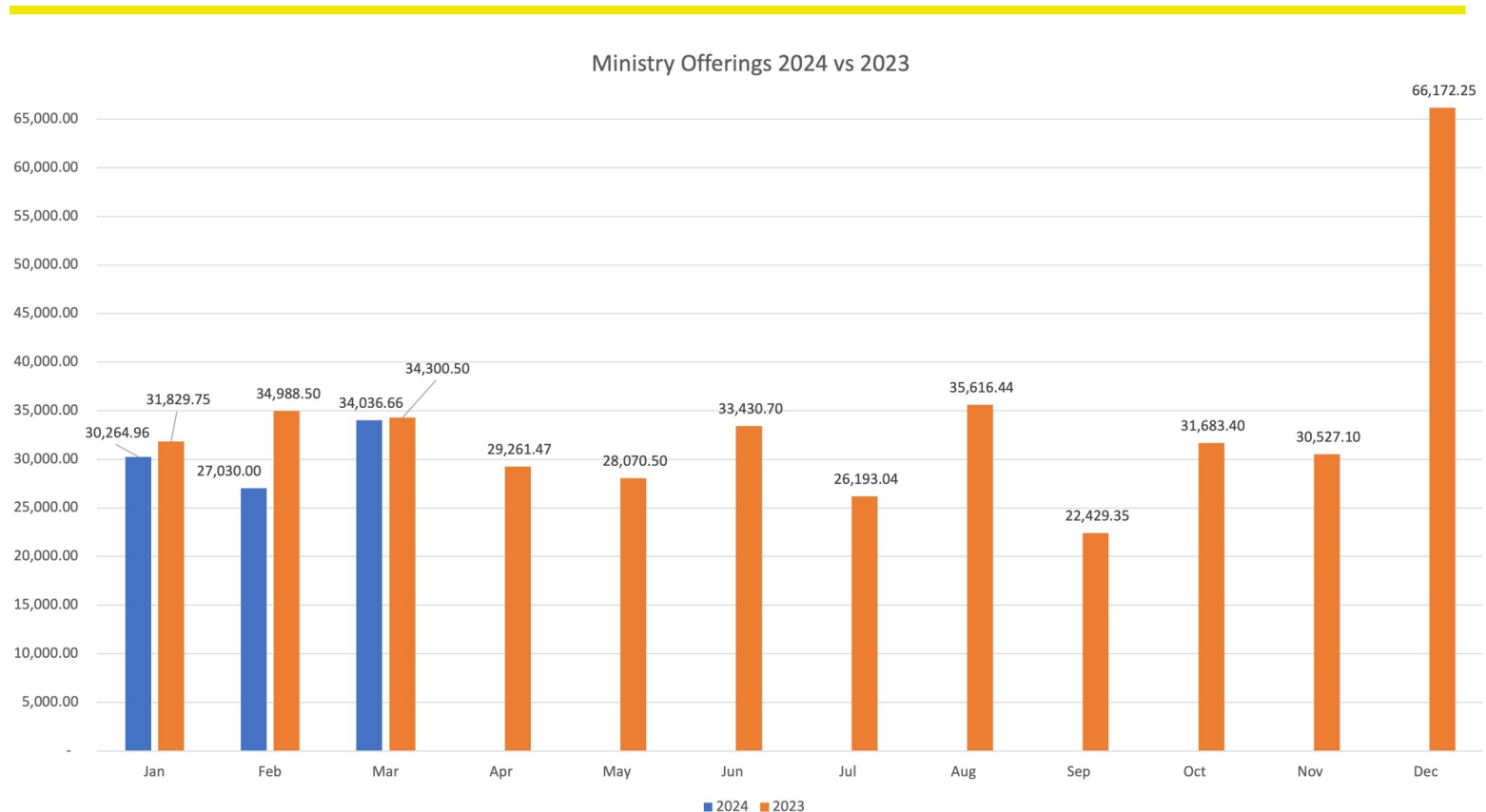
Your Gifts In Action ~ Climate Change and Water

The Fort Collins non-profit organization **Trees, Water & People** (TWP) <https://treeswaterpeople.org/> has been doing transformative work on behalf of communities in the U.S. and Central America and continues to receive Trinity's benevolence support. Their mission is to improve lives by helping communities to protect, conserve and manage natural resources on which their long-term well-being depends. They have five community-centered priorities: Dignified Livelihoods, Environmental Stewardship, Gender Equity & Inclusion, Indigenous Sovereignty and Youth Development. These all feed into their vision of a world where climate justice, equitable economic development and resilient communities are valued and have the space to thrive.

Lutherans Restoring Creation (LRC) <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org/> is a grassroots movement of Lutherans, driven by laity, pastors, lay professionals, synod leadership, and others who hold positions in the ELCA and its institutions. LRC's mission is to promote care for creation in the ELCA. They accomplish this by "cultivating a community of dedicated stewards of earth and neighbor who proclaim God's promise of hope and healing for all." LRC offers a full [calendar of virtual and live events](#) along with videos, book recommendations, blogs, writings, devotions, toolkits, downloads and online worship. They encourage congregations and individuals to be active participants in policy making, legislative processes, community engagement and ecological events locally, regionally, and globally.

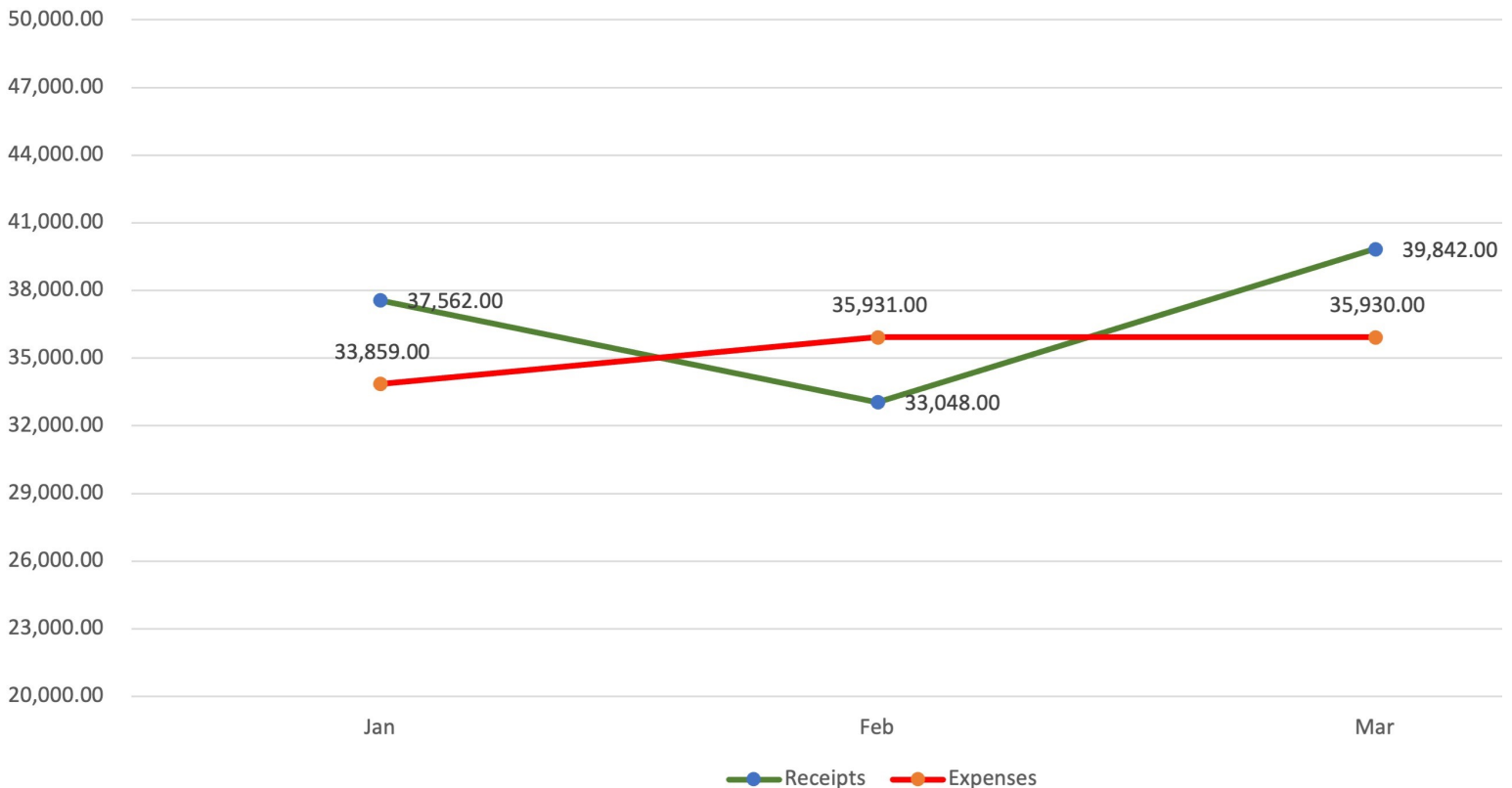
The ELCA Good Gifts Water program has our support for the critical need of clean and available water. This benevolence support in countries around the globe helps to meet a variety of water needs such as: hygiene kits, water filters, latrines, safe water wells, and irrigation system projects. There is a range of prices for these needs through the online catalogue at <https://goodgifts.elca.org/water/> A lack of rainfall for farming can make entire communities vulnerable to drought and hunger. Such projects can relieve the stress of unpredictable weather for many families as they continue to adapt to a changing climate.

When you give to Trinity, you give to Climate Change and Water



TLC 2024 Ministry Fund Plan Actuals		
	March	Year-To-Date
Receipts:		
Offerings	\$ 34,037	\$ 91,332
SPE and MoM Building Use Donations	3,971	13,871
Building Use	209	825
Benevity Funds Released	1,625	4,425
Total Receipts:	39,842	110,453
Expenditures:		
Operating and Support	\$ 25,277	\$ 76,132
Ministries	10,653	29,589
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc)	-	-
Total Expenditures:	35,930	105,721
Receipts less Expenditures:	\$ 3,912	\$ 4,732
Total Checking/Savings as of 3/31/2024		\$ 154,413.08
Total Checking/Savings as of 12/31/2023		\$ 166,656.00
Difference		\$ (12,242.92)

2024 MFP Total Receipts vs Total Expenses





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