



Trinity News

200 N. 1st Street, Rockford, Illinois, 61107-3901

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www.trinityrockford.org

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Staff:

Rev. Jay P. Quinn, Pastor; Dollye Kozel, Administrative Assistant;
Deacon Jean Anderson, Organist

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Help Provide Water for 500 Families!



During Epiphany, Trinity is going to be collecting donations to purchase a simple water well through ELCA Good Gifts.

Lack of access to clean water is one of the biggest challenges to overcoming poverty.

We can purchase a well for \$2,500, which will allow 500 families access to clean, safe water.

Let's help keep a community healthy! Collection cups will be given out starting Sunday, January 11th.

Join us for Brunch Sunday, January 11, 2026



9:30 a.m. Worship in
the Sanctuary

10:45 a.m. Brunch

Please sign up on the
attendance sheet Sunday
morning or call the
church office to R.S.V.P.



Games Night

We had so much fun at our first game night, we're doing it again! Come one, come all! Join us for an evening of catching up, laughter, and friendly competition with fun card and board games. Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 18th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. We'll have games for all ages, so everyone is welcome! Pizza, beverages, and cookies will be provided.

To RSVP, please call the church office, sign up on Sunday mornings using the attendance sheet or respond on the TLC Faith and Fellowship Facebook page. We can't wait to see you there!

The Prime Timers are heading to the Garden of the Gods, the Royal Gorge, Colorado Springs and much more this Fall!

September 12 - 20, 2026



Cost: \$1,255 per person
(double occupancy)

Flyers with complete details are available in the church office.

Open to all members 50 years old and older.

Did You Know?

- **Check out our website** by visiting www.trinityrockford.org
- **Trinity News** can be delivered straight to your inbox via email. If you would like to receive the newsletter through email, please email the office at office@trinityrockford.org or call the Church office at 815-963-4446.
- **Upcoming deadlines for the Trinity News** are:

January 9th for the January 23rd issue

January 23rd for the February 6th issue

NOTE: Please make submissions before the deadline.

Cornucopia is collecting Macaroni and Cheese during the month of January.



Trinity's Office Hours
Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.



TRINITY NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

STRIVING TO BE THE HANDS OF JESUS

Gather ~ Invite ~ Share ~ Serve

200 N. First Street • Rockford, IL • 61107 • 815-963-4446

www.trinityrockford.org

Volume 63, Issue 1
January 9, 2026

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“Growing Disciples Start with Encouraging”

To encourage is to build community. Beyond the initial actions of welcoming people into the community are ministries of friendship and support. Encouragement is the cluster of friendly attitudes and actions that forge relationship, building a diverse set of people into a community in Christ.

Encouragement makes it possible to cross lines of race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, politics, economic class, educational level, and generation. Common social skills are transformed by the presence of the Holy One into acts of discipleship whereby the body of Christ is continually built up and strengthened for mission and ministry.

The word “community” is rooted in sharing. Shared experiences, shared values, and shared space lead to community. The church shares the love of God, the forgiveness of sin through Jesus Christ and the work of the Holy Spirit who continually calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies us.

What does it look like to gather a diverse group of people into community?

Take some time to reflect on the attitudes and actions that promote community. What are the attitudes and actions that tend to divide or break up community?

What are some real-life acts of encouragement that will make your congregation a stronger faith community?

Let us pray.

Beloved God, you have made us all in your image. We thank you for the wonderful variety of interests, abilities, and backgrounds represented here. Enrich our lives by an ever-widening circle of fellowship. Show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until we are made perfect in love for you and love for all your children. Amen.

Readings that invite you to go deeper:

Psalm 133; Matthew 18:1-5; Matthew 18:20; Acts 15:1-21; 1 Peter 2:21-25; 1 Peter 3:8-11

Submitted by Growing Disciples: Northern Illinois Synod

Church Calendar January 10 - 24

Saturday, January 10th – Psalm 148

Sunday, January 11th – Matthew 3: 13-17

9:30 a.m. Worship (S)

10:45 a.m. New Year Brunch (AH)

11:30 a.m. Confirmation (TBD)

Monday, January 12th – Isaiah 42: 1-9

5:00 p.m. Finance Team (CR)

5:45 p.m. Admin Team (CR)

Tuesday, January 13th – Acts 10: 34-43

5:30 p.m. Building and Grounds Team (CR)

Wednesday, January 14th – Romans 10: 5-17

9:30 a.m. Trinity Quilters (QR)

Thursday, January 15th – Jeremiah 1: 4-10

5:30 p.m. TDC Literacy Night (TLC)

Friday, January 16th – Colossians 4: 2-5

Saturday, January 17th – Psalm 29

Sunday, January 18th – John 1: 29-42

8:30 a.m. Worship (S)

9:30 a.m. Fellowship (AH)

10:00 a.m. Worship (S)

Monday, January 19th – Isaiah 49: 1-7

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

5:30 p.m. Church Council (CR)

Tuesday, January 20th – 1 Corinthians 1: 1-9

5:30 p.m. Trinity House Board (CR)

Wednesday, January 21st – Psalm 77

Thursday, January 22nd – John 4: 46-54

Friday, January 23rd – Acts 4: 23-31

Saturday, January 24th – Psalm 40: 1-11



**131st Annual Congregational Meeting
and Souper Duper Sunday**
Sunday, February 1, 2026

One Service at 9:30 a.m.
Sanctuary

Annual Meeting at 10:45 a.m.
Anderson Hall

Followed by our
3rd Annual Souper Duper Sunday

Heartfelt prayers for the
family and friends of
Patsy Christiansen
who recently passed
away.



Please Pray For: Michael, Ron, Anthony, Chuck, DeAnn, Joshua, Tanya, Char, Kenny, Don, Carol, Brandon, Pat, Steve, Matthew, Byron, Scott, Joyce, Russ, Donna, Linda, Marisa, Barb, Dawne, Bill, Lorna, Donovan, Mary, Erik, Dea, Anne, Mirella, Stacy, Donna, Rod, Sharon, Emily, Kara, Alan, Bob, Kris, Danielle, Danny, Rosie, Kelli, Curt, Sharon, Jim, Diane, Patty, Joshua, Candy, Scott, Myles, A.J. Barb, Lynn, Deb, Kathy, Joyce, Dave, Larry, Mary Kay, Jolyn, Alexis