



Let God's Word...

GOOD NEWS FROM THE PEWS

May/June 2025

...Rule Our Hearts and Guide Our Footsteps

PASTORS NEWS, PEWS, AND ATTITUDES

To my church family,

This will be my last newsletter.

I know that change is tough, but I also know that God will be with you during this transition.

My hope and prayer is that you continue to reach out, to spread the Good News, and that you will be a blessing to Pastor Angel as you have been to me.

I see the wonderful things that you are doing. In addition to the work that is done at the community food pantry and the monthly donations that are given to the community. The outreach that is done with the creative crafters with the prayer blankets, the fidget pads that are given to those who have Alzheimer's and dementia as well as other sensory issues, to the hats and scarves that are donated to the schools for children who may not have them during the cold weather. The work that is done with those who are grieving, whether it be through Grief Share, Surviving the Holidays, Loss of a Spouse and the future of helping teens and younger kids through a program that is badly needed in this and surrounding communities. The outreach that is done in Silvis at Crosstown Square, I know this means so much to the residents there. And of course I cannot leave out pennies for missions, the donations they make with the "pocket change" that is collected on the second Sunday each month, and the huge support for Steel Militia and the bikers for backpacks, every July. With the donations we collect along with many others, Steel Militia is able to support so many kids, who may not have the means to afford school supplies and backpacks every year. For each of these programs and others, I say job well done.

From the time I arrived to now you have shown acceptance, love and compassion. From the beginning when my daughter was shot, to prayers for healing when I have had surgery, to the passion I have for the biker community you have supported me in so many ways. For that I will be forever grateful.

There is something that I feel I must say. Please know this comes from a place of love. Love of God, love of this congregation and love of this church. I ask that you do not contact me for the first year that Pastor Angel is here. Please do not email me (unless it is church business), send friend requests through social media, call or texts. I ask this because it is difficult for a new pastor to find their way when they are living with the shadow of the previous pastor. Again, please know this request comes from a place of love. I will miss each of you and I have grown to love this church family and I know that God is watching over you.

Blessings,
Pastor Lisa



This will be the last article for Open Road. As you know I will be retiring the end of June and Open Road has found a new home within my home church. I have spoken to the Pastor and he is excited as well as offering a place for me to hold in person worship. But if you want to hear the message, feel free to check out the Facebook page. Even though I am leaving the pulpit I plan on continuing reaching out to the biker community, attending rides and rallies to be the hands, feet and wheels of Jesus Christ. I am hoping to go into churches to share the word on what I do and to grow. But, before I leave, I do have a rally I will be attending soon. It will be in Arkansas. That is what Jesus told us, Go and make disciples, and that is what I will continue to do. To meet people where they are and show the love of Jesus Christ. Remember keep the shiny side up, and the rubber side down.

Blessings, Momma Time
Aka Pastor Lisa

Milan Christian Food Pantry

Our needs continue to grow for food and personal care items and cleansing products. So for the next few months we will concentrate on these items, such as shampoo, bar soap, body wash, deodorant, etc. We still need cereal. Volunteers are needed for the Food Pantry. Parking workers from the Food Pantry are needed for the Golf Tournament, For information contact Pam Pearson or Pearl Smith. Thank you so much for your help. June items will be in the bulletin.

Be sure to notify the church office with any changes in addresses and/or phone numbers.

Pennies For Missions will be collected the second Sunday of the Month

If you have an email address or a change to the email address you have given us, please let the church office know. We are using email more and more for our communication.

Upcoming Events

Event	Date	Time
Open Road	May 13 & 27 Jun 10 & 24	6 pm
Creative Crafters	Wednesdays	9 – 10 am
Nurture	May 5	5:30 pm
Bingo	3 rd Thursday	1:30 pm
Trustees	May 3	9:30 am
Finance	May 3	10:00 am
Church Council	May 3	10:30 am

What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year.

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 9am-noon. Fridays CLOSED.. If anyone would like to volunteer in the church office, please see Pastor Lisa or Barb Downs. Pastor's hours are available by appointment. If the church office is closed, please leave a message and Pastor Lisa or an office volunteer will return your call. If you have an urgent issue, you may call or text Pastor Lisa on her cell phone at 217-898-8403 or email her at pastorllisa@gmail.com.

CAMERA UPDATE

About a year ago we had someone from our church family step up and purchase a camera and laptop for livestreaming the service on Sunday and other special services. This reaches many who cannot come to church, are traveling and even working. Our hope was to have everything in place and running by Labor Day. One of the things that needed to be done was to move our sound system to the back of the sanctuary. This would allow us to hook up the sound to the laptop and have better sound when live streaming. We received bids, and chose a company to do the work. It was at this time, we realized there was a rodent problem and this was due to exterior walls in the basement needed to be reinforced, because that is where, they were coming from. This work was not completed until the beginning of the year, along with additional work that was discovered at that time. This work has been completed and we have contacted the company to do the work of moving the sound board to the back of the sanctuary mounting the camera and having someone to run it. Through this we have the opportunity to reach so more.

<p><i>BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION WITH CAKE!!!</i></p>
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<p><i>First Sunday of every month</i></p>
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Attendance (in person + online)

May Birthdays

Marlis Eiland 5/9
Betty Laffoon 5/14
Matt Harrison 5/14
Fred Flickinger 5/15
Logan Wang 5/15
John Wilson 5/22

Anniversaries

John & CeCe 5/23
Wilson
Dennis & Linda
Bloomberg 6/30

Mar 2	31-14	Apr 6	27
Mar 9	28-28	Apr 13	27
Mar 16	31	Apr 20	33
Mar 23	28	Apr 27	
Mar 27	28		

June Birthdays

Tammy Benyak 6/7
Kevin Putnam 6/8
Debi Simpson 6/18
Laura Martin 6/24
Deven Garcia 6/25

Bell Ringer

May - Gary Howe
June - Gary Howe

Acolytes

May - Nicole Koester
June - Nicole Koester

Liturgists

May - Volunteer needed
June - Volunteer needed

Coffee Helpers

May - Barb Downs/ Barb Lee
June - Barb Downs/Barb Lee

Ushers

May - Greg DeSchepper/Bob Polsher
June - Greg DeSchepper/Bob Polsher

<p><i>Please join us for Communion the first Sunday of every month.</i></p>
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Trinity United Methodist Church - Milan IL
Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2025

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

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Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	Period Activity	YTD Balance
Assets				
101100	A Checking Account	24,663	8,108	15,934
101900	CD 63581 Memorial \$3330	5,473	0	5,473
102000	UM Foundation \$7082 Asset	15,832	0	15,832
102500	UM Foundation \$34,800 Parsonage	93,114	0	93,114
103000	UM Foundation \$100,000 Estate	106,686	(10,000)	96,686
104000	Trinity Memorial Savings	665	0	665
	Total Assets	\$246,435	(\$1,891)	\$227,707
Liabilities				
201200	Blackhawk State Bank	0	80	179
202400	Illinois Great Rivers Conf.	0	923	923
202500	Illinois Depart. of Revenue	0	26	57
203100	Mid American Energy	0	(500)	0
	Total Liabilities	\$0	\$529	\$1,160
Fund Balance				
301100	General Fund *A	20,607	6,753	19,627
301800	Parsonage Fund Balance *A	0	(775)	(2,226)
320100	Missions Fund *A	25	101	161
320400	Office Needs Donations *A	20	70	195
320510	Computer Fund Balance *A	0	(330)	(967)
320620	Building Projects Fund *A	45	1,600	(5,917)
320650	Trustees Savings *A	0	0	(50)
320700	Red Bird Work Camp *B	546	0	546
340500	Trinity CD 63581	5,473	0	5,473
340510	UM Foundation - memorial (appox 13K)	15,832	0	15,832
340520	UM Foundation \$100,000 Parsonage Fund	93,114	0	93,114
340530	UM Foundation 100,000 Estate Balance	106,686	(10,000)	96,686
360300	Motorcycle Ministry Balance	4,085	160	4,070
	Total Fund Balance	\$246,435	(\$2,421)	\$226,546
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$246,435	(\$1,891)	\$227,707