

Trinity Lutheran Church

PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 am-2:30pm

(608) 564-7920 Website: arkdaletlc.org

Pastor Terri's info: arkdalepastor@outlook.com, #608-475-0748



From the Pastor's Pen — February 2026



Dear Friends,

Everyone talks about Elijah the prophet, Moses who was saved as a baby to later lead the people thru the Red Sea on dry ground, David who wasn't eaten by lions, even Noah who built the ark. You know, the better-known folks of the Bible.

But God calls all of us who believe. Maybe you are more like Obadiah. Obadiah wasn't on stage calling fire from heaven like Elijah. Obadiah was behind the scenes quietly protecting God's people when it was dangerous. Think of a security guard, a security guard or assistant who shields people and does things for people, during a crisis or in need.

It could be life-saving or simply something to help; it may go unnoticed, not flashy: getting a glass of water, grabbing the mail, a food pantry donation or baking a cake for a funeral. Maybe God places you in a quiet role because he trusts you with hidden (essential) assignments. 1 Kings 18:3 said, "Obadiah feared the Lord greatly." Obadiah had great respect and reverence for our Lord.

If you feel unseen, remember that Our Lord sees you and notices every sacrifice you make, in public, and in private; you might be someone's needed Obadiah. Some heroes are not loud and famous; some heroes simply stay faithful where God has positioned them. Where might God be placing you?

What Joy is ours in the Lord,

Pastor Terri

Interested in membership? Contact Pastor Terri or Danna in the church office. Forms are available in the Narthex. Join our mission and service!

Bible Moment:

The name Obadiah means 'Servant of Yahweh'. One of the 13 Obadiah's mentioned in the Bible was the author of the shortest book in the Old Testament, with 21 verses (all warnings and divine judgment). The Obadiah I mentioned above is the one who served under evil King Ahab, and was in charge of his palace, and who remained faithful to God. This Obadiah famously hid 100 prophets of the Lord in two caves to protect them from Queen Jezebel, who was killing off God's prophets. Scripture highlights his faithfulness and courage, especially when encountering Elijah.

February Volunteers

Altar Guild: Danna Peterson, Jill Renner, & Maria Janisch

Garbage: Hank Sauer

Food Pantry: Jennie Moore

THANK YOU!!

**Thank You to all
Worship &
Churchwide
Assistants!**

Snow Shovelers		Counters	
Feb. 2—8	Tim & Mary Jo Meyer	Feb. 2	John Stormoen & Nancy Sauer
Feb. 9—15	Bill Wahlen & Leif Pedersen	Feb. 9	Nancy Sauer & Maria Janisch
Feb. 16—22	Bob Goodhue & Dean McVay	Feb. 16	Maria Janisch & Terri Soley
Feb. 23-Mar. 1	Hank Sauer, Dean Weibel, & John Stormoen	Feb. 23	Terri Soley & Nancy Kubina

	Lector	Camera	Liturgist	Greeter/s
Feb. 1	Lloyd Waller	Zarek Nawrot	Mike Kuss	Crystal Nawrot
Feb. 8	Sandy Pheiffer	Connley Meyer	Tom Guzman	Dean & Shirley Weibel
Feb. 15	Zach Hobbick	Karlie Amundson	Mike Willis	Dee Draeger
W.Feb. 18	George Goltz	Mike Carroll	— —	Donna Turcany
Feb. 22	Rich Grabarski	Zach Hobbick	Roxanne Irey	Ed Heideman
W.Feb. 25	Sandy Willis	Izzy Nawrot	— —	Gretchen Wetzel

	Acolytes	Ushers
Feb. 1	Avery & Ellie Christensen	Mike Carroll & Nancy Kubina
Feb. 8	Gavin & Gabriella Baggs	Derek Pavelec & Marge Edwards
Feb. 15	Mathias & Amari Hoernke	Steve Peterson & Tom Guzman
W.Feb.18	Asher Ostby	Zach Hobbick & Garret Gould
Feb. 22	Connley & Elaynna Meyer	Crystal M. Nawrot & John Stormoen
W.Feb. 25	Raylee Pavelec	Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka

	Bulletin Sponsorship	Fellowship Hosts
Feb. 1	Steve & Danna Peterson	Kathy Kuss, Donna Turcany, & Barb Albrecht
Feb. 8		Kathy Kuss, Donna Turcany, & Barb Albrecht
Feb. 15		Kathy Kuss, Donna Turcany, & Barb Albrecht
Feb. 22	Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka	Kathy Kuss, Donna Turcany, & Barb Albrecht

**Look for the sign-up sheet for altar flowers on the narthex table.
Donations are welcomed in honor or memory of someone, or just
to beautify the church space.**

Abbreviated Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes for January 12, 2026

Present: Sandy Willis, Mike Willis, Dana Henriksen, Leif Pedersen, Garret Gould, Gretchen Wetzel, Pastor Terri Skildum, Carrie Easterly. **Absent:** Liz Hendricksen, excused, Cathy Westover, excused.

The meeting was called to order by President Garret Gould a 5:05 p.m.

Approve agenda: Agenda amended to add item #3 to Old Business: Long Range Planning and item #2 to New Business: Safety Review. Motion to approve the amended agenda by Mike/Dana. Carried.

Opening devotion/prayer by Pastor Terri—staying rooted in faithfulness as a group. Discussion and prayer.

Approve December Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Carrie/Gretchen. Carried.

Approve December budget meeting minutes: A correction was made to minutes to change \$1,0000 for local benevolence to \$1,000. Motion to approve corrected minutes by Carrie/Gretchen. Carried.

Approve Treasurer's Report: In absence of the treasurer the report was reviewed but not approved.

Review Budget to Date Report and Year-End Report: Budget was reviewed and discussed.

Pastor's Report: Visits: 10. At Rest: 2 upcoming in January. At the Altar: 1 upcoming in August 2026. At the Font: 1 upcoming in March 2026. Other: Pastor will be taking time off on May 31 and July 19 – need pulpit supply for those Sundays. 3 new members will be received into membership on January 18, 2026.

Next Council Meeting will be February 9, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

Set Annual Meeting Agenda: Agenda was reviewed and no changes were made.

Old Business:

Outreach Position: a job description is needed for the position that has been filled by Cathy Murphy.

Long Range Planning: Goal of plan should align with our Mission Statement.

New Business:

Lead Workshop: Will be held Feb. 7, at Messiah Lutheran in Madison. Theme is "Forward". Pastor will send council members the email link for information from Synod. If interested in attending let Pastor know.

Safety Review: Pastor plans to review some basic safety information with the congregation on March 1. Discussion on other safety issues that may be addressed by Council with input from the congregation.

Committee Reports:

Education Ministry: Children's Christmas program went well. Sunday School and Confirmation are going.

Property Committee: no report, but there was discussion on the purchase of security cameras etc. Council advised Leif Pedersen to discuss this with Property Committee for input from them.

Worship Committee: No mtg. Pastor wants to do a Seder Supper for Lent.

TLCW: Met on Jan. 11; the budget for TLCW was reviewed, planning Palm Sunday bake sale. There is need to rework the funeral groups for serving. Discussion about letting the Congregation know about the various committees, when they meet, etc.

Endowment Committee: Met Jan. 11.

Open Discussion: Carrie Easterly suggested that a Charter be created for all Committees listing their goals and responsibilities of each Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m. closing with Lord's Prayer. Submitted in His Service, Sandy Willis, Sec.

Unstuffed Pepper Soup (Shared by Norma Riese in *Recipes & Memories* Cookbook, p. 32)

1 can (4 oz) mushroom stems & pieces, drained

1 large onion, chopped

2 cans (10-3/4 oz. ea) condensed tomato soup, undiluted

2 cans (14-1/2 oz. ea) beef broth

1 can (28 oz.) crushed tomatoes, undrained

1 (1/2 lb.) ground beef

1 c. cooked rice

3 large green peppers, chopped

In a Dutch oven/saucepan, cook beef, green peppers, & onion over medium heat; drain. Stir in broth, soup, tomatoes, & mushrooms. Bring to boil. Reduce heat; cover & simmer for at least 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add rice and heat through. Yield: 10 servings.

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	2* 9:30—Exercise Class 3:30-Bible Study	3* 8:30-Quilting 6:00-Property Comm. Mtg.	4 9:30-Exercise Class 4:44-Crafting 6:00-Choir & Confirmation	5*	6	7
8 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	9* 9:30—Exercise Class 3:30-Bible Study 5:30-Council	10* 8:30-Quilting	11 9:30-Exercise Class 6:00-Choir & Confirmation	12*	13	14
15 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	16* 9:30—Exercise Class 3:30-Bible Study	17* 8:30-Quilting	18 Ash Wednesday 9:30-Exercise 5:30-Soup/Potato Supper 5:30-Choir 7:00-Worship	19*	20	21
22 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	23* 9:30—Exercise Class 3:30-Bible Study	24* 8:30-Quilting	25 5:30-Choir 6-Confirmation 7:00-Worship	26*	27	28

* = open office days
9:00 am—2:30 pm

Looking Ahead In March
 Saturday, March 7—turn clocks forward.
 Turn your pizza orders in.
 15th—Baptism of Riley Olson.
 Wednesdays—Lenten services @7pm.



Community Outreach

Did you know community outreach includes you?! YES, YOU!

You are the person God works through. Starting at church, you can be an encourager, a listener, a forgiver, a supporter, and a respectful person of each other's differences.

Don't feel comfortable talking with others? Not outgoing? You don't have to be. You can show a smile to someone, wave to a person, lend an ear to hear and listen, send a card, write a note, lend a hand, offer a kind gesture, encourage one another, thank someone ...

Start small, and as you feel comfortable keep going; in your church, at your job, at the store, park, restaurant, in your community. Let God's light shine through you.

Our church is a community, as is the local community we live in. Each day ask God to work through you to touch others lives. Live in a way that those who don't know God, come to know God because they know you! After all, February is the month of love. You are appreciated and loved by God! Thanks be to God!

Cranberry Snack Pouches are available in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds benefit TLCW. Purchase these delicious and healthy snacks for \$1.50 per pouch or 4 pouches for \$5.00. Thank you Leif & Vickie Pedersen for the generous donation!

February Food Pantry

Why do skunks LOVE Valentine's Day? *Because they're scent-imental!*



This month let's SHARE THE LOVE and fill the food pantry shopping cart with your favorite kinds of soup!

The Women of Arkdale Trinity Lutheran Church say THANK YOU and wish you all a wonderful Valentine's Day!

Pizza Order Form—Complete both sides!

Orders with payment are due at time of order. Please mail check made payable to: Trinity Lutheran Church, PO box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613. **Pickup date tba.**

Last name: _____

First name: _____

Phone #: _____

THANK YOU!!

Any questions? Please contact the office - 608-564-7920.

All proceeds benefit youth trips and/or summer camps.



Stewardship Idea

Instead of buying a can of cream of this or that, consider making a dry ingredient recipe to keep on hand stored in a jar: 2 cups instant nonfat dry milk, 3/4 cup cornstarch, 1/4 cup chicken bouillon powder, 2 tablespoons dry minced onions, 1 teaspoon dried parsley, 1/2 teaspoon black pepper. Additional options: 2 tsp. basil, 2 tsp. dried thyme, 1 tsp salt. Mix and put in jar.

To use add 1/3 cup dry mix to a small saucepan and whisk in 1 cup water over medium heat. Cook for 5 minutes, whisking constantly. Remove from heat; set aside for 5 minutes to cool and thicken. Use as you would for a recipe that calls for 1 can of cream soup.

In the hustle and bustle of modern life, it's easy to forget that food preservation is an art that goes beyond simply storing food—it is an act of stewardship and gratitude for the blessings we receive. Plus, it's simply better for us. Genesis 1:29 reminds us, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food." Food was not just sustenance; it was divine wealth.

KFC – Kids For Christ

★ **Pizza Sales** begin February 8th!

★ **6-12graders:** You R serving Ash Wed. at 5:30 pm. Food sign up form is in the narthex.

★ **Bible Verse:** For in Him all things were created...things visible and invisible. Col. 1:16.

★ **Activity:** Make a coin/trinket dish. First make clay: 2 C flour, 1 cup salt; mix with 1 C water until dough forms. Add food coloring if desired. Mold a shape to hold knick knacks. Experiment pressing objects into the clay (like a fossil). Bake at 275°F for 15-30 mins. depending on thickness. Once cooled, you can paint it, too.



★ **Table Talk:** Do you think God had fun creating us? What do you think God's favorite thing was that he made? Hippos? Cookies?

★ **Prayer:** O Creator Lord, you made the sea with dolphins, And the hairs on grandpa's chin. You made dirt and grass, that tickles my toes and I laugh. You made toads and bees. Thank you - And for making me! Amen.

12-inch pizza— Sorry, no substitutions!

	Qty.	Price
\$8.00 or 3/\$23 Cheese	_____	_____
\$9.00 or 3/\$26 Sausage	_____	_____
\$9.00 or 3/\$26 Pepperoni	_____	_____
\$10.00 or 3/\$29 Sausage & Mushroom	_____	_____
\$10.00 or 3/\$29 Pepperoni & Mushroom	_____	_____
\$10.00 or 3/\$29 Sausage & Pepperoni	_____	_____
\$12.50 or 3/\$37 Supreme-sausage, pepperoni, mushroom, olives, onions, gr. Pepper	_____	_____

Order sold by: _____ Grand Total \$ _____

This Month's Bible Verse: Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.—Ephesians 4:32

*Advise for all of us prevent issues: sleep before you speak, spend, tweet or send that text.

Some Golden Rules for a Happy Marriage:

1. Talk every day, about everything. Silence creates distance and room for thinking the worst.
2. Fight the problem, not each other. You are on the same team.
3. Keep no secrets (except gifts). Honesty builds trust.
4. Give more than you take. It is not about score keeping.
5. Appreciate loudly; criticize softly. Words can heal or hurt.
6. **Put ego/pride aside. Apologize even when it's hard.**
7. **Touch can help or hurt. It's ok to hug and kiss and hold hands, if both are willing.**
8. **Protect each other's dignity in public. Be each other's safe space.**
9. Please and thank you are not old fashioned; consider them required.
10. When you argue: A. You can be mad, but don't insult. Anger is not a ticket to speak carelessly. B. Be mad, but tell why you're upset-don't assume they know. C. Be mad, but don't broadcast it to others. D. Be mad, but don't forget the many good things about your spouse. E. You can be mad, but also remember all the times they've forgiven you. F. Don't be mad too long, it will eat you up on the inside and create a wall between you two.



A Message from TLCW

We would like to share information about what is going on with the TLCW group in our church and how you might choose to get involved. This month we are focusing on quilting and fellowship.

Quilters meet on Tuesday morning beginning at 8:30 in the fellowship hall. They welcome those who can sew, as well as those who don't. There are many jobs that can be done with no knowledge of sewing. They have also mentioned they are very willing to teach those who would like to learn. It's a great group of women and could be a lot of fun, as well as a new hobby!

We are also looking for people to help out with Fellowship in the months of March, April, and May. This is another experience which is easy and can be a lot of fun. We ask that you sign up for a week (or maybe 2) and provide something tasty- for people to enjoy after church. We ask that you bring 2 dozen items which can be homemade or purchased. You will also serve coffee and juice during Fellowship and then clean up. There are always people to help you to learn the workings of the kitchen. If you are interested you can contact Kathy Kuss (608-547-9244) or Barb Albrecht (715-491-1554) or you can sign up in the kitchen. The sign up sheet is located on the refrigerator. Serving fellowship is a great way to meet people.

These are just two of the many opportunities for us to become involved with TLCW!



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Lenten Series:

Sundays Pastor will share with us from the book "Lent in Plain Sight" by Jill Duffield, using ordinary objects that Jesus would have encountered on his way to Jerusalem.

Wednesdays we will examine how the God of the universe uses broken pieces to reframe our purpose, turning the pieces into something beautiful and useful—a mosaic. The author of 'Mosaic', Shane Stanford, says, "This journey will take us along the same path Jesus walked in the days surrounding his journey to Jerusalem. We will see the similarities to our own stories as well as the lessons we should pick, like pebbles along the path."

Altar Guild Monthly Assistants for 2026
(Inadvertently omitted in January 2026 newsletter)

October—Donna Olson, Crystal M. Nawrot, & Carrie Easterly

**ASH Wednesday
is February 18**

**Youth's Chili/Soup
& Potato Bar Supper**
@ 5:30-6:41pm

(A donation of free-will
offering is appreciated)



Service @ 7pm