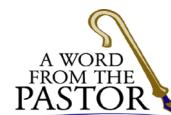
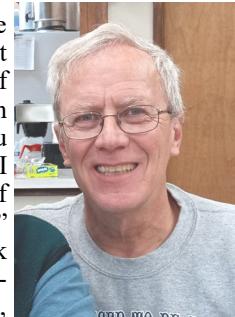


The Trinity Times



To Be Continued



A million years ago, in the 1970s, my brother told me about these books called, 'The Lord of the Rings.' Three books, each divided into two halves. "Do you have to start at the beginning?" I asked. "It will make more sense if you do, but you don't have to." So naturally I started with book two (or three, I really don't remember). It kind of made sense, but I missed out on a lot. That's what happens when we read the New Testament, but not the Old.

The Old Testament ends with these two verses: "*Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse.*" One way to look at this is that it is saying the story isn't over, there's more to come. But Malachi, it is thought, was written somewhere around 450 – 430 B.C. So it's as if it said, "Here's what's coming next," and then next never came. For around 430 to 450 years, any way. That's a pretty long time.

It makes sense, then, that all four of the Gospels, as part of introducing Jesus, introduce us to John the Baptist as the fulfillment of this prophecy. Matthew says "*And if you are willing to accept it, John himself is Elijah who was to come*" (Matt 17:14). In Mark, Jesus' disciples ask Him why people say Elijah must come first, and Jesus answers, "*But I say to you that Elijah has indeed come, and they did to him whatever they wished*" (Mk 9:13). In Luke, the angel

Gabriel, when telling Zachariah he would have a son, said, "*It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah*" (Lk 1:17). Conversely, in the Gospel of John, John the Baptist denied being Elijah. "*They asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' And he said, 'I am not'*" (Jn 1:21). I don't think this is a contradiction in the Bible, or that John was wrong. He came in the spirit and power of Elijah, but Elijah himself will come before the great and terrible day of the Lord.

But all four Gospels make clear that John came as a forerunner to Jesus, to prepare a way for Him. All four of them say, "We're picking up the story where we left off." Matthew and Luke both introduce Jesus through the Christmas story. John introduces him as God the Creator from before time, made flesh for us. Mark tells us (In my own rough paraphrase), "Here's the story of Jesus. A long time ago, Isaiah told us God would send a messenger ahead of the Messiah. John showed up, and he's the messenger" (Mark 1:1-4). We're picking up where the story left off.

One of the many lessons we can learn from this is that the Bible is one book. You can't 'like the God of the New Testament, but not like the God of the Old.' Same book, same story, same God. You're just picking up the story in a different place. You can have favorite parts, but even your favorite parts make the most sense when you can see them in light of the whole. I love the New Testament. It does a great job of picking up where the Old left off.

Photo of the Month



The last thing needed to pass inspection was moving and installing 'rat-runs' in the rafters. Job done, framing approved. Get your stopwatch out because things are happening fast!

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"Our mission is to proclaim the Word of God, leading people to a saving faith and a growing relationship with Jesus Christ."

Elders Report

Tuesday, 6 January 2026, 6:00pm

Attendees: Steve McLachlan, John Doyle, Dion Ricketts, Knute Hernas, Mike Bell and Ranse Herzinger

Agenda Items

- Previous meeting minutes were read and approved.
- Steve will put together a brief Commissioning for our 2026 church Officers.
- Easter Sunday is April 5. Sunrise Service at the Swedish Cemetery followed by breakfast at Lake Roosevelt Bible Church. Palm Sunday is March 29. Good Friday service is planned for April 3.
- The Men's Golf Fiasco, headed by Mike Bell, is set for Saturday, April 25.
- A Men's Bible Study begins Monday, March 2 at 7:30pm, The Shepherd Leader at Home by Timothy Witmer. Elders will take turns teaching this 10-week class.

Pastor's report

- We need sermon-supply for March 29.
- Men's Breakfast is Jan. 17, Dion speaker
- Building Report: Greg is applying to renew the building permits.
- Mike Cronrath's Israel presentation has moved to Feb. 15 at 6:00pm, due to the Super Bowl on Feb. 8.
- Steve is planning to start up a New Members class on January 18.

Youth Pastor's report

- Youth Leadership Training (YLT)
 - Good attendance – 11 Youth.
 - Planning an April 6-10 mission trip to the House of Omeed. It has been fully funded: \$1,500.00.
 - Mark Kennedy's Lewiston street evangelism was a big success. 7 Youth participated. New Year's Eve overnight party saw 5 Youth participants, awesome discussions.
- Sunday School – Discussing whether or not you can lose your salvation, using Hebrews 6:4-6.
- Youth Group
 - Going OK, 2-4 kiddos.
 - Winter Camp at CLBC runs Jan. 16-18. John is the Speaker.
- Scholarship Application Form needs review (see attached). Application time is nearly upon us.
- John is working on getting his CDL through the DHS Bus Barn.

New Business

- DHS Graduation is scheduled for June 6. A Baccalaureate is planned at TBF the evening of June 4.
- Steve wants to plan a Men's Fishing Trip. More to follow.

Intercessory Prayer:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 3 February 2026, 6:00 pm



What a great year so far!! Of course, it just got started but what a great start. The Youth G.A.N.G. went to **Winter Camp** and had a blast...of Course! The Youth Leaders shared their testimonies—Great job and praise the Lord with how He's working in their lives! Well, we are going to have just as much fun in February. Bring it on cause the Youth G.A.N.G. is on the Move!

Youth Group G.A.N.G. (God's Anointed Next Generation)

Youth Group, come hang with the G.A.N.G. Discover Jesus Christ and maybe play a game or two. Youth Group starts 3:30 pm to 5 pm.

Upcoming Events

Saint Paddies Day Party, Sunday, March 15

Church Funds

12/31/25

Benevolence Fund	2,301.86
Bus Fund	3,600.00
Missionaries Reserve	4,935.00
Missions Fund	3,807.00
OCC	473.87
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>78,986.67</u>
Total	\$94,104.40
Building Fund	\$340,471.26
	\$434,575.66

Ladies Fellowship and Breakfast

Join us Saturday, Feb 7th, for a wonderful breakfast made even better by the joy of sharing it with good friends. One hour and a half with us in the morning will help you find blessings and joy through the whole day!

Men's Breakfast



Come on guys, you know the drill. And even if you don't you pretty much do. You show up, there's food, you eat it. We're not talking rocket science.

We always have a practical message from God's Word, and lots of thoughts on what to do with it. Hope to see you there, 8 a.m., Saturday, February 21st.

Building Report

Things are moving pretty quickly now and it's hard to keep up. Our framing passed inspection last week, and insulation is expected to begin this week! Steps are being taken for sheet rock, which is what comes next. Keep your eyes open and watch things happen!



When Valentines meet Dad Jokes...

- What flowers get kissed? TwoLips!
- What did the painter say to his wife on Valentine's Day? I love you with all my art.
- What candy is never on time? Choco-Late!

Youth Stuff

Youth Leadership Training (YLT)

Youth Leadership Feb 2nd & 16th 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

YLT Conference at Cocolalla Feb 20th and 21st. This year we will be digging deep into the book of Malachi. You may be surprised at the major messages you find coming from this hard-hitting Minor Prophet. Come and be amazed at what you learn and how you grow as you go deep with God in His Word.



Youth Leadership Program

Volunteer

The Youth ministries can use your time, talent, and prayers. If you are interested in volunteering or serving the Youth G.A.N.G we can sure use help, please contact: Youth Pastor John Doyle @ (509) 435-6393, tbfpdoyle@gmail.com.

Israel Trip Presentation



Michael Cronrath has returned from a recent trip to Israel, and has agreed to share slides and information from his trip with us at 6 pm Sunday evening, February 15th. Put it on your calendar, and come ready to ask questions and interact with Mike about his experiences.

Men in March

March 1st: Chili Cook-off and Dad Joke Contest. Categories for Best, Hottest, and Most Unusual Ingredient. Definition of a Dad Joke: A short joke a dad could tell his kid, whether his kid gets it or not.

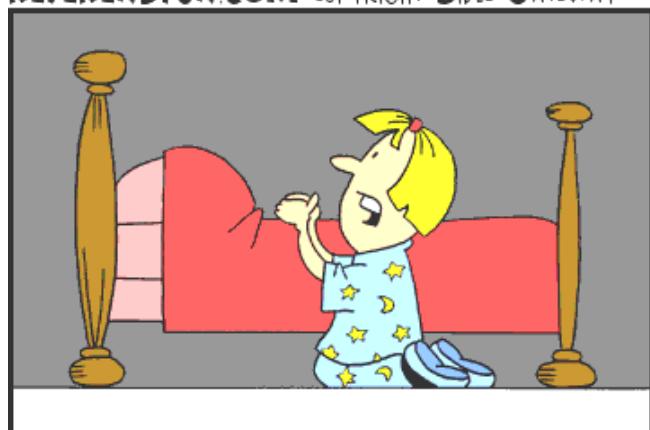
March 2—May 4: The Shepherd Leader at Home. This is an elder-led Bible study for men, working with a book of the same name.

March 6-7: Anvil Men's Conference in Almira. This year's theme is Iron Brotherhood, based on Prov. 27:17, "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Prime rib dinner Friday at 5, first session at 7. Brunch and two sessions on Saturday, and we're done by noon. Cost is \$65; or register before March 1 and save \$10!



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We had a blessed entrance into the New Year at Awana!

Monthly Average Attendance:
Cubbies: 11 || Sparks: 17 || T&T: 13 || Trek: 5 || Staff: 22

Attendance always drops a bit in January between holidays and sickness, but we had very solid attendance this month and are looking forward to the rest of the year.

Things to look forward to for Awana Families:

- Grand Prix - March 11 - Parents welcome for food, a message, and a fun night of car racing
- Jogathon/Missions night - April 1-Our yearly fundraising night for missions. Our mission of choice for this year will be announced in February. Be on the lookout for kids seeking sponsors as they run their hearts out for Jesus.

As always, thank you all so much for your continued support of TBF's AWANA Wednesday Night Kids Ministry. You are our partners in the mission of making disciples for Jesus of every child in Lincoln County.

With gratitude,
Benjamin A. Miller ><

Missionary of the Month: **Cam & Valerie Hamm**



In Canada

February 2026

Women's Ministry Leader: **Justina Sliter**
Group Members: **Laurie Anderson**
Kristi Bell
Jessica Everett
Peggy Finch



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Youth Group 3:30 pm	2 Youth Leadership 5:30 pm	3 Mission Committee Meeting 2 pm Elders Meeting 6 pm	4  6-7:30 pm Socks Night	5 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	6  7 am	7  <i>And Breakfast 9 am</i>
8 Cookie Fellowship Youth Group 3:30 pm	9 Deaconess Meeting 2 pm	10	11  6-7:30 pm Sunglasses Night	12 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	13  7 am	14
15 Youth Group 3:30 pm Mike Cronrath presents Israel Trip 6 pm	16 Youth Leadership 5:30 pm	17	18  6-7:30 pm Orange Night	19 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	20  7 am	21  <i>8 am</i> <i>Youth Leadership Conference @ CLBC Feb 20 & 21</i>
22 Communion/ Benevolence Offering Youth Group 3:30 pm	23	24	25  6-7:30 pm Paper Airplane Night	26 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	27  7 am	28