



TRINITY TRIANGLE

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, LATROBE, PA
GROWING IN FAITH • REACHING OUT IN LOVE • MAKING DISCIPLES

VOL LXXVI

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MONTH: NOVEMBER 2023

November Pastor's Corner

During the month of November, we have the opportunity to reflect on the blessings we have in our lives and give God thanks for them. I am especially thankful for our wonderful community, our fantastic neighbors, and having family and friends closer to where we live. Pastor Jess and I have reflected on how thankful we are for our now not-so-new Trinity family, for the staff, council members, and everyone who engages in our ministries. We as a church community have so many things to be thankful for, especially as we continue to see positive developments in our ministries and continued growth in our worship and devotional life.

In this month when we take time to intentionally consider what we are thankful for in our lives, I think many of us would name Trinity high on that list. Your gifts and your support help us to continue and sustain the ministries that make such a difference in our lives, in the greater community, and around the world. We are thankful for everyone who gives of their time, talents, and treasure so Trinity might be that beacon of God's love in this chaotic world. We are excited to continue hearing the stories of what makes Trinity such a special place for you, your family, and our community. Thank you for being the generous and committed people God has called and gifted you to be!

In Thanksgiving,
Pastor Jason

Updates from the September 19, 2023 Council Meeting

- Treasurer's Report:
 - ◆ Trinity is grateful that our members continue to give above the budgeted amount. Generous giving has helped to reduce the amount of our 2023 budget deficit.
- Ministry Report
 - ◆ Pastors' Reports :
 - * Pastor Jason reported that training for new liturgical deacons, lectors, and acolytes have taken place. Focus will now be training/retraining those interested in becoming Eucharistic ministers and Simeanna Visitors.
 - * Confirmation will be on October 29th at the 10:45 service. The congregation will be asked to attend that service to celebrate our confirmands if possible.
 - * Trinity will be hosting the All Saints Day Service for the Synod on November 1, 2023.
 - * An update from their trip to the Theological Convocation included the news that a new Bishop will be selected in 2025. Bishop Kusserow has decided not to serve another term. This is a good time for ELCA lay people to become more involved with the synod and its work.
 - * Many activities and favorite events are returning to Trinity!
- Council members were updated on the work of:
 - ◆ Personnel Committee
 - ◆ TLC House
 - ◆ Safety Committee
 - ◆ Nominating Committee:
 - * Current slate of nominees for Council: Dana Shannon, Lynda Turney, Tiffany Varadi, Anna Hudec, Darlene Hoffman, Candace Bungard, Jarrett Nicely, Claire Benning (youth), Kaden Shannon (youth) .
 - ◆ Stewardship Committee
- Council members approved:
 - ◆ Recommendations of the confirmands: Claire Benning, Kaden Shannon, Brady Kronenwetter, Alexa Darazio, and Nina Scalise.
 - ◆ Motions from Finance Committee:
 - * To renew our Mission Investment Fund CD of \$85,000.00 for a six year term at fixed rate of 4.18% .
 - * To approve the 2024 budget as presented, noting that the deficit amount is reduced from the 2023 budget and the amount of endowed funds to be used did not increase from the 2023 budget.

Alzheimer and Dementia Care and Support

Anyone and everyone that faces Alzheimer's and all the Other dementias and family members and friends providing unpaid care can get support thru the Association which uses donated funds that offer:

- Free, nationwide 24/7 Helpline (800-272-3900), staffed with specialists and master's-level clinicians who provide support and offer information and referrals,
- They have online message boards through ALZ connected (alzconnected.org), as well as support groups in your communities.



ELCA World Hunger

Offerings collected each week go a long way to bring hope to many in need. Thank you!
ELCA World Hunger Offerings YTD: \$6852.50



Deaths

David Waldron 10/6/2023
 Nancy Blake 10/10/2023
 Mary Lou Bialon 10/11/2023
 Daniel Dry Sr. 10/18/2023

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard

(located in the front narthex or drop off in the office). In **November** we will be collecting **paper towels** for the Greater Latrobe Food Pantry.

Usher's Schedule

Teller's Schedule

	8:15am	10:45
	*Gary Sheppard	*Jane Lawson
November 5, 2023	Jim Harris	Marcia Salandro
November 12, 2023	Nick Gebhart	Kathy Sowatskey
		Tim Potter
	*Mary Ann Coulston	*Tiffany Varadi
November 19, 2023	Donna Krall	Ryan Scalice
November 26, 2023	Phyllis O'Hara	Tim Potter
	Dana Shannon	
	*Sandy Kisick	*Linda McDowell
December 3, 2023	Candace Bungard	Christina Andrae
December 10, 2023	Lucinda Nicely	Mike Macey
		Darlene Schultz

Treasurer's Report for September 2023

Current Month

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	39,672.62	38,366.00	1,306.62
Total Expenses	46,701.41	52,080.00	(5,378.59)
Cash Flow	(7,028.79)	(13,714.00)	6,685.21
		<u>Year to Date</u>	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income	404,703.95	365,565.00	39,138.95
Total Expenses	457,849.09	468,188.00	(10,338.91)
Cash Flow	(53,145.14)	(102,623.00)	49,477.86

Please note:

- 1) Income includes \$11,155.00 per month taken from endowment interest.
- 2) Thanks to everyone for the continued financial support. So far this year the deficit has been reduced by \$49,477.86.
- 3) Average attendance 191.

	Time	Ushers	Ushers
Nov 4, 2023	5:30	Linda McDowell	Donna Showalter
		David Rock	Polly Yurek
Nov 5, 2023	8:15	Sandy Kisick	Melinda Terney
		Kathy Jones	Mark Jones
	10:45	Becky Tomlinson	Kelly Clever
		Eli Clever	Matt Clever
Nov 11, 2023	5:30	Linda McDowell	Donna Showalter
		David Rock	Polly Yurek
Nov 12, 2023	8:15	Sandy Kisick	Melinda Terney
		Kathy Jones	Mark Jones
	10:45	Mike Macey	Jill Macey
		Tim Potter	Susan Vargo
Nov 18, 2023	5:30	Kasha Loveridge	Don Loveridge
		Jay Elder	John Elder
Nov 19, 2023	8:15	Lucas Grohal	Alex Grohal
		Kennette Grohal	Steve Grohal
	10:45	Mike Macey	Jill Macey
		Tim Potter	Susan Vargo
Nov 25, 2023	5:30	Kasha Loveridge	Don Loveridge
		Jay Elder	John Elder
Nov 26, 2023	8:15	Kennette Grohal	Steve Grohal
		Alex Grohal	Lucas Grohal
	10:45	Becky Tomlinson	Bill Stein
		Anna Hudec	Glenn Gold
Dec 2, 2023	5:30	Linda McDowell	Donna Showalter
		David Rock	Ron Gess
Dec 3, 2023	8:15	Sandy Kisick	Herb Harris
		Keith Bronson Sr	Keith Bronson Jr
Dec 3, 2023	10:45	Becky Tomlinson	Bill Stein
		Anna Hudec	Glenn Gold

Trinity's Council Nominee Information (as of printing 10/26/2023)

Nominations from the floor will be taken after worship services on the weekend of November 4 & 5. The congregation will vote for new council members at the Congregational Meeting held after worship the weekend of November 18 & 19. The nominating committee thanks all of our members who are willing to serve as council members!

The following members have showed interest in becoming a council member. Look below to read more about them.

Joe Bruzda
Candace Bungard
Darlene Hoffman
Anna Hudec
Jarrett Nicely
Dana Shannon
Lynda Turney
Tiffany Varadi

Claire Benning (youth)
Kaden Shannon (youth)

Claire Benning -

Candace Bungard—Candace and her husband attend the 8:15 service and have been members of Trinity for over 10 years. She enjoys gardening and reading. Her passion is to work with others and interested in helping with hospitality. Candace is willing to serve on council because she is looking for opportunities to grow in faith and to be more active in the church.

Joe Bruzda — Joe is married to a loving wife and has beautiful boys. He is currently employed at Valvoline. His hobbies are golfing and Penn State Athletics. You can find him and his family at the 8:15 service. Joe feels he can invest in the future of the church and community from the perspective of a young family.

Darlene Hoffman— Darlene is a retired RN and has been a widow for 17 years. She enjoys volunteering at the Food Pantry and reading. She usually attends the Saturday night service but sometimes goes to the 8:15 service. Darlene's passion is to be of service wherever is needed, especially in the medical field. She states that her biggest gift is commitment; if she says she's going to do something, she will.

Anna Hudec — Anna is a mother of two wonderful children. She is a retired nurse that enjoys reading and going to sporting events. She also enjoys volunteering at her daughters school. Anna attends the 10:45 service. Anna serves as an usher, lector and recently became a church teller. She volunteers at many events held at the church and also has her clearances to participate in children's events. Anna states that as a member of council, she will be available to assist in planning or organizing an event.

Jarrett Nicely -

Dana Shannon— Dana and her husband have 2 wonderful boys. Her profession is graphic designer and is enthusiastic about learning new technology. She attends the 8:15 service faithfully (you can find her in the balcony orchestrating the livestream services). Dana's passion is to broaden the scope of the Trinity's online ministry. She states that she is fully aware that leadership is no easy path, but is prepared and motivated to embrace these challenges.

Kaden Shannon— Kaden is a freshman at Greater Latrobe Senior High School. His interests are aerospace engineering, astronomy, physics and programming. He volunteers at Club FRED and enjoys participating in various camps. Kaden attends the 8:15 service where you can find him acolyte. Kaden feels drawn to the youth member seat of council because a younger opinion would matters on making decisions. He has ideas he intends to propose will help Youth ministry and older kids. He feels he is able to make tough decisions for the betterment of the church.

Lynda Turney - Lynda was adopted by her parents, John and Eva Turney, when she was three days old. She and her twin sister Lynette were baptized in 1967 the year before her little brother was born. She loves camping, long drives and her dogs. She attends the 8:15 service where she also participates in the choir and likes to watch the pastors behind the altar. She serves on the Worship & Music committee. She states that she brings with her memories of Trinity and the ways the community has been engaged. She states that she wants to help her "fellow Trinitarians."

Tiffany Varadi - Tiffany has been a member of Trinity for 21 years and is working at the Latrobe Hospital as a patient transporter. She enjoys reading, crafting and knitting with her friends. She sings and plays the bells at the 10:45 Service. Tiffany belongs to the Fellowship and Worship & Music committees. with Being open minded and determined to help make good decisions for the church, Tiffany feels her experience will help the church blossom.

Trinity's Art Collection

Come see these beautiful painting in person in the narthex the weekend of **November 4th & 5th.**

Voting will be the weekend of **November 11th & 12th.**



Before School Oil

Alan Byrne



Look Mom! Oil

Diana Williams

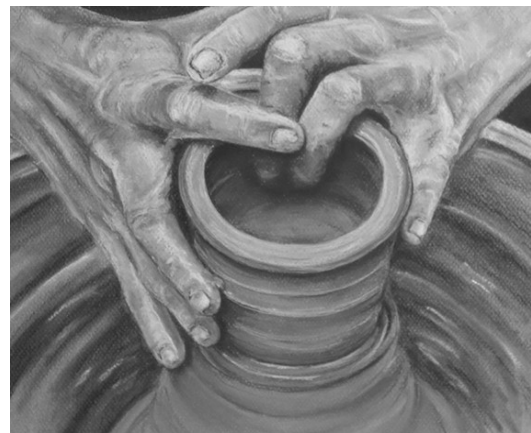


Ripple of the Mountain

Stream Memories

Giclee of Oil

Diana Williams



Hands On Pastel

Shelley Poli



I would like to give a heart felt "Thank You" to all my ladies of Purls of Prayer for all the work you put in this year. Especially for the quick turn out of shawls for WELCA! Also, for all the other shawls, lap robes, walker caddies, crosses, angles, Christmas stockings and the many other things that you made! You are all amazing! (and make awesome snacks). Thank you again. Your fearless leader.

Church Projects

- 1). Working on the boiler to restore heat to the Church by bleeding radiators and slowly replacing corroding parts.
- 2). Repainted Advent wreath, replaced screen to hang pine branches, and replaced light bulb sockets.

Winter upcoming improvement projects-if approved:

- Replace carpeting in the hallways and possibly the office.
- Add laminate flooring in different areas of the church and in main entrance foyer.

Stewardship News!

Stewardship time is once again upon us. Our theme this year is "**I Love to Tell the Story**". I am sure many of us have a great story to tell- how Trinity has affected our lives, what we have witnessed or participated in to help our faith and trust grow and develop. The stewardship committee will be asking our faith family to remember their stories, the stories that strengthen faith, support others, and realize how God has impacted lives.

We need to remember that we are indeed stewards of all that God has entrusted to us. We need to remember that we need to keep our lights on, to maintain a building that allows other ministries to happen- Sunday School, VBS, Shepherd Shop, AA, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Pickleball, Line Dancers, and many, many more ministries. It takes a dedicated commitment if we are serious about keeping our doors open and welcoming.

But this is also a time to reflect on our own responsibility to be stewards of this earthly kingdom that God has entrusted to us. Reflect on what we do in our daily lives, not only in the church building, but in the church beyond our walls.

The stewardship committee will be asking our faith family to remember their stories, the stories that strengthen faith, support others, and realize how God has impacted lives. Yes indeed, we do have bills and we must keep the lights on. Your pledge is vital to the church's survival. However, we are so much more. So join us as we love to tell the story!

Social Chit Chat



Rose Strayer will be giving a presentation on the unique Lincoln Highway Museum in Kingston, PA. She will talk about the History of the Old Stone House and The 1938 Diner (where you get free pie and coffee or tea).

There are many other exhibits to see. She will offer a special discount for admission for all who come to the meeting November 13th at 10:00am.



Save the Date! December 2 Deck The Halls and Have a Holly Jolly!

Join us on Saturday, December 2nd to Deck Trinity's Halls! Families of all ages and abilities are invited to help us decorate for Advent as we fluff bows and trees and prepare for this exciting season! Then join us downstairs for a Family Advent station event where you can make your own advent calendar, create an ornament for your tree and one to donate! This Advent Event is open to anyone and would make a great invitation for a friend or neighbor to see what happens here at Trinity! We will also have cookies to decorate and cocoa. Then stroll downtown for Latrobe's Holly Jolly event. More details to come for this event soon.


EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Greater Latrobe Ministerial Association is seeking a part-time Food Pantry and Centralized Assistance Manager to serve vulnerable members of our community through our local food pantry and emergency assistance programs. Ideally, this person could begin work in November of 2023. The Food Pantry and Centralized Assistance Manager is responsible for the day-to-day operations of both the food pantry and emergency assistance programs, along with the coordination of a monthly food distribution. This position entails client intake, volunteer coordination, resource management, and emergency assistance distribution, along with other administrative responsibilities. Most of all, it requires compassion and care for people experiencing difficult circumstances. For more information or to apply, contact Rev. Sarah Rossing at pastor.stjamesyoungstown@gmail.com.

November

2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 WELCA Quilters 10-12 All Saints Svc (Synod) 12:00 AA Mtg 2:00 Grief Group 6:30 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	2 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00 BPW 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg	3 12:00 AA Mtg	4 All Saints Receiving Nominations from the floor 5:30 Spoken Communion
5 All Saints Receiving Nomination from the floor 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 9:30 Budget Mtg 10:45 Holy Communion	6	7 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:00 Executive 7:00 Handbells	8 9:00 WELCA Quilters 11:00 NCR 12:00 AA Mtg 2:00 Grief Group 5:30 Outreach 6:30 Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	9 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg 9:00 Lock in	10 12:00 AA Mtg	11 9:15 Fellowship 5:30 Spoken Communion
12 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Veteran's Day Luncheon 12:15 Drive Thru Communion	13 10:00 Social Chit Chat	14 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:00 Finance 7:00 Handbells	15 Council Deadline 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg No Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	16 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg	17 12:00 AA Mtg 1:30 Esther Circle	18 Vote for New Council Members 5:30 Spoken Communion
19 Vote for New Council Members 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 SCS 10:45 Holy Communion	20 Triangle Deadline 2:15 Loyalhanna Church Service	21 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 6:30 Council 7:00 Handbells	22 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg No Line Dancing No Choir	23 Thanksgiving Dinner 	24 Building Closed	25 5:30 Spoken Communion
26 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Safety Mtg 9:30 SCS 10:45 Holy Communion 12:15 Drive Thru Communion	27	28 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 11:00 Pericope 7:00 Handbells	29 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg 2:00 Holiday Support Group No Line Dancing 7:15 Choir	30 Mail Triangle 1:00 Purls of Prayer 4:00 Club FRED 6:00-8:00 Young Marines 7:30 AA Mtg		



**Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
331 Weldon Street, Latrobe**

(Please use the ramp off of Weldon St. next to the Spring St. Parking lot)

Thursday, November 23, 2023 – 12:00

Appetizers and Social begin at 11:00
followed with Devotions at 11:30

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church and their
Thanksgiving Committee extend a warm welcome
to those who are looking for a place to enjoy
the fellowship of others and not having to eat alone.

Free tickets are available in the church office or
by calling (724) 537-4450 Monday – Friday.
Deadline to sign up is November 15th

A freewill offering will be accepted.

Sorry no take out service available!

**TRINITY EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
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THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER



Offered to those in the community who might otherwise eat alone, they are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship and the traditional Thanksgiving Day Meal on Thursday, November 23rd. The social begins at 10:00am with appetizers and devotions at 11:30am. The meal will be served at 12 Noon. **Tickets are FREE, but you must have a ticket.** Tickets are available in the church office Monday through Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm or by calling the office at 724-537-4450. **DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS NOVEMBER 15, 2023.** A free-will offering will be accepted. Tickets are limited, so do not hesitate.