

Volume LXXXII Number 9 November 2026

Trinity Triangle

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Latrobe, PA
Growing in Faith...Reaching out in Love...Making Disciples

Pastor's Corner

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I'd still plant my apple tree." (Martin Luther)

Many of you have seen the calendar that sprawls across the wall of my chaotic office, a colorful (and busy!) reminder of the many goings on here at Trinity. As we round the corner into November, I am reminded that the Church's calendar is winding down. Advent (which begins November 28/29 this year), marks the beginning of the Church's New Year.

These next few weeks in worship will be filled with scriptures that hearken to the end of time… Paul will urge us to stay awake for Jesus' return will come like a thief in the night. The words of Jesus himself will call us to love one another and to strive for the good of all people.

In a world with constant news cycles and "breaking news" alerts, with global protests and a contentious election cycle, I look to these scriptures as stark reminders of what it means to follow Jesus. We are a people steeped in hope, whose king is beyond the bounds of human ego, called to serve the poor, the orphaned and widowed, the outcast, and forgotten.

As your own month comes together, whether your household calendar is filled with doctor's appointments of every stripe or shuffling children to basketball and scouts, I invite you to ponder with me: how might we wind down our year with an eye toward the return of Jesus? Scholars debate whether or not Luther actually spoke the words quoted above, but the sentiment is true. The best way to serve Jesus, to stay awake and watch for his return, is to love others.

In the pages of this month's Triangle, you will find notes about First Sunday, our monthly youth event, our Veteran's Day Luncheon, our Annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner, notes about Advent, and some new ministries we'll be kicking off in the New Year! We'd love to see you. If it's been a while since you've joined us, perhaps this is your sign to wander back and hear the word of hope Jesus speaks over all of us.

Peace be with you! Pastor Jess



Congratulations to our 2026 Confirmation Class!

Alexander Nathaniel Grohal,
William Anthony Hebenthal,
Peyton Catherine Ingelido,
Madison Grace McLain,
Nico William Scalise, and
Giovanni Michael Tomlinson

Social Chit Chat

Our next Chit Chat gathering will be on **Monday, November 9th at 10:00am.** Come with an example or ideas to share of what we can do with pumpkins...eat, carve, deocorate, paint, roast the seeds, make sweet treats, etc. Bring your pumpkin recipes to share. And be prepared for a pumpkin day!



Congregational Updates

Council Minutes are posted monthly on the Bulletin Board across from the Office and online at: www.TrinityLatrobe.com/council-minutes

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard— *(located in the narthex)*
In November / December we are collecting **Kleenex and pet food** for the Greater Latrobe Food Pantry.

Deaths
+Harry Shawley (9/27/26)
+Paulette Tranquilla (9/30/26)



New Members
+Jacquelyn Gregorich (10/18/26)
+Lynn Smith (10/18/26)
+Jeff, Kristina, and Ellie Reyer (10/18/26)
+Ann Macharyas (10/18/26)
+Raymond Hamill (10/18/26)



Meal Ministry—If you or another member of Trinity are in need of a few home cooked meals delivered to your house to get you through a difficult season in life, please reach out to the church office at 724-537-4450 to sign up for our Meal Ministry. We are gladly accepting new volunteers to help cook; expenses incurred can be reimbursed using grant funds.

Report from September's Red Cross Blood Drive

We are thrilled to announce that we had 23 donors at our latest Red Cross Blood Drive for a total of 27 units of blood donated! Thank you to all who came out to donate and for our faithful volunteers. We will gather again in May for our next drive. Stay tuned for the official date in the new year!

American Red Cross
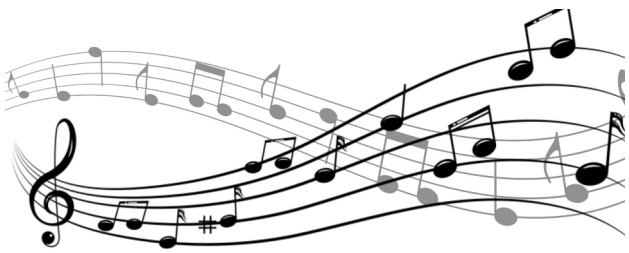


Dear Brothers and Sisters,
Thank you for your encouragement, love, and support during the death of my mother and twin sister. Being raised in a family such as Trinity has helped a lot through the grief process. My daughters and I think of Eva and Lynda Turney growing up in the seventies and in the halls of Trinity, as it was one of their favorite places to be. Being loved by you all has really helped with this tough time.

Yours in Christ,
Grace, Emily, and Lynette Patterson

Will You Join Us??

All rehearsals have begun, but more singers and ringers are needed and welcome in all groups! Please consider sharing your gifts in Trinity & Chancel Choirs, Men's Choir, Youth Choir, Trinity Ringers & Choir Chime Choir and Funeral Choir. Rehearsal times are listed in the weekly calendar in Trinity News and any questions can be answered by Debbie 412-817-0151.
Come and sing or ring to the Glory of God!



Hospital Visitation

The pastors will make every effort to visit members of our congregation who are admitted to the hospital. Please have a loved one call the church office and report your name, hospital where you are a patient, and room number if known. **The hospitals do not call the church office at 724-537-4450 to report this information.** We thank you for helping us minister to you and your family during a difficult time.





For more information on any events contact the church office at 724-537-4450 or office@trinitylatrobe.com.

Prayer List

Please join us in praying for beloved members & friends of Trinity with ongoing concerns:

Dave Shaffer
Pastor Leedahl & David Shank
Caroline Kondrich
Barry Niswonger
Grace Patterson
Nicole Buzzard
Aletha Young
Mark Lawry
Gary Rolfe
Abigail Glagola
Darlene Schultz
Ted Massa
Johannah Frenchik
Michael Voytens
David Meholic
Sue Wintermeyer
Bill Robb
Bridget Shirey-Horman
Anne Brumfield
Larry Findish
Patricia Hall
Debbie Luttner
John Thompson
Robert Heide Jr.
Luka Smith
Keith Mossburg
Sue Ramage
David Murrell
Lillian
Joan Smeltzer
Paula Tucker
Lin Sorber
Teresa Aguilo
Heather Wirick
Linda Barney
William Cloonan
Georgette Sandrowicz
Dale Evans
Phyllis Morgan
Shirley Kohan
John Carlson
Sandy Gaul
Bev Rich
Cassie Murphy
David Shirey
Roger Shaffer
Steve Conrad
Luke Chamberlain
Ken Howell
Levi Key
Janet Houser
Ron George Family
Brenda Rohde
Marilyn Kondrich
David Colaianne
Ruth Ann Fleming
Paula Wasko
Helen Potter
Sharon Matuszky
Jason Cramer
Diane Allen
Larry Armstrong
Giselle Staufer
Tracy Kopesky
Morris Williams
Tate Obarto
Jeb Linden
Kenny Decker
Family of Kylie Lenhart

Please call the Office (724)537-4450 or email Office@trinitylatrobe.com to add someone to the prayers.





Pet Blessing at Trinity October 4th





Pumpkin Potluck & Craft

















Children, Youth & Families



Youth Lock-In – October 9 & 10

First Sunday Youth

Youth gathered on the first Sunday of October to spend time in fellowship, pray and talk about their faith while making shirts together. Each young person customized their shirt using a shared logo and either a Bible verse of their choosing or the phrase, "G>^ v," which symbolizes "God is bigger than the ups and downs."



Presentation of Bibles

Twelve Kindergarteners and Third Graders Received their Bibles in worship on Sunday, October 18! We celebrate with Asa Gebhart, Sloane Gilbert, Callie Majorsky, Aladino Bruzda, Abigail Glagola, Mia Vought, Logan Rager, Alex Rhoads, Caleb Ferry, Amelia Erny, Ellie Reyer, and Maci Senft!
It is the joy and privilege of Trinity to accompany our young people in their lives of faith and equip them with the stories of God's mighty works and enormous love.



Save the Dates:

First Sunday - November 1st from 6-8pm
- Pastor Jason is making chocolate waffles for supper. We'll be making cookies for Holly Jolly visitors to decorate.

Last Call for Youth Quake!
- Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to join us for a fantastic weekend of faith formation and memories at Youth Quake!

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
- GRG - **November 18th at St. Cecilia** - Thanksgiving Dinner and painting with Jenny O!

Young Youth Bowling Event (Youth in Grades K-6)
- Young youth bowling on November 22nd from 12-2pm at Main Bowling Center in Greensburg.

Black Friday Bowling (All Ages)
- Black Friday Bowling at the Wicked Googly in Ligonier.



Holly Jolly- first Saturday in December
- Join us as we host a location for Latrobe's Holly Jolly where visitors can make a Christmas ornament and decorate a cookie!







Veterans Day Luncheon
Everyone is Welcome to Attend!

Please join us to honor and remember our veterans on **Sunday, November 8th immediately following the 10:45am worship service.** Tickets are $10; under age 6 are free. **Veterans and Spouses are FREE, but you must have a ticket.** Tickets are available after worship services in the Narthex and in the church office Monday - Friday. **DEADLINE to get tickets is 4:00pm on Sunday, November 1st.** Veterans and spouses will receive a form to complete helping us update our list of veterans.



Calling All Veterans!

Please help Trinity in keeping our records up to date. We are compiling a list of all of our veterans and want to be sure YOUR name is included. Please send a quick note to the office at office@trinitylatrobe.com or drop off your information in the offering plate with your name, years of service and branch of the military.
Thank you so much!

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

Plans will be underway for the Annual Dinner on Thanksgiving Day, **Thursday November 26th**. Sign ups are posted on the bulletin board across from the lounge if you are able to help set up, clean up, serve food, etc.

Tickets are available after worship services in the Narthex and in the church office Monday - Friday.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

We have enough turkeys! Thank you to everyone who has donated or signed up to bring a turkey or turkey breast for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner. If you signed up, please bring your frozen turkey to the church by **Friday, November 20th**.

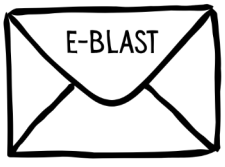


2027 Stewardship Campaign Update
Imagine More

We are so thankful for everyone who has participated in this year's Fall Stewardship Campaign, especially those families who have turned in a pledge card for 2027. Due to circumstances beyond our control with USPS, some households have reported not yet receiving the Stewardship letter and pledge card that were mailed at the end of September. If your family was one of those that did not receive a mailing and you would like a pledge card, please call or email the church office and we would be happy to provide you with one!



Do you receive the E-Blast? Did you know that Trinity has a weekly E-Blast that delivers straight to your in-box? Stay up to date on what's happening around here by signing up at:
www.TrinityLatrobe.com



Fall Congregational Meetings

This is official notice that the Annual Business Meeting of our congregation will be held on **Sunday, November 22, at 9:30am in the Nave**. In accordance with Bylaw B10.01.01.a., the agenda at this meeting includes:
1) the nomination of candidates for election to the Congregation Council;
2) the presentation by the Congregation Council of the proposed operating budget for 2027 and to act on any and all congregational amendments to the proposed budget;
3) the election of the Nominating Committee members;
4) the presentation of the Audit Committee Report from the previous fiscal year; and
5) the acceptance of the minutes from the Annual Ministry meeting.

This is official notice that a second congregational meeting will be held following all worship services the weekend of **December 5 & 6**. The business at this meeting will only include voting by ballot on the following items:
1) election of members to the Congregational Council; and
2) voting on the proposed operating budget for 2027 (with any approved amendments from the Nov. 22 business meeting).

Trinity's Annual Christmas Baskets

As Christmas approaches, Trinity is once again preparing Christmas baskets for families in need in our community. Last year, your generosity helped us provide food for approximately 144 families. Each basket includes groceries for several meals, along with a grocery gift card. Families who received a Christmas basket last year will be contacted **November 11–13** regarding this year's program.
This ministry is made possible through the generous donations of our congregation. Please consider supporting this meaningful ministry. Your generosity helps bring food, hope, and the love of Christ to families during the Christmas season. Donations may be made through the church offering or online at Trinitylatrobe.com/give by selecting "Christmas Baskets."

SAVE THE DATE!
Society of St. Nicholas

Is your child ready to learn the story of St. Nick and be welcomed into the next step of “Christmas Magic"? Children in grades 3-6 who are ready to be inducted to the "Society of St. Nicholas" and learn the truth about Santa are invited to join Pastor Jess on **Sunday, December 6 from 12-1:30** in the Cafe. Call the office or sign up on the bulletin board across from the Lounge to RSVP for lunch. Because of the nature of this event, each child is asked to attend with a trusted adult, but no younger siblings should be present.



Christmas Poinsettia & Hunger Memorials



We invite you to adorn our Altar and Chancel or bring blessings to a hungry family.

I wish to purchase _____flower(s) at $13.00 each for a total of $_____

I wish to make a hunger donation of $_____

in memory of: _____

in honor of: _____

given by: _____

Please return to the church office with your donation by **Sunday, November 29th.**

2027 Broadcast Sponsorships & Flowers

New sign-ups for broadcasts and flowers will be posted soon in the Narthex. Please let the office know if you have specific dates you would like to sign up for.

office@trinitylatrobe.com
724-537-4450



We welcomed (7) New Members at Trinity on Sunday, October 18th at 10:45am!



Jacquelyn Gregorich



Lynn Smith



Jeff, Kristina, and Ellie Reyer



Ann Macharyas



Raymond Hamill

Please introduce yourself and welcome them to Trinity!

Lights of Love

39th Anniversary in 2026

Remembering loved ones who have passed and **honoring** those with whom we can still share our lives with *Lights of Love* lights is so very important, especially during the holidays.

Each bright light on the evergreen tree on the WVU Medicine Latrobe Hospital Plaza will signify a family member or friend who holds a special place in someone's heart. The tree will be lighted continuously December 8, 2026, until January 7, 2027.

The *Lights of Love* project culminates at **Light Up Night** on **Tuesday, December 8, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Robindale Auditorium, 1501 Ligonier Street, Latrobe. The evening will include holiday music, the **Ceremony of Remembrance and Honor**, live streaming of the ***Lights of Love* tree illumination**, and light refreshments. All donors, honorees and the public are invited.

For $8.00 per name, you can remember and honor the special people in your life with a *Lights of Love* light. P**articipate via mail or electronically**.

VIA MAIL: Pick up a **brochure** at Independence Health System's Latrobe Hospital, The Square at Latrobe, and throughout Latrobe. You can download the brochure at **independence.health/lightsoflove** , or **call the LAHAS Office** (724-537-1733) to request a brochure be mailed to your home. Leave a message with your name, address, and phone number.

ELECTRONICALLY: Go to **bit.ly/lahaslove** to complete the online form and make your donation by credit card. You can also go to **Latrobe Area Hospital Aid Society's Facebook** page and click the SSL.CHARITYWEB.NET link or use the **QR Code** below.

Latrobe Area Hospital Aid Society is grateful for the faithful support of everyone who has made *Lights of Love* a holiday tradition!

Military Deployed or Reserves

We are looking for Trinity members with family who are deployed or in the reserves. Trinity hopes to send notes of encouragement to these service members! Please let the church office know your loved ones name and address.

724-537-4450 or
office@trinitylatrobe.com

Holly Jolly

If you are interested in helping us host a cookie-icing station or our ornament crafting station (or both), please sign-up on the bulletin board across from the lounge starting Saturday, November 7th. The event will be on **Saturday, December 5th from 9:30am until 2pm.**

Holly Jolly Christmas in Latrobe



ADVENT 2026 AT TRINITY

HEAVEN'S EARTHLY LIFE: WENDELL BERRY *and the* POETRY OF ADVENT

The Christian year – and in that sense, the Christian faith – begins not with the brilliant flowers of Easter, the dazzling flames of Pentecost, or the soft glow of Christmas morning. It begins with the longest nights of the year, the growing shadows of despair, conflict, sorrow, and hate – for it's there that the God of hope, peace, joy, and love will arrive.

The word "Advent" means arrival. It's the four-week season of mindfully watching, waiting, and preparing for Jesus to arrive – and at the same time to arrive ourselves at the manger, so to speak, not thousands of years ago on the other side of the world, but wherever we are, right here, right now.

That's the journey of Advent. God arriving – and each one of us arriving, too. "It gets darker and darker," the poet Wendell Berry once remarked to the writer Anne Lamott, "and then Jesus is born."

Poetry can help us adjust our eyes to the darkness – and thereby notice the light. In this Advent devotional, we let scripture and Berry's poetry be our guides, together pointing us toward weekly practices that can help us prepare for the radiant joy to come.

Pick up your copy of the weekly devotional for Advent in the Narthex beginning November 22 or watch for how to download a copy to your electronic device!

SAVE THE DATE:
MORNING COMMUNION SERVICES
WITH REFLECTIONS ON BERRY'S WORKS
TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, AND THURSDAYS
THROUGHOUT THE SEASON OF ADVENT,
BEGINNING DEC. 1 AT 8AM.

CHRIST THE KING
MATT. 25:37-46

Q D F I L B L M T Y L A X N K F X C Z Y I L Y P N J S D W O N
A X V T N E M H S I N U P J B C E R I F G N I T S A L R E V E
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V Z B S R J H L E Q I Z J B L P O H N O L X P W O R L D T S H
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ALL NATIONS
BRETHREN
CLOTHED ME
CURSED
DEVIL
EVERLASTING FIRE
FOUNDATION
GLORY
HOLY ANGELS
HUNGRED
INHERIT
KING
KINGDOM
LEAST
LIFE ETERNAL
PRISON
PUNISHMENT
RIGHTEOUS
SEPARATE
SHEEP AND GOATS
SHEPHERD
SICK
SON OF MAN
STRANGERS
THIRSTY
THRONE

ELCA Good Gifts

As you begin to think about Christmas gifts, remember the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog! The catalog offers a wide range of gifts from $10 of chicks to help begin a flock for a family to $50 to support a refugee family all the way to a $2500 gift to help give as many as 500 families access to clean water! You can pick up a catalog in Trinity's Narthex or explore online at ELCA.org/goodgifts. We will also have a limited number of gift tags/ ornaments available for donors who wish to give a physical symbol of their gift.

ELCA

Sew Powerful Purse Event

Join us on **Saturday, November 14 from 10a-4p** for our next Sew Powerful Purse event! Sign up on the bulletin board across from the Lounge. And celebrate with us as we have sent 142 purses to Yuba City to help empower young girls. Thank you to all who have supported this ministry!

Our thanks to David Colaianne who produces these word searches for the Triangle!



NOVEMBER





Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Youth Choir 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Men's Choir 6:00 First Sunday Youth	2 12:00 Zoom Bible Study 2:00 Grief Group **OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSE at 4:30pm**	3 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 6:00 Grief Group 7:00 Handbells	4 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg. 3:00 Outreach 6:30 Line Dancing 7:00 Choir	5 11:00 Purls of Prayer 3:50 Club FRED 5:30 Worship & Music 7:30 AA Mtg.	6 **OFFICE CLOSES AT 2:30PM** **BUILDING CLOSES AT 3:00PM**	7 4:00 Set up Veterans Day **5:30 Spoken Communion**
8 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Youth Choir 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Choir Chimes 12:00 Veterans Day Luncheon 12:15 Drive-Thru Communion	9 10:00 Social Chit Chat 12:00 Zoom Bible Study 2:00 Grief Group **OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSE at 4:30pm**	10 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 6:00 Grief Group 6:00 Finance 7:00 Handbells	11 **Council / Triangle Deadline** 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg. 6:30 Line Dancing 7:00 Choir	12 11:00 Purls of Prayer 3:50 Club FRED 7:30 AA Mtg.	13 **OFFICE CLOSES AT 2:30PM** **BUILDING CLOSES AT 3:00PM**	14 10:00 Sew Powerful Purse Event **5:30 Spoken Communion**
15 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Youth Choir 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Men's Choir	16 10:30 Barnes Place Communion 12:00 Zoom Bible Study 2:00 Loyalhanna Communion 2:00 Grief Group **OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSE at 4:30pm**	17 9:30 Prayer Group 10:00 Bible Basics 10:00 Shepherd Shop 6:00 Grief Group 6:30 Council 7:00 Handbells	18 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg. 5:30 GRG @ St. Cecilia 6:30 Line Dancing 7:00 Choir	19 11:00 Purls of Prayer 3:50 Club FRED 7:30 AA Mtg.	20 **Mail Triangle** **OFFICE CLOSES AT 2:30PM** **BUILDING CLOSES AT 3:00PM**	21 **5:30 Spoken Communion**
22 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School No Youth Choir 9:30 Annual Business Meeting 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Choir Chimes 12:00 Young Youth Bowling @ Main Bowling Center in Greensburg	23 12:00 Zoom Bible Study 2:00 Grief Group **OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSE at 4:30pm**	24 9:30 Prayer Group No Shepherd Shop 6:00 Grief Group No Handbells	25 9:00 WELCA Quilters 12:00 AA Mtg. 4:00 Thanksgiving Decorating 6:00 Thanksgiving Dinner Meeting No Choir	26  12:00 Thanksgiving Dinner **OFFICE CLOSED**	27 **OFFICE & BUILDING ARE CLOSED** Black Friday Bowling (all ages) at Wicked Googly in Ligonier	28 9:30 Decorate for Advent **5:30 Spoken Communion**
29 8:15 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 9:30 Youth Choir 10:45 Holy Communion	30 12:00 Zoom Bible Study 12:00 Grief & the Holidays Support Group 2:00 Grief Group **OFFICE & BUILDING CLOSE at 4:30pm**					

MEALS ON WHEELS

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
331 Weldon Street
Latrobe, PA 15650
Phone: (724) 537-4450
Email: office@trinitylatrobe.com
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The Trinity Triangle is available in color on our website www.trinitylatrobe.com/triangle.
If you prefer to receive a notice when it is posted instead of a paper copy in the mail,
please contact the church office (724)537-4450 or office@trinitylatrobe.com



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