



THE WITNESS

Happy November!

“Come Celebrate With Us”

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST CHRIST THE KING – LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST November – 2023

*“Beloved, we are God’s children now.”
(1 John 3:2)*

(Second Lesson appointed for All Saints Sunday)

Dear friends,

It is hard to believe that the month of November is already upon us. The month begins with the celebration of All Saints, past, present and still to come. The month concludes with the celebration of Christ the King, the last Sunday after Pentecost. In between we have two more Sundays in what seems like an unending “Green Season” that began way back in June. We will also mark our National Day of Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 23rd. It will be another busy month in the church, in our communities and in our families as well.

As we remember those faithful and faith filled ones who have gone this way before us, we give thanks for the love, dedication and spirit they so generously blessed us with. They prepared us as best they could for the community of faith we enjoy in these days. May we follow their great example as we are privileged to prepare the way for those saints still to come, the countless ones who will follow us in the way that God has set before us.

In this month of giving thanks for all God’s abundant blessing so graciously showered upon us, we will have the opportunity to make our generous and thankful response on our 2024 Stewardship Appeal Commitment Sunday. You will be receiving more information about this soon. **November 19th** is the day we will offer our **Statement of Intent Cards** and ask God’s blessing upon our best efforts to be faithful in keeping the commitments we will make. May God bless us and empower us as we strive to **EMBRACE, ENHANCE AND EXPAND** the ministry God has entrusted to our care and keeping.

As noted in the scripture verse quoted above, we are God's Beloved Children Now! We have been given all that we need to take up the opportunities and challenges that are set before us to be faithful in word and in deed to all that God calls to do and to be. It continues to be a blessing to be in ministry with all of you during these special days. May God's Spirit, holy and free, guide us and be with us in all that we say and do. May Christ our King always rule in our hearts and minds. We do it all to the glory of God! See you in Church!

Peace, Pastor Rich



From Your Congregation President

Welcome to November 2023. The temperature has dropped, leaves are falling, and I will move from the pool to spa. College football is halfway through the season, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, New Years and Mardi Gras are all coming. All very exciting. We are also moving out of Ordinary Time and heading into the interesting seasons of the church. For those new to a liturgical church, here is where we are headed ...

- † Advent - four weeks of preparation before the celebration of Jesus' birth
- † Christmas - recalling the Nativity of Jesus Christ and his manifestation to the peoples of the world
- † Lent - a six-week period of penance before Easter
- † Sacred Paschal Triduum - the holiest "Three Days" of the Church's year, where the Christian people recall the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus.
- † Easter - 50 days of joyful celebration of the Lord's resurrection from the dead and his sending forth of the Holy Spirit

For me, it is a period of reflection and learning. Lynn and I have a cruise coming up, so I will find some books that will help me attune to the upcoming seasons to read. We are also starting Romans in the early morning bible study, so that will go with me as well and it should be an interesting study as we celebrate the birth and death of our Lord, Jesus Christ! My wife Lynn will be conducting a relevant study in Advent. When I finally retire (the second time) in December 2023, I will likely start a few weekday bible studies as well but can assist in 2024 if you would like to start something educational.

For ongoing church actions, we have the following as we end 2023 and it should set us up for success in the new year, 2024 ...

- † Stewardship will wrap up in November.
- † We will conduct our annual meeting on December 10th.
- † The new church sign should have been installed and dedicated.

- † The drainage pond grass should be growing and all city actions complete.
- † A new slate of council members will be identified and sworn in

I think that is enough for now. Blessings and enjoy this wonderful month!

Rick



Board of Discipleship Announcements

Children's Sunday School

During the month of December, there will be two opportunities for children and adults to explore the season of Advent.

Children's Sunday School will be held on Sundays **December 3rd and 10th at 9:00 am.** (Please note the time change!) Sunday School is for all children ages 4 thru 5th grade. During this Advent Season, the children will be learning about the birth of Jesus. The topics for each week will be:

- † Sunday, December 3rd – God's Christmas Promise
- † Sunday, December 10th – The Nativity Story

If you have any questions, please contact Barbie Ramsland at 251-625-2421 or ramsland@mindspring.com.

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will also be held on **Sundays December 3rd and 10th at 9:00 am.** Spiritual Practices for the Season, is an adult study that introduces participants to several practices that can improve their personal faith journey. Both sessions include scripture for reflection, activities centered on biblical passages that tell the Advent story, and a prayer practice.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Russell at 256-665-8894 or lrussell@jruss.net.

The **children's Christmas Program, The True Spirit of Christmas**, will be held on **Sunday, December 17th during the 10 AM church service.** There will be a **short rehearsal on Saturday, December 16th at 9 AM.** All children (ages 2 and above) can be a part of the program. Casting continues. There is a need for more angels, sheep, present day kids and a few adults. If you have any questions, please contact Barbie Ramsland at 251-625-2421 or ramsland@mindspring.com.

Barbie Ramsland

Nominating Committee Report

Linda Veren, Dave Howell and Phyllis Buchholz thank those of you who have agreed to be elected to serve on our Church Council. This is a rewarding step in your faith journey and Holy Trinity can continue to grow and prosper because of the talents and skills of those who serve.

There are positions still available:

- **Board of Discipleship – Two Year Term**
- **2 Delegates to attend Southeastern Synod Assembly**

If you want information about the job description for the Board of Discipleship or learn about Synod Assembly, contact anyone currently on the Council.

Allow God to guide you and help find your way to serve Him. Thank you for your prayers for Holy Trinity and us as we go forward.

The Nominating Committee



Stewardship Drive

Once again, another year has passed very quickly. We have had a lot of things to do and accomplish in our personal, professional, and spiritual lives while also finding time in our very busy schedules for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Thank you for all you have done throughout the year. Sandy and I Moved to Fairhope Alabama in 2017 From Cleveland Ohio to be closer to our youngest son Mark and his family. We have three wonderful grandchildren that we needed to get to know. We have been praying and seeking this type of community in a church for the past 5 years in the area including Foley, Daphne, and Fairhope. We have only been a member of HLTC for about one year, and we found you to be very warm and welcoming. We have found our home here at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church!

What has brought Sandy and I to Holy Trinity is the people with a lot of heart, love, and friendship. Also, The Spiritual, personal and friendly dedication Pastor Rich has provided to us and the members of HTLC is wonderful. We have only found this three times in our married life with three different clergy. We are very grateful to be

home again where we belong. Thank you for sharing with us and being our friends and family at HTLC.

We agree with the leaders of our congregation regarding the need for the annual Stewardship drive. We would like to see our Church community grow internally as well as externally. In order to do so we need to “***Embrace – Enhance – Expand***” HTLC. However, we cannot do this without your assistance. It takes all of our participation in financial support to maintain and grow our spiritual needs, while maintaining the physical surroundings that support our goals. We can only continue on this path of success at HTLC with your help.

Ron Vontroba *(on behalf of the Stewardship Leadership Team)*



Retention Pond Update ...

Retention Pond Upgrades were made on 9/26/23



Many thanks to all who helped make these upgrades possible!

Retention Pond Update (cont'd)

October 3rd



... Tick, tick, tick...

October 25th



🌿 Holy Trinity 🌿



Announcements

Daylight Savings Time Ends Saturday Night!

Practice the "Fall Back" drill on Saturday evening, November 4th ...
Everybody gets an extra hour of sleep too!



Weekday Morning Bible Study

The **Weekday Morning Coffee Shop Bible Study** will continue on **Thursday mornings during November except for November 16th and 23rd**. We will start at **7:05 am** and will be done about 7:55 am to meet the needs of those who work. All are invited.

This month we conclude our focus on the book of Hebrews and begin our study of Romans on November 30th. Here is a link to the study and discussion materials: <https://enterthebible.org/courses/hebrews>

Our Bible Study group continues to meet at **Warehouse Bakery in Fairhope**.



[Warehouse Bakery & Donuts \(warehousebakeryanddonuts.com\)](http://warehousebakeryanddonuts.com)

759 Nichols Ave, Fairhope, AL 36532

Any questions, contact Rick Russell thumper335999@live.com or (256) 417-1474

Lunch Bunch Schedule Change

Lunch Bunch will meet a week earlier than usual in November due to the Thanksgiving Day Holiday on November 23rd. The date will be **Tuesday, November 14th**. The place will be **Mandina's** in Spanish Fort. All are welcome!



Sojourner's Circle

Sojourners Circle will meet on **Tuesday, November 14th at 9:30 am.** Please join us as we work on quilts for next year's Lutheran World Relief Pickup. No skills are required!

Tommie Morgan

Phoebe Circle

Phoebe Circle will meet Thursday November 16, 2023 at 6:00. The project for that gathering will be completing Advent Bags. Barbie Ramsland will be sending out more information as the date draws near.

ALL women of the church are invited - mark your calendars!!

RSVP with Barbie at 256-208-1627.

Linda Veren

New Member Reception Day!

On the **Day of Christ the King, Sunday, November 26th**, during the 10:00 am service of Holy Communion, we will welcome into membership several people who are new to our fellowship here at Holy Trinity. If you have not had the opportunity to formally unite with us in this way and now desire to do so, please speak to Pastor Mueller. A time of orientation is being planned and will be scheduled at the convenience of those joining our fellowship at this time. What a blessing it will be to welcome these new members. We pray God's blessings upon them as they join us in this ministry and mission that we are privileged to share. Please be present on this day to give them a warm Holy Trinity welcome.





Holy Trinity's Women of the ELCA
Christmas Tea
December 3rd 2023
2pm to 4pm
In the Gathering Place

Bring a finger food to share while we enjoy fellowship with our sisters
in Christ

ALL women are invited!





Holy Trinity will hold our **first Nativity Walk on Saturday, December 2nd from 10 -- 4**. It will be an open house type event and we are inviting the community. It is an outreach event which gives all of us the opportunity to invite a neighbor or friend. Perhaps someone open to the idea of church, but not yet a regular attendee.

It is also an event that **needs widespread participation**. We need to **borrow your Nativity Sets** for about a week for them to be part of the display. We will need to **borrow a few tables**. We will be asking for donations of Christmas cookies to serve. We will be asking for volunteers to help install hanging stars after fellowship.

Our vision is that visitors will enter the Narthex. Christmas music will be playing. The tables will all be draped in blue. Pale silvery stars will be hanging. On each table there will be one or more Nativity Sets displayed. After walking around to see the displays, visitors will enter the Fellowship Hall where tables will be covered by blue cloths. Refreshments will consist of Tea, Cocoa, Coffee and Christmas Cookies.

In the weeks ahead there will be sign-up sheets and specific time frames provided. We are so excited about this event and look forward to all of us participating in one way or another to make it happen.

Judi Luken



WELCA—Sojourner & Phoebe Circles

During the month of **November**, our Sojourner and Phoebe Circles are **collecting items** for Advent Bags. Your help with the collecting of items will be appreciated. Suggested items include: wrapped snacks, calendar, hand lotion, lip balm, anti-bacterial gel, word find books, small packages of tissues, note pad/pen, emery boards, hot chocolate mixes, and “fuzzy” socks. (See pictured examples below.) There is a box in the narthex to gather the items.

The **bags will be filled** before church on **Sunday, December 3rd**. The visits and drop-off will take place in early December.

Thanks for your help.

Barbie Ramsland



Pics of the Month



Joan Micelli got a birthday sign in September



Terry Tate received her birthday sign on 10/23



Pastor Rich got a birthday sign in September too!



Kevin Burkey received his birthday sign in October.



Cait Manicke joined Sojourner's Circle in October to work on quilts.



Ron & Sandy Vontroba's 57th Anniversary celebration!



Blessing of the Animals



Remarkable harmony among all of the animals: horses, ponies, 2 legged ones and all of the four legged ones.



Pastor Rich demonstrates his equestrian prowess.



How do I turn this thing on?



Thanks to **Brooklyn** and **Randi** for the horse and pony rides!



Holy Trinity



Herding retrievers.

October's Lunch Bunch



No Longer Hidin' Hellen



Happy Veterans Day!

November 11th



Prayer for Veterans

Almighty and ever-living God, we give you thanks for the men and women who have served and defended our country and the values of freedom and justice we hold so dear. Help us be mindful of the sacrifices they made and the hardship endured by their families and friends, so that we never take for granted the privileges they have secured for us. Hear us, we pray, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. ***Amen.***



Reminders

HOLY TRINITY GOES LIVE! Our Sunday morning Service of Holy Communion is now being live-streamed and recorded each week at 10:00a on our [Holy Trinity Facebook Page](#). If you are not able to be present in person, you are invited to join us on the internet. We also continue to provide a copy of the sermon text and the bulletin with music links via email. Many thanks to those who have volunteered to operate the camera on Sunday mornings. **Volunteers are always needed.** If interested in helping out in this way, please contact **Debi Horlebein**.

Donating Altar Flowers: Please keep in mind that your normal offering contributions do not pay for altar flowers. If you would like to donate a particular Sunday's flowers, the cost is \$35.00. Simply use the sign-up sheet on the corkboard located in the narthex, and as the Sunday approaches place your donation in the offering plate. Make checks payable to Holy Trinity, noting "*Altar Flowers*" on the check. Please note there are no flowers at the altar during Lent.

Current vs. Building Fund Reminder: Specify how you want your offering split between the Current Fund and the Building Fund. If you do not specify on your envelope, it will by default go to the Current Fund. Anonymous cash (without an envelope specification) will all go towards the Current Fund. Checks without an envelope or notation on the check will by default go 100% towards the Current Fund. If you wonder about the percentage split that best services both funds, try directing 65% towards the Current Fund and 35% towards the Building Fund. Ongoing mission activities and Synod/ELCA funding is sourced from the Current Fund.



Thanks to **Pastor Barbara Hunter** who covered for Pastor Rich while he and Lorraine were on vacation.

NOVEMBER AT HOLY TRINITY

Lunch Bunch

We will meet on Tuesday,
November 14th @ Noon



25000 Bass Pro Drive, Suite 100
Spanish Fort, AL 36527
(251) 319-6491



<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Linda Gregg	11/04
Paul Gridler	11/10
Emily Cormier	11/24
Hellen Sharp	11/28
Lisa Manicke	11/29

Men's Breakfast

8 AM Saturday, Nov 4th

Gathering Place

Fellowship Hall



We will volunteer at **Prodisee Pantry** on
Wednesday, November 15th @ 5:30pm
followed by dinner and fellowship.



None

Worship Leadership Assignments for November

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - Worship Leader Assignments

	November 5, 2023	November 12, 2023	November 19, 2023	November 26, 2023
Assisting	Toni Fassbender	Jeff Ramsland	Linda Veren	David Kummer
Acolyte	Tommie Morgan	Cait Manicke	Nic Bogle	Oskar Mitchell
Lector	Ginny Peterson	Kevin Burkey	Sandy Vontroba	Joan Micelli
Cantor	Debi Horlebein	Debi Horlebein	Debi Horlebein	Debi Horlebein
Children's Sermon	Pam Burkey	Cyndi Howell	Pam Burkey	TBD
Altar	Joan Micelli	Diane MacShane	Judi Luken	Linda Gregg
Greeter/s	Phyllis Buccholz	Manickes	Lorraine Studt	Jerry Driskell
Usher	Fred Fassbender	Curtis Manicke	Dave Howell	Phyllis Buccholz
Teller	Fred Fassbender	Fred Fassbender	Dave Howell	Diane MacShane
Teller	Jerry Driskell	Lisa Manicke	Jerry Driskell	Jeff Ramsland
Camera Operator	Nate Manicke	Nate Manicke	Andy Veren	Diane MacShane
Hospitality	TBD	Ramsland/Oldham	TBD	TBD
Altar Flowers	Dot Peterson in Honor of Nat Manicke's many contributions	Jerry Drisell in honor of all Veterans	Micelli's in honor of Son, Eric's birthday	Tommie Morgan in Memory of Zeb

If you are unable to do this assigned worship leadership responsibility, please trade with a person with your same responsibility assigned to another date

Updated Mailing Address

Linda Gregg
23123 Shadowridge Dr.
Daphne, AL 36526

If you have a prayer request for the e-prayer group, you have a few options on relaying this information to the congregation.

Option 1: Write it on the yellow attendance sheet in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

Option 2: Send and email with your request to

holytrinityprayers@googlegroups.com.

Option 3: Email, text, or call Erika Oldham: erikaramsland@gmail.com or (256) 404-2975.

Like Us on Facebook!! Search for [Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Daphne, AL](#).



Prayers for our People

We continue to pray for the following:

Ministries in the Church

Those who are serving in leadership roles at Holy Trinity, including Congregation Council

Luther Chapel – Kosciusko, MS

Those who are seeking Christian Community may find Holy Trinity to be a welcoming place

Those who are new to Holy Trinity that they may find opportunities to grow in faith.

Those worshipping for the first time at Holy Trinity

Those Who Serve & their Families

Those serving in military, firefighters & law enforcement, including Marc Alverson, Daryl Bogle, Colter Burkey, Adam and Cathryn Cormier, Steve Duke, Shawn Ethington, Brent Massey, Jordan Miller, Christopher Mueller, Titus Nissen, Rich Peacock and Dylan Winslow.

Those Who Are Ill/Injured/Hurting/Hospitalized, Recovering: Tammy Cain, Milissa Collins, David Durant, Jay Fassbender, Elsie Lamb, Dot Peterson, Sheila Ross, David Scott and Charles Sharp.

ELCA LEADERS: SE Synod Bishop Kevin Strickland, ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Pastor Rich Mueller

PURPOSE STATEMENT

God's purpose for Holy Trinity is to grow faith that moves us beyond ourselves.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

1. Faithfully living with Christ at the center.
2. Prayerfully listening with open hearts and minds.
3. Selflessly welcoming all without preconceptions.
4. Courageously bearing our neighbor's burdens
5. Relating to one another with respect and honesty
6. Boldly sharing our blessings with others.

STAFF

Pastor Rich Mueller

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Joy M. Sullivan, Congregation Musician
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jennysrider@yahoo.com 260-571-6165

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lrussell@jrussnet.com 256-665-8894

BOARD LEADERS

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shridermike@gmail.com (260) 571-6164

Discipleship: Barbie Ramsland

Ramsland@mindspring.com 256-404-5256

Nurture: Pam Burkey

pamelahance@yahoo.com 308-641-4280

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tiff.bogle@att.net 251-622-7273

Property: TBD

Worship: Debi Horlebein

purrrdfh717@bellsouth.net 251-680-0776

OTHER CONTACTS

E-Prayer Chain

E-mail prayer concerns to
htldaphne8271@gmail.com, 251-621-2968

Women of the ELCA: Tommie Morgan

tommie456@gmail.com, 251-591-1019

Return Address:
 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 8271 Whispering Pines Road
 Daphne, AL 36526



An ELCA Congregation Serving the Eastern Shore

Phone: 251-621-2968
 E-mail: holytrinitydaphne@gmail.com
 Conveniently located 1/4 mile east of the Daphne YMCA

Please visit our Holy Trinity Lutheran Church website at:

www.holytrinitydaphne.org.

Any comments or suggestions, please email the church office at htlcdaphne8271@gmail.com.

The deadline for articles and information for the July issue of
THE WITNESS
 is **Monday, October 23rd**
 If you wish to discontinue receiving this newsletter, please contact us at
 (251) 621-2968.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

10:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
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