



THE WITNESS

Happy October!
 “Come Celebrate With Us”

Inside This Issue:

Pastor's Column
 Pages 1—2

From Your Congregation
 President
 Pages 2—3

Council Boards
 Pages 3—5

Nominating Committee
 Report
 Pages 5—6

Retention Pond Update
 Pages 6—7

Announcements
 Pages 8—11

Pics of the Month
 Pages 12—13

Reminders, etc.
 Page 14

Calendar Highlights
 Page 15

Worship Leaders
 Page 16

Prayers/Contact
 Information
 Pages 17—18



SUNDAYS AFTER PENTECOST REFORMATION SUNDAY October – 2023

*“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God,
 serve one another with whatever gift each of you
 has received.” (1 Peter 4:10)*

Dear friends,

Embrace, Enhance, Expand!

Just three of the “E” words that will be guiding and directing our 2024 Stewardship Appeal. There will be others as we strive to reach out and **Engage** our community and God’s world around us with the good news of Jesus and the love that God so freely and graciously provides for us to share. What abundant blessing is ours indeed. We do all this to **Equip** and **Empower** ourselves and others with the manifold gifts we have already been so richly blessed with.

With great **Enthusiasm** and **Energy**, we give thanks to God for all the generous support that we have received in the past. Your dedicated giving of Time, Talent and Treasure has made it possible for God to do some very amazing things here at Holy Trinity and the communities in which we live. Facility and property upkeep, youth ministries and a variety of community outreach activities have been made possible by your faithful and faith filled response. The possibility and opportunity to gather regularly around God’s word and sacred meal for prayer, praise and worship is the primary thing we get to do. It all proceeds from there as we go out to share the love of Jesus with all whom we encounter on the way that God would have us to go.

Over the next several weeks you will be receiving information regarding our 2024 Stewardship Appeal. Through letters, temple talks, bulletin inserts and posters we will discover once more the opportunities that are before us to be **Enlightened** and **Educated** considering the possibilities for mission and ministry in our midst. As we **Encounter** the challenges before us may our response be one of great faith and joy as we consider and discover our part in making real the chance we have to truly make a difference in God’s world.

Looking forward to participating with you in this process and seeing you at worship on **Commitment Sunday, November 5th**.

Peace, Pastor Rich



From Your Congregation President

Welcome to October 2023 and my favorite months of the year ... summer heat changes to cool, well into the college football season, Oktoberfest, Halloween/All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, New Years and my new favorite, Mardi Gras.

Summer was quiet, September less so. We ordered the new sign for the front of the church and we expect it to be complete in time for Lutherfest at the end of October. Dinner groups started and we are well underway with our listening sessions and improvement made to the coffee area. Sunday school has begun and Outreach has been active with Prodissee Pantry, snacks for children at W.J. Carroll Intermediate School here in Daphne and planning has started for our annual Halloween festivities. Andy Veren has been active in maintaining our constitution and operating by-laws and the Nominating Committee is back in action.

As a congregation, we are meeting our financial obligations but giving has been a bit soft in the summer months. This is normal and would not be a huge issue, but we have had a bit of a tussle with the city on our drainage pond in the front of the church. First, shout out to Daryl Bogle for going above and beyond in seeing the need to improve the area to save our parking lot. Where the challenge came is when a torrential rain hit for a couple of weeks and then 2 months of drought. This left us with sandy soil in the pond area, unsuitable for sodding. A neighbor or concerned citizen then complained to the city Daphne and the EPA saying we are impacting the Hiawassee Watershed.

Joe Taylor, who assisted in the design of the original pond, has volunteered his time to help us. The city had been insisting we sod the area even though the likelihood of success was extremely low. Joe and Daryl found the standard in this situation is hydroseed and found the ALDOT/City mix that is the current standard. Lynn Russell then jumped in to meet the city coordinator and got them to, begrudgingly, accept the plan with the threat that they will be back if they don't like the results. Sod would have cost \$15,000 and Daryl was able to negotiate an amazing deal for hydroseeding of \$3,500. We had 10 days to submit the plan and 30 days to do the work or "there will be penalties". Lynn also agreed to be the Property Council Member in 2024 as a bonus. We really don't have the \$3,500 but we are stretching resources to cover and hope we can recover some in Fall. (If you feel it in your heart to help out here, it will be most appreciated!) It sort of reminded me of an episode of the "A Team" where it gets messy before it gets better. I love it when a plan comes together.

The Stewardship program started in August and will drive to Appeal Sunday on November 6, 2023. “*Embrace, Enhance and Expand!*” is the theme of our fall Stewardship Appeal expanding our theme from the 2023 campaign: **Embrace** our church home, **Enhance** our church services and **Expand** our educational and small group opportunities! We are looking for a modest increase in giving and have moved our special appeal for the first quarter of 2024. Our new focus will be to improve our financial reserves in 2024 so we are better prepared for future emergencies.

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

Rick



Board of Discipleship

Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday School was held on Sundays, September 10th, 17th, and 24th at 9:15 am. Sunday School is for all children ages 4 thru 5th grade. During this three-week session, the children explored the Parables of Jesus. One student attended two sessions.

A “**bonus**” Sunday School will be held on **Reformation Sunday, October 29th at 9:15 am**. Sunday School is for all children ages 4 thru 5th grade. This single lesson **teaches** the children about the **life of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation**.

Barbie Ramsland



Board of Nurture Notes

The Listening Sessions began in September. The purpose of these sessions is to help the Church Council make decisions about the future of Holy Trinity. Members shared many interesting ideas. If you were unable to attend a session and would like to share your thoughts, let me know and we can set up a time after church to get together. The questions are at the end of this report. When all the sessions are finished, the answers will be tallied and presented to the council.

The month of October is filled with fun activities for the whole family (even your fur babies.) We

will bless the animals, have a Halloween event for the area kids, and celebrate Reformation Sunday with our annual Lutherfest. Be on the lookout for more information. So many ways to share the love of God with our friends, neighbors, and each other.

HOLY TRINITY LISTENING SESSION QUESTIONS

The purpose of these questions is to gather information for the future of HTLC.

- † Where would you like to see our congregation involved in the community?
- † What Christian educational opportunities would like to be provided at HTLC?
- † What other types of worship services would you like to be offered at HTLC?
- † What are some projects you would like to see as improvements to the church facility?
- † How would you explain what Holy Trinity has to offer that other churches do not?
- † What are some ideas for disseminating information about HTLC?

"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Galatians 6:10

Pam Burkey

Board of Worship & Music Notes

The Worship & Music Committee met on September 7th. Debi held devotions concerning, *"God Help Us."*

Debi thanked Judi Luken for preparing steps and ideas to say and "not say" when Pastor, Dave K. and Debi reviewed with Joy that we were ending her position as parish musician. Judi made it easier for us. Pastor did not want to speak; but, he did an excellent job with his soft spiritualness that was calming as he explained to Joy the situation. Dave K. began the meeting opening the subject; also doing a fine job. Joy understood, was very gracious, and actually notified Pastor the following day that when she got home that she had received messages that two people wanted to begin Art Classes with her and that three people wanted to begin Piano Lessons with her, making up for her salary loss. Joy made the comment in our meeting that she is a firm believer that when God closes one door, another door opens. God does Help us in many ways, and I Thank God for that!

We spoke of using new hymns. Steve mentioned that he has hundreds of Midi hymn files on that he can provide to anyone to help with learning any new hymns.

Our first Healing Service is *St. Luke; the Physician Day*, October 18 which is Wednesday. This will be a Service of the Word and we would like to talk about the the person being prayed for, whether it is for physical, spiritual or emotional reasons. Health care workers will be acknowledged as well. The service will be kept simple; therefore, there will Not be a "gathering" meal before the service.

Cantors were asked to listen to the hymns on YouTube if they are unfamiliar. Anyone can click

on the [blue](#) in any of our draft bulletins to hear the hymns for ease of learning.

October 21 is scheduled for Blessing of the Animals day. *(Note: this was rescheduled due to the passing of Franklin Lamb and his scheduled Funeral on 10/7/23.)*

The worship committee will begin searching for a new congregation musician because Church Council has entrusted us to do so. We know of two sites where we can post our position thanks to Lynn R. The new person will not begin until after January 1 when the church season becomes “green.” We each have a copy of the Job Description from Joy's hiring.. Changes will be made before we post it so it is more appropriate for what we are looking for in the replacement musician

Peace and Blessings,

[Debi Horlebein](#)



Nominating Committee Report

It's the most wonderful time of the year!!!! Cooler weather, football season, harvest times and preparing for the next year – and for the years after that at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church! As hard as it is to imagine what our needs may be, there is this certainty: Our members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church answer the call with their prayers, time and talents.

The fall also marks the beginning of the work of the nominating committee (Dave Howell, Phyllis Buchholz and Linda Veren) to identify nominees to serve on the Church Council for the next year.

In December at our annual congregational meeting, a new leadership team will be presented by the Nominating Committee. Dave, Phyllis or Linda may ask or have already asked you to consider being part of our leadership family by serving on our Church Council. We appreciate those who have responded to our requests with a “Yes, I will do that”. Those are noted below. (✓)

Please prayerfully consider how you may be able to serve and be part of this team. The impact and benefits for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and those who serve can be a rewarding step in your spiritual growth. The positions we are seeking to fill:

Congregation Council:

- Vice President/President – Serve as VP in 2024 & President 2025 - ✓
- Secretary – 2-year term - ✓
- Board of Administration – 1 year to complete year 2 of 2-year term ✓
- **Board of Outreach – 2-year term**
- **Board of Discipleship – 2-year term**
- Board of Worship – 2-year term - ✓
- Board of Property – 1 year to complete year 2 of a 2-year term - ✓
- Nominating Committee – Three Positions to serve for one year - ✓

- **SE Synod Assembly Voting Member – Two positions for one year each**
- Audit Committee – 2-year term to be voted on by the Council in October ✓

We are called in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 to be one of the members of the body, and during our sanctification in Jesus, we are to serve like him.

As you read through this, please take a few minutes to sit quietly and be thankful for all you have been given. God trusts you, loves you and He will guide you to find your way to serve Him.

Thank you for your prayers for your church family and us as we go forward.

Your Nominating Committee



Retention Pond Update

Dear Congregation,

As a congregation, we are meeting our financial obligations but giving has been a bit soft thru the summer months. This is normal and would not be a huge issue, but we have had a bit of a tussle with the city on our drainage pond in the front of the church. First, shout out to Daryl Bogle for going above and beyond in seeing the need to improve the area to save our parking lot. Where the challenge came is when a torrential rain hit for a couple of weeks and then 2 months of drought. This left us with sandy soil in the pond area, unsuitable for sodding. A neighbor or concerned citizen then complained to the city Daphne and the EPA saying we are impacting the Hiawassee Watershed.

Joe Taylor, who assisted in the design of the original pond, has volunteered his time to help us. The city had been insisting we sod the area even though the likelihood of success was extremely low. Joe and Daryl found the standard in this situation is hydroseed and found the ALDOT/City mix that is the current standard. Lynn Russell met with the Environmental Program Manager and got them to, begrudgingly, accept the plan with the threat that they will be back if they don't like the results. Sod would have cost \$15,000 and Daryl was able to negotiate an amazing deal for hydroseeding for \$3,500. We had 10 days to submit the plan and 30 days to do the work or "there will be penalties". We really don't have the \$3,500 but we are stretching resources to cover and hope we can recover some in Fall.

That's why you are getting this email. To both inform you of the situation and make you aware of the financial impact this has had. This was a completely unplanned-for event but it has served to make us aware of the need for maintenance on our property and the financial burden that carries. If you find yourself moved to donate towards this event, please mark your contribution for *hydroseeding*. If you donate online there is a place for you to write it in (just choose Fund: other, then write it in the text block). If you are unable to donate, please pray. We know that the power of prayer is wondrous and that God always listens to us.

We will get through this together. God in His mercy will provide for us as He has promised. We have faith that He will.

In Jesus' Name,
Rick and Lynn



Retention Pond Repairs made on 9/26/23



Prayer
and Healing
Service

A **Service of the Word for Healing** will be held on **Wednesday, October 18th, 7:00 pm.** This is the Day of St. Luke, Evangelist, often referred to as the Beloved Physician. It is a fitting day to gather and seek the healing presence of Jesus as we deal with and encounter all that ails us, physically, mentally and especially spiritually. The laying on of hands and imposition of healing oil will be available for those who desire it. Hope to see you there for this special time of prayer and healing.

Announcements

Weekday Morning Bible Study

The **Weekday Morning Coffee Shop Bible Study** will continue on **Thursday mornings throughout October**. 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 continue our focus on the book of Hebrews. Here is a link to the study and discussion materials: <https://enterthebible.org/courses/hebrews>

Our Bible Study group will 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

Blessing of the Animals

Bring Your Pets!!
Blessing



Postponed to Saturday, October 21st, 11:30 am

(Patio @ HTLC)

A Sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex. We welcome all kinds of pet loving families with animals ranging from cats to fish to birds to reptiles to dogs.



Sojourner's Circle

Sojourners Circle will meet on **Tuesday, October 10th 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 on **October 19, 2024** in the **Fellowship Hall at 6:00pm**.

Barbie Ramsland is hosting the program that evening which will be an activity for the Advent Bags which will be delivered in December.

All women of the church are invited to participate and we look forward to spending the evening together!

RSVP with Barbie at 256-208-1627, Katrina Schonemann at 251-459-3061 or Linda Veren at 256-468-3885

Linda Veren

Tupperware Event: All are Invited!

Katrina Schonemann will be holding a Tupperware Event in our Fellowship Hall on October 14 from 1:00 - 3:00pm. All are invited to attend. For additional information, please contact Katrina @ (251) 459-3061 or katrina.doug@icloud.com

Katrina Schonemann

Prodisee Pantry Turkey Trot 2023



This year's Turkey Trot race is just weeks away, **Saturday, October 28, 2023!** We are excited about this year's Turkey Trot where 1500 families will be blessed with food items to prepare dinner during Thanksgiving. As usual, Holy Trinity remains one of the sponsors for this important community event.

Runner register online: <https://runsignup.com/Race/AL/Daphne/ProdiseePantryTurkeyTrot>
Prodisee Pantry Turkey Trot 2023

5K Race & 1 Mile Fun Run
Saturday, October 28, 2023
8 am - 5K & 9 am - Fun Run
City Hall in Daphne

If you have any questions please contact volunteer Alan Nichols or Neil Beasley at 251-626-1720.



Join Us for



BOO fest

Treat Trail

Saturday, October 28th
from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Rain or Shine!!!

Enjoy the spirit of Halloween in a safe environment!!
Holy Trinity will be passing out treats to area kids.

Lutherfest is Coming!

Lutherfest

Reformation Sunday

October 29th, 2023

Nailed It



Following worship
Brats, beer and other
food provided.

Contact Pam Burkey with any questions:
(308) 641-4280 or pamelahance@yahoo.com

A Sign-up sheet is available in the narthex.

Pics of the Month



Jackson Foxworth got a birthday sign in September



Daryl Bogle received his birthday sign last month.



September's handsome Prodiges Pantry Crew!



Sharing leftover communion bread with the birds & commemorating Matt Studt



September's Lunch Bunch



Hidin' Hellen



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.



OCTOBER AT HOLY TRINITY

Lunch Bunch

We will meet on Tuesday,
October 24th @ Noon



25965 State Highway 181
Daphne, AL 36526



<u>Name</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>
Kevin Burkey	10/03
Ginny Peterson	10/05
Lynn Russell	10/15
Lorraine Studt	10/15
Michael Cerps	10/17
Ingrid Mitchell	10/17
Terry Tate	10/23
Elsie Lamb	10/24

Men's Breakfast

CANCELLED



We will volunteer at **Prodissee Pantry** on
Wednesday, October 25th @ 5:30pm fol-
lowed by dinner and fellowship.



Ron & Sandy Vontroba
10/08/1966 57 yrs
Katrina & Doug Schonemann
10/21/1984 39 yrs
Chris & Kara Lavin
10/23/2004 19 yrs

Worship Leadership Assignments for October

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church - Worship Leader Assignments

	October 1, 2023	October 8, 2023	October 15, 2023	October 22, 2023	October 29, 2023
Assisting	Dave Kummer	Toni Fassbender	Jeff Ramsland	Dave Kummer	Cyndi Howell
Acolyte	Nic Bogle	Tommie Morgan	Cait Manicke	Emily Cormier	Lynn Russell
Lector	Sandy Vontroba	Dave Kummer	Ginny Peterson	Pam Burkey	Joan Micelli
Cantor	Debi Horlebein	Randi Patterson	Debi Horlebein	Randi Patterson	Phyllis Buccholz
Children's Sermon	Pam Burkey	Linda Veren	Cyndi Howell	Linda Veren	Pam Burkey
Altar	Judi Luken	Linda Gregg	Diane MacShane	Judi Luken	Linda Gregg
Greeters	Phyllis Buccholz	Russells	Lorraine Studt	Judi Luken	Fassbenders
Usher	Kevin Burkey	Fred Fassbender	Curtis Manicke	Diane MacShane	Kevin Burkey
Teller	Kevin Burkey	Fred Fassbender	Lisa Manicke	Dave Howell	Diane MacShane
Teller	Phyllis Buccholz	Judi Luken	Jeff Ramsland	Diane MacShane	Jeff Ramsland
Camera Operator	Lynn Russell	Andy Veren	Nate Manicke	Nate Manicke	Linda Veren
Hospitality	Burkey	Vontroba	Brunch	Howell/Horlebein	Lutherfest
Flowers	Petersons & Luken Ginny's 80th Bday & in memory of Eck's Bday	Vontrobas 57th Anniversary	Shonemanns 39th Anniversary	Luken In honor of ALL October Wed- ding Anniversaries	Kummer In honor of Granddaughters

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

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

Grace Lutheran Church – Gulf Shores, AL and Pastor Marsha Schultz

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, Franklin and 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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Steve Horlebein, THE WITNESS Editor; 251-621-2968
(church email) htldaphne8271@gmail.com

Joy M. Sullivan, Congregation Musician

251-533-9899

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thumper335999@live.com 256-417-1474

Cyndi Howell, Vice-President

cynhla@yahoo.com 251-625-3508

Randi Patterson, Treasurer

randipat@bellsouth.net 251-510-9860

Jenny Shrider, Financial Secretary

jennyshrider@yahoo.com 260-571-6165

Council Secretary: Lynn Russell

lrussell@jrussnet.com 256-665-8894

BOARD LEADERS

Administration: Mike Shrider

shridermike@gmail.com (260) 571-6164

Discipleship: Barbie Ramsland

Ramsland@mindspring.com 256-404-5256

Nurture: Pam Burkey

pamelahance@yahoo.com 308-641-4280

Outreach: Tiffany Bogle

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

Holy Trinity

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
8271 Whispering Pines Road
Daphne, AL 36526

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