

November 2016

Dear Friends of Trinity,

We are quickly approaching the final weeks of the current church year and, appropriately enough, we focus on final things. I mean *really* final things. The end times. The last day of history. Judgment Day. We know it's all coming without knowing exactly when. The Christian Church prepared for this by setting aside some time in the liturgical calendar as a reminder to all Christians of the hope that is in Christ Jesus. It will be a dreadful day, no doubt about it. But it will also be a day of vindication of our faith.

Through faith in Jesus we are judged with him, and not by him. Jesus was judged guilty of all the sin and rebellion of the world, including ours. He was sentenced to death on the cross, but his resurrection was the vindication of his payment as sufficient. We can therefore face the judgment when it arrives because we have already been judged with Jesus! That judgment was poured out on you, not with wrath and affliction, but with water and the Word. And in that same blessed flood you were also vindicated as you were raised with Jesus to eternal life.

We will face the judgment seat of Christ without fear because we have been declared righteous and innocent in Jesus Christ. "There is therefore *now* no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." (Romans 8:1) Remember that as we enter the final weeks of the church year. I wish you all blessings in Christ and a very Happy Thanksgiving!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag



NOVEMBER 2016



"We Give Thanks"

Our Father in Heaven, We give thanks for the pleasure
Of gathering together for this occasion.
We give thanks for this food Prepared by loving hands.
We give thanks for life, The freedom to enjoy it all
And all other blessings. As we partake of this food,
We pray for health and strength To carry on and try to live as You would have us.
This we ask in the name of Christ, Our Heavenly Father. (*Harry Jewell*)

**Please join us for our Thanksgiving Day Worship Service
on Thursday, November 24th at 9:30 a.m.**



CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS WERE HELD ON OCTOBER 23RD. The officers for 2017 are: President: Jeff McDonald; Secretary: Kim Blecke; Financial Secretary: Jan Prospero; Treasurer: Tim King; Directors of Outreach: Bob Blecke and Wade & Jessica Brokmeyer; Director of Parish Education: Judi Donovan; Director of Social Ministry: Jeanine Welsh; Directors of Spiritual Life: Ed Tatro and Diane Sewing; Directors of Property: Dan Bay and Jeff Lorenz; Director of Youth Ministry: Michelle Hoag. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity.

The next Church Council Meeting will be on Sunday, November 13th at 7:00 p.m.



Members, who have not received offering envelopes in the past and would like to request them for the year 2017, please, fill out a request with your name, address, and telephone number and give it to Doris, Church Secretary or place in Janice Prospero's, Financial Secretary, church mailbox. Request forms are on the table in the hallway.
Also, members who desire to discontinue use of envelopes, please contact Doris or Janice.

UPDATE

Update from our Church Council President, Jeff McDonald

Church Council elections took place at the end of October with all positions running in an uncontested race. We did have one change which was Phil MacFarlane electing to step down from his position as the Co-Director of Outreach. We thank Phil for his service on council and for the valuable insights he brought to the role that he served. We are trying something different for 2017 in the outreach position, which is to have the husband & wife team of Wade & Jessica Brokmeyer serve on council in this capacity. The Brokmeyers are new to Trinity, having recently moved to the area from Texas, and were looking for a way to get involved with Trinity at the same time that we were looking for Phil's replacement. We look forward to working with Wade & Jessica in this capacity, as they bring a different perspective to council as brand new members here at Trinity (they are actually in Pastor Hoag's Living Lutheran membership program now).

If you're looking for our railings along the new front steps, so am I! Kidding aside, the fabrication process is underway and I am hopeful we will have these railings installed during the month of November. Final approval of our plans took a little longer than we anticipated, but this project is expected to go through at this point without further delay.

Finally, I wanted to share a recent exchange I had with our neighbors on Elm Street. We have come to know this family through the installation of our new pre-school fence and some other improvement projects we have done adjacent to their property, and they have demonstrated that they are the type of neighbors that anyone would like to have next door. They recently shared with me that our stained glass windows are a daily blessing to them as nightfall comes and the chancel lights illuminate these windows from the inside out. To be honest, it never would have occurred to me to go see our windows from the outside of the church but on their advice, I went up to Trinity the next night and got to see this for myself. I brought a camera along and posted a few pictures of these windows on our Facebook page, so please check them out for yourself when you can. It seems the beautiful church we call home is evangelizing to the neighborhood in ways we didn't even know.



Member Updates

Baptism: Sydnee Ann Trautvetter, born July 14, 2016, baptized October 2, 2016

New Members: Les Koenig; Linda Taylor

Transferred: Ryan Doerrer to River of Life, Channahon, IL. (September 11, 2016)

Deaths: John McClaughry, October 12, 2016; Edward J. Tatro, October 14, 2016
Ellen Guenther, October 16, 2016; Bob Buchanan, October 18, 2016.

Living Lutheran ... Re-Connect. Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the gym. Please join us. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Hoag.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – 8:30 a.m. Please join us.

Confirmation Class – Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m. New members are always welcome – both men and women. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

SOCIAL MINISTRY



MorningStar Christmas Activities.

We will, once again, place the MorningStar Giving Tree on the hall table, complete with envelopes for monetary donations, to be forwarded for this most charitable mission's works. Thank you, in advance, for your gifts in any amount.



"Stars of Hope" This is in conjunction with the MorningStar Giving Tree. Members are encouraged to select a star and either purchase, or fund the purchase (by donating to the Giving Tree) of Christmas presents for needy families who are served by this local mission.

Kim Standard and Jen DePolo are the co-chairs of this event. Your continued support of this project will be appreciated.

SAVE THE DATE!



Christmas Party. The annual congregational Christmas celebration will be held on Sunday, December 4th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **This is for all members, not just the children.** While the children are playing in the gym, the adults are invited to join us in the church to sing some Christmas Carols. Pizza, desserts, salads and drinks will be served at 4:45 p.m. Games, supplied & supervised by the Youth Group, will begin shortly thereafter. **Please sign the designated sheet on the hall table, indicating your dinner donation.** Sign-Up Deadline is Sunday, November 27th.

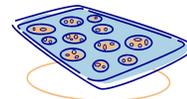
The next Social Ministry meeting will be Monday, November 14th at 7:00 p.m. at Sue Kunce's home. We would love to have some new members join our committee. New ideas are always welcome. Please call the church office if you are interested or have questions. 815.485.6973.



WOMEN'S LEAGUE. Due to the Cookie Walk on December 3rd, there will be no meeting in November.

Women's League Luncheon – Tuesday, December 6th. Watch bulletins for details.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



The Annual Cookie Walk will be held on Saturday, December 3rd from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. All proceeds benefit the needs of the church. **Baked goods from the congregation are needed and very much appreciated.** Trays for your cookies will be available in the gym. Baked goods for the cookie sale can be dropped off Friday, December 2nd from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., or early Saturday morning.



Women's League will once again be collecting stocking stuffers for Salem. Some suggestions are listed below. Please drop of your donations by Sunday, December 11th. Please place these in the appropriate boxes under the hallway table.

Crossword books
Alarm clocks
Blankets
Calendars
Pen/pencil sets
Electronic Games
Note Cards
Slippers w/soles
Scarves/mittens

Hats
Markers
Tissues
Wallets
Watches
Tags
Frames
Bows
Hosiery

Socks
Perfumes
Powder
Checkers
Movies
Bibles
Ribbons
Lap Desk

CHANCEL GUILD



The Chancel Guild members would like to thank the congregation, family and friends that took part in this year's Salad Luncheon on October 5th. Our guests enjoy the delicious salads and desserts. It was a Great time for everyone to visit, as well. Your support is appreciated. *A special "thank you" to the Women's League ladies, who once again baked and served the delicious desserts.* It is always nice to have the Women's League and Chancel Guild ladies work together.

An big thank you to the men (both young and "not quite so young" who help carry tables for the luncheon. We appreciate your help.

The next Chancel Guild meeting is Monday, November 7th at 6:30 p.m. Hostesses: Kay Purnell and Allene Bachmann. All ladies of Trinity are welcome to join us. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

POINSETTIAS FOR THE CHANCEL



What a sight with the altar covered in poinsettias! Would you like to place a poinsettia or two in the Chancel for Christmas? The poinsettias can be picked up after the Christmas Day Service. Order forms will soon be on the table outside the church office, by the flower chart and also on the hallway table. If you have any questions, please call Kay Purnell (815.485.9017) or the church office (815.485.6973).



ALTAR FLOWERS: The 2017 Flower Chart is up. This is a good time to select your special date(s). Order forms are attached to the side of the cabinet in the hallway outside the church office. Flowers are placed on our altar every Sunday to enhance and beautify our altar area in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday, wedding anniversary or in celebration of God's blessings. If you would like to give altar flowers, complete the form and place it in the Chancel Guild mailbox in the church office. If you have any questions, please call Kay Purnell at

815.485.9017 or email her at purnellk51@hotmail.com. The cost of the flowers is \$8.50 per vase or \$17.00 for both vases. The flowers may be picked up after the Sunday service. The 2017 Flower Chart will soon be on display. If you have a special date you would like sign up soon to reserve the date!

YOUTH NEWS



Thank you to everyone who helped or attended the Craft and Vendor Fair. We had another successful fair which raised funds for youth programs. Thanks so much!!



Youth Events for November

Sunday, Nov. 6 at 3 pm - Service project - We will hand out new batteries to homes in the neighborhood around church to remind people to change their smoke detector batteries when daylight savings time ends. Bring a NEW STILL IN THE PACKAGE alkaline 9 volt battery or two. Afterwards we'll roast marshmallows and hot dogs.

Friday, Nov. 25, 7-11 p.m. - Annual Not-Quite-a-Lock-in - Junior-high and high school youth are invited to help set up the church Christmas tree, watch movies, play games, and play the ever-popular "Romans and Christians."



SCRIP GIFT CARDS – An easy way to shop and earn money for our church.

Scrip cards are the same gift cards that you can purchase from retailers, including grocery & department stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, home improvement stores, etc. In addition to giving them as gifts, they can be used for daily or holiday shopping. We order the gift cards at a discount and you pay face value so there is no additional cost. The proceeds from this fundraiser are currently being put towards church improvement projects such the gym windows.

Because the holidays are quickly approaching, we will have 2 order dates in November. The deadlines for turning in orders, along with payment, will be Monday November 14 at noon and also Monday November 28 at noon. Your order will be available for pick-up the weekend after the order is placed. Order forms are on the hallway table below the Youth bulletin board. You may place your order/payment in the gold envelope which is hanging on the end of the desk credenza in the church office. If interested in placing orders online, you will need to ask for an enrollment code. Direct any questions you may have to Angie Minett (minett411@yahoo.com or 815.467.2537) or Gary Purnell (815.485.9017). You can also learn more online at shopwithscrip.com.

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org



MORNINGSTAR SERVING DATES:

MorningStar Mission Serving Trinity has been helping with serving meals at MorningStar twice a month for a number of years. Three of our regular volunteers are stepping down. If you are interested in taking their place, please contact the church office and we will continue to keep it going. We have been serving the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, and need 3-4 volunteers each time. You must be at MorningStar by 3:45 pm. If you are interested in volunteering in another way, please call MorningStar at 815.722.5780. More information may be obtained by visiting their web at www.morningstarmission.org other volunteer positions. November sign-up sheets are on the hallway table.



Trinity will continue to support MorningStar with the gift giving tree and Stars of Hope at Christmas time. The tree will be set up soon.



Trinity Pre-School – AM spots still available. Please tell your friend and neighbors. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$66.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2015 the tuition per month is \$105 for two day students, and \$130 for three days students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2016. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 184.485.6973.

The next Pre-School Board Meeting will be held Sunday, November 20th at 9:15 a.m.



Choir: The Choir practices on **Wednesday, at 7:00 p.m.** in the church balcony. The choir is open to anyone who enjoys singing. New voices are always welcome.



SIGN UP SHEETS FOR NOVEMBER are on the hallway table. Stop and sign up to be a Greeter or a Reader.



Prayer Chain: Please feel free to contact Ginny DeCarlo or Pat Fuerst if you have a prayer request. You may call Ginny at 815.485.2001 (or email at vdecarlo1952@gmail.com) or Pat at 815.485.6441.

People will forget what
you said. People will
forget what you did.
But people will never
forget how you made
them feel. ~Anonymous

Denise Buchanan and her family would like to thank you for your prayers and support with the recent passing of Bob. It is sure great to have such a wonderful church family here at Trinity.



If you have brought food items to church in the past few weeks, your empty container(s) may be on the counter in the gym kitchen area or on the table in the downstairs kitchen. Please stop and pick it up.



Upcoming Local Events:

The Encore Shop – Christmas Holiday Event, Friday, November 4th from 10 am – 4 pm, and Saturday, November 5th from 10 am – 3 pm. (710 Cedar Crossings Dr., New Lenox. – in the Business Center on the Hospital Campus).

Holiday Lane Potato Bar and Craft Show – Friday, November 4th with Shopping from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm; and Food from 11:00 am – 12:15 pm. Tickets: adults - \$9.00; children under 6 - \$2.00. Tickets sell out fast so pick them up at the United Methodist Church, 339 W. Haven Ave., New Lenox, or call 815.485.8271.

St. John's Annual Turkey Dinner – Saturday, November 5th. 4:00 – 7:00 pm, Christian Community Center, 11046 Second Street, Mokena, IL. Tickets sold at the door. Adults \$12; Children 4-11 \$5.00; Children 2-4 \$2.00.

End of Life in Light of the Resurrection – a NID Life Task Force Workshop. November 12, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 10731 W. La Porte Rd., Mokena, IL. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Lamb, retired Executive Director of Lutherans for Life. To reserve your spot place call Deaconess Kris Blackwell at 630.234.1491. Registration is \$10 payable at the door with cash or check payable to LCMS Northern Illinois District, in the memo line please write NID Life Task Force.

Fall Festival and Beef Dinner – Saturday, November 12th at Immanuel Ev. Lutheran Church of Mokena from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. in their Heritage Hall at 10731 W. La Porte Rd., Mokena. All day bazaar. The roast beef dinner will be served from 4:00 – 6:30 pm. Tickets \$10.00 for adults, \$4 for age 6-12. 5 and younger are free. Carry-outs available. Tickets available at the door.



The Will County Children's Advocacy Center is looking for men to compete in their annual Men Who Cook fundraiser. If you are male and love to cook, this is a great opportunity to show off your skills while helping to raise money for a very worthy cause. The Will County Children's Advocacy Center is a 501c3 organization that works with law enforcement on cases regarding physical and sexual abuse of children. The cook off is their major annual fundraiser and community event and will be held in March 2017. If you are interested in participating, please talk to Wade or Jessica Brokmeyer, or email Wade at w.brokmeyer90@gmail.com. Wade or Jessica will refer you to the committee chair for selection as space is limited.

Church office hours: Monday and Friday, 9-3; Tuesday and Thursday, 9-12.

