

November 2021

Dear Friends,

Sometimes I wish I was more of the outdoorsy type. I suppose I could buy a tent and go on a camping trip sometime, but I'm not placing any bets that I'll be doing that anytime soon. But if I ever do, I might film it because it would be quite hilarious. Not for me, of course. I'll be suffering because of all the mistakes I'll make. But the real outdoorsy types would get kick out of my misadventures.

I have a love/hate relationship with nature. I love it for its immensity and its overwhelming beauty. The views I have seen in my travels over the years have been truly spectacular. The year I spent living in Redding, California is memorable as I took in vistas I had never seen in my life. But nature is also wild and filled with danger. I'm grateful that I live in a house!

As human beings we are a part of nature. We are not over and above it. We are creatures just like everything else. However, we have the capacity to reflect on our being and on existence itself. We are equipped with the ability to care. The creation account in Genesis 1 portrays God speaking everything into being, God saying, "Let there be...", but for humans God said, "Let us make..." Special attention was being placed on the creation of humanity.

"...in Our image, after Our likeness..." God made humanity as the intercessor between Himself and the creation. Humans were to be "as God" to the creation and to represent creation to God. But they failed. A new intercessor was needed. And God provided! He sent His only Son into the creation as true God and true man, the exact imprint of the Creator. It is through Jesus that everything now comes together and coheres. Baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus brings us into this cohesiveness and restores the image of God in us. We are newly created in Christ!

Nature can do unimaginable things to us except separate us from the love of God given in Christ Jesus. And we, with the rest of creation, eagerly await the full redemption of our bodies in resurrected glory by that power that enables him to subdue all things to himself.

In Christ,

Pastor Hoag



NOVEMBER 2021

“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 25th at 9:30 a.m.**



CHURCH COUNCIL ELECTIONS WERE HELD ON OCTOBER 18th. The officers for 2021-2022 are: President: Vacant; Secretary: Kim Blecke; Financial Secretary: Tammy Doerrer; Treasurer: Tim King; Directors of Outreach: Mike Gardner & Bob Jackman; Director of Parish Education: Judi Donovan; Directors of Spiritual Life: Ed Tatro & Diane Sewing; Directors of Property: Dan Bay & Rex Toepke; Director of Youth Ministry: Jackie Tomany. Thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity.

The next Church Council Meeting will be on Sunday, November 14th at 7:00 p.m.



CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Members, who have not received offering envelopes in the past and would like to request them for the year 2022, please, fill out a request with your name, address, and telephone number and give it to Judi, the church secretary, or place in Tammy Doerrer, Financial Secretary, church mailbox. Request forms are on the table in the hallway.

Also, members who desire to discontinue use of envelopes, please contact Judi or Tammy.

Members using church envelopes may pick up their 2022 envelope boxes on the table in the hallway.

Envelope boxes not picked up in December will be mailed the 2nd week of January.

Great appreciation to members who pick up their envelopes rather than having them mailed!

Questions – contact Tammy 815 263-8800 or Judi, Church Secretary

Thanks!

Tammy Doerrer, Financial Secretary.



Trinity Lutheran Usher Schedule:

Nov. 7th - 9:00 am – Tom Kaun / Larry Wennlund

10:30 am – Brett Carr / Paul Krol

Nov. 14th - 9:00 am – Ed Tatro / Tim King

10:30 am – Tom Buell

Nov. 21st - 9:00 am - Mike Gardner / Gary Purnell

10:30 am - Jeff McDonald

Nov. 28th - 9:00 am – Steve Tomany / Randy Varju

10:30 am – John Buell / Phil MacFarlane

If anyone is interested in being an usher, please contact Ed Tatro or the church office.



Church Keys – Trinity has gone from keys to key fobs for entry into the building. If you have a key and still need access to the building at times when the church is not open, you will need to bring your key to the church secretary and exchange it for a new key fob.

If you still have a key and no longer need it, please bring it into the church secretary. The keys will no longer work.



Member Updates

Transfers Out:

Jose and Stephanie Garza and children

Bible Study



Bible Study:

Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study is held on Wednesday, at 8:30 a.m. in person in the church library and on Google Meet. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join. If you would like to join this group online, please email Pastor Hoag and he will send you the link.

Thursday night Adult Bible Study is held on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in person in the church library and on Google Meet. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join. If you would like to join this group online, please email Pastor Hoag and he will send you the link.



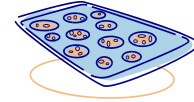
A very special Thank You to all my friends for the wonderful farewell party for me on Sunday the 17th. I was expecting a little cake and coffee after the 9 AM service, never expecting to be such a beautiful gathering of so many of the members I worked so closely with and friendships that developed overtime.

A special thanks to Jan Toepke for the cake, Judi Donovan for her organization and Jeff for all the "picture taking" and all who made this possible. A special thanks to Pastor Hoag for his spiritual leadership over the past 20 years.

It was truly a wonderful "Goodbye" and I will miss you all.

Thank you, Ginny De Carlo

*Ginny's new address is: P. O. Box 385
Luxemburg, WI 54217-0385



The Annual Cookie Walk will be cancelled this year. We hope to resume this wonderful event next year!

Altar Guild



CHANCEL GUILD

The next Chancel Guild meeting is Saturday, November 6th at 9:00 a.m. We will be cleaning for the upcoming holidays. All ladies of Trinity are welcome to join us. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

Chancel Schedule for November:

November 7 – Rita Larson / Debbie Crawford
November 14 – Debbie Crawford / Allene Bachmann
November 21 – Allene Bachmann / Denise Buchanan
November 25 – Thanksgiving / Denise Buchanan
November 28 – Denise Buchanan / Judi Donovan

Altar Flowers:

November 7 – The Donovan, Simon, and Beaudry Families in Memory of Dorothy Beaudry
November 14 – Chuck & Sandy Peters in Memory of their parents, Charles & Lydia Peters and Samuel Knoll
November 21 – Rich & Jackie Rohner in Memory of their son, Ronald
November 28 – Phil & Sharon MacFarlane in Memory of Phil's mother, Marge Dykstra



POINSETTIAS FOR THE CHANCEL

Advent is a time of anticipation as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. To honor and celebrate this special time, Chancel Members will be decorating the Chancel Area with poinsettias. If you would like to help decorate by purchasing a poinsettia for them to use, please fill out an order form and put it along with payment in the large envelope in the general office or in the Chancel Guild mailbox. **Order forms will be available mid November.** Your Poinsettia can be picked up after the last Christmas Day service. If you have any questions, email or call Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815) 485-9017. Thank you!



ALTAR FLOWERS: Chancel Guild members would like to thank those of you who sponsored a Sunday this last year. We thank you for your flexibility considering the impact Covid-19 restrictions have had on church attendance and on our flower orders. **A new 2022 Altar Flower Calendar has been posted.** You can find it in the glass case hanging on the wall across from the general office. If you would like to reserve a Sunday for 2022 in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday, wedding anniversary, or in celebration of God's Blessings, please fill out a sponsor order sheet and put it in the Chancel Guild mailbox. The sheets are located on a hook attached to the glass case housing the calendar. Thank you for supporting Chancel Guild's efforts to keep fresh flowers on the altar. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815) 485-9017.

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!!



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 going towards the Youth Gathering coming up in July.

The deadline for turning in orders, along with payment, will be Sunday, November 7th at noon. There will be one more order in December. 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.

This is a good time to start thinking about gift cards for Christmas. You can even purchase scrip cards to spend at your favorite stores while shopping for holiday gifts. Watch the bulletins for more info to come regarding the date for Thankscriping Day in which there are additional rebate bonuses.



Trinity is looking for new secretary. This is a part time position of about 20 hours a week. Please contact Judi Donovan or Pastor Hoag for details.



Religious Humor:

A Sunday school teacher was teaching the Ten Commandments to her five and six-year olds. After explaining the commandment to “honor thy father and thy mother”, she asked, “Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?”

One little boy shouted, “Thou shalt not kill”.

Social Ministry News:



Social Ministry News – we will be collecting yarn donations for Vitas Healthcare. They have a group of people that use the yarn to make blankets, prayer shawls, and such for hospice patients.

We are also looking for any donations of fleece material that can be used to make no sew lap blankets for their memory care unit.

If you have any of the above, we will have a collection box here at Trinity.

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org

Also, please watch for more details for a date and time when we can get together as a group to put together some of the lap blankets here at church

Social Ministry will be meeting at church on Monday, November 15th at 7 pm at Jan Clark's home. All ladies of Trinity are invited to attend. Please remember to wear a mask and social distancing will be required.

The Giving Tree will be up again this year with the money going to support MorningStar Mission.

The "Stars of Hope" will be another chance for anyone interested in helping the children at MorningStar. The board for Stars of Hope will be up shortly. If you wish to participate, take a star from the board and then immediately contact Jen DePolo at 708-267-1776 so she can remove the name off of the master sheet.

There will also be something new added to the Stars of Hope Board this year. MorningStar Mission has told us they need extra sweatpants for both children and adults in size medium, large, and extra-large in any color. If you want to help in that way instead of taking a star from the board, there will be stars with sizes for the sweatpants on the board. These do not need to be wrapped.



Plans for the Trinity Christmas Party are pending. Please watch the bulletin for any updates.



Trinity Pre-School – is open. Please tell your friends and neighbors. If you have any questions, please call the pre-school at 815.485.6973. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$65.00 per student. The tuition per month for the school year beginning September 2021, will be \$115.00 for two day students and \$145 for three day students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2021.



Prayer Chain: Please feel free to contact Beth Parker if you have a prayer request. You may call Beth at 815.485.6842 or email her at elizabemarie@sbcglobal.net. You may also contact Pat Fuerst at 815.485.6441 or email her at ppfuerst@gmail.com.

Church office hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 am till 1 pm.