

October 2023

Dear Friends,

Please mark Sunday, October 15, at 9am on your calendars. It's time to come home to Jesus.

A special morning is being planned for our church. We are calling it ***Come Home to Jesus Sunday***.

My sermon will be a tour of our beautiful sanctuary. You will be amazed at the symbolism that fixes our gaze and our minds on Jesus and what he did for us. For instance, I'll be talking about things like:

The 8 sides of the baptismal font...

The interesting shape of the ceiling...

The purpose of the narthex...

The stained glass windows... and so much more!

The Sunday School staff will be having special events for the children as well during the church service.

Now here is where you can help: Who haven't you seen at church for quite a while? Contact him or her and give them an invitation to come to church with you. Offer to pick them up if they would like. Explain to them that it will be a Trinity "homecoming" of sorts and we want them to see what they haven't seen in a while. Perhaps they could reconnect with people they haven't had contact with. Whatever the reason, invite them to come. They will be *Coming Home to Jesus*.

I'm looking forward to having a wonderful day with you and all of our friends and families, as together we all COME HOME TO JESUS!

Pastor Hoag

OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

An update from Church Council President, Gary Purnell:

President's Note:

The congregation will be electing Council Members on the 22nd of October. Of the 12 positions on the Council, four of them are up for election. The following is a list of the positions that will need to be filled including a brief description:

- Church President - Presides over the Council meetings, Communicates with the Pastor and the Congregation
- Treasurer - Manages the Church's finances, Pays bills and salaries, Administers payment of FICA, budgeting, etc.
- Director of Outreach - Reaches out to members and nonmembers in an effort to provide support and encouragement and to maintain/increase membership
- Director of Worship and Spiritual Life - Assists the Pastor in matters pertaining to the spiritual welfare of the congregation, assists in planning and carrying out the worship services of the congregation and encourages members to faithful attendance ****Diane Sewing has expressed willingness to run again for Director of Worship and Spiritual Life.**

You may contact myself or those presently serving for more detailed information. To be eligible, members of the Council must be a communicant member of the church in good standing, be over 21 years of age, and comply with the Constitution of this Congregation.

The church needs the support of the Church Council to run smoothly. If you think you might be a good fit for any of the above positions or if you know of someone who might be a good fit, please let Pastor or myself know. The Council meets as a collective group once a month to discuss progress, issues, and vote on matters at hand. Presently, we have a great group of volunteers who are working very hard behind the scenes to keep our church functioning. We hope you will consider joining this dedicated group.

Highlights discussed during the September Church Council meeting are as follows:

- General Fund Donations year to date through August are \$12,600 less than the same period in 2022.
- Expenses are generally in line with the same period last year except for lift repairs, the masonry project (tuck pointing), and utilities.
- Property reported an extensive list of maintenance items completed over the summer months. Plans for upgrading exterior lighting are in process.
- Outreach has sent care packages to our college students and has scheduled October 15 as "Back Home With Jesus Sunday."
- Parish Education's theme this year is "Be the Light!"
- Social Ministry sent out 20 backpacks with school supplies.
- The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 8, 2023, at 7PM.



You Are Cordially Invited to: Back Home With Jesus Sunday

WHEN: Sunday 10/15/23

TIME: 9:00am

WHERE: Trinity Lutheran Church 508 North Cedar Road New Lenox, IL 60451

You are invited to come to Trinity Lutheran Church for Back Home With Jesus Sunday. If you or someone you know is unchurched or de-churched this will be especially for you. Pastor Doug Hoag will preach a sermon about the symbolism of the sanctuary furnishings and how they all come together to proclaim the love of Jesus for you. It's heaven on earth! We will have special refreshments for everyone after the service. There will also be special activities for children hosted by our Sunday School staff. It will all be a time of joy and meaningful connections as we gather to Him who is our true Home— Jesus. Come and visit us!

Member News!!!



2022 Baptisms:

- Gabriel Wojnarowski Bendoraitis 01/09/22
- Matthew Robert Longmire 02/20/22
- Russell Roy Goebig 04/03/22
- Mary Elizabeth Niemann 05/07/22
- Kanerick Matthew Dobrez 07/02/22
- Alita Sue Hicks 07/03/22
- Landon Paul Ondera 07/10/22
- Everly Jo Youngberg 08/14/22
- Alessi Anastasios Zarnos 08/21/22
- Persephone Mae Sheffer 08/21/22
- Roan Roy Seville's 11/26/22

2023 Baptisms:

- Beckett Jeffrey White 05/18/23
- Mattie Nicole Casagrande 07/30/23



2022 Weddings:

- Camden R. Meade & Francesca T. Prospero 06/11/22

2023 Weddings:

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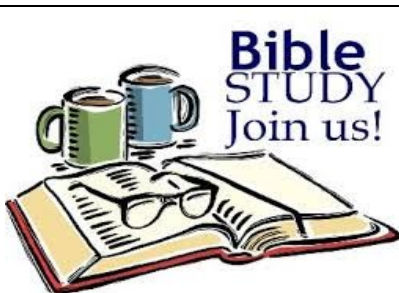
Did You Know Pastor Hoag is a Rock Star!!!

the Band Also Includes Our Very Own (former) Property Manager: Dan Bay!

Come See the Band "Side Effects!" on the Following Dates and Locations:

- October 7-- VFW New Lenox-- 7-11pm
- December 2-- VFW New Lenox-- 7-11pm
- December 9 - Gusto's 9pm-1am
- December 31-- Fireman Ted's Joliet-- 8:30pm-12:30am

all new dates will be posted in the weekly bulletin.



Bible Study:
Wednesday 8:30am
Thursday 7:00pm

Mini Scripture Cards in Each Pew: you may have noticed in the last couple of months that there is mini-Scripture Cards located on either side of each pew. they are there for you to read and enjoy. if one of them is very meaningful to you personally, please keep it.

***** MORNINGSTAR "STARS OF HOPE" *****

Please Find the Sign-Up Sheet on the Table in the Hallway

As of 9/19, Morningstar had 275 children signed up to receive gifts this Christmas. The big sign up will happen on 10/2 and 10/3.

The Recipients are all Will County Residents.

You will be able to specify if you prefer to shop for a boy or a girl; if you want to shop for the needs list, the wants list, or both.

We will pick up the stars on Sunday 10/15 and distribute them Reformation Sunday weekend.

Please have your wrapped, tagged presents back to church anytime between Sunday 11/26 and Sunday 12/3. We must deliver to MorningStar on 12/4. Please place them in either a large box or a black plastic bag in the gym. On the original star you are provided, please circle any items you did not get. MorningStar will be able to supply the unmet items from their warehouse and other donations. You DO NOT have to buy everything! If you would like to participate, but cannot physically shop, make a cash donation, and the committee will fulfill the child's request with your input.

Some stars to attach to the gifts will also be available on Reformation weekend. They need to have the name and the child's number on each tag, but that is all.

"Revitality" Was a Successful Workshop!!! The Church Council had four meetings. Our focus for this project was: "Engaging Non-Churched People in Our Community". We have the ball rolling BUT now we need the congregation's help. Our first outreach project is: Single Parent Family WITH Children. We have many ideas geared towards leading this demographic into our church. We will be talking with all of you in more detail, very soon. Please Remember - We Are Open to Ideas AND The Sky is the Limit!!!"

RE:VITALITY: "Every One His Witness" - MEETINGS FOR THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION
Additional Detailed Information to Follow

If you would be interested in being a Lay Reader (meaning you will read the "First Reading", and the "Second Reading (Epistle)") please talk with Pastor Hoag



RaiseRight Fundraiser (Formerly ShopwithScrip) - This is a gift card fundraiser. They are the same gift cards you can purchase from retailers, including over 300 brand-name grocery stores, department stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, home improvement stores, etc. We order the gift cards at a discount, and you pay face value for the gift cards. (For example, you pay \$25 for a \$25 Speedway gift card - the youth group obtains the card at a discount and keeps the difference.) You can purchase gift cards by filling out an order form (located on the table outside Pastor's office) or by placing your order online at www.raiseright.com. If interested in placing orders online, it is simple to do with our church's enrollment code. Contact Angie Minett for the code or with any questions you might have at minett411@yahoo.com or 815-228-4902.

Thank you to all who participate in our RaiseRight gift card fundraiser. This past year we made over \$1,000. We use these earnings to send our youth to the Youth Gathering every 3 years and we appreciate the generous support of our congregation.

The next deadline to order is: Sunday October 1st. Orders will be ready for pick-up the following weekend.

ALSO We Are Looking Ahead Due to the Holidays Approaching. We will have the following Extra Dates in November:

- Sunday November 5th
- Sunday November 12th

Each of those dates will have a pickup time the following Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting our efforts! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Trinity Preschool News:

Registration for 2023-2024 Is Open!

Please Tell Your Friends and Neighbors

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$65.00 per student. The school year beginning September 2023. The tuition per month will be:

-3 Day, 4-Year-Old, Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9:00-11:30 - \$150.00

Children must be 3 or 4 by September 1, 2023.

for additional information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.

Next Preschool Board Meeting: October T.B.D.



Sunday School News:

The Sunday School staff has been busy this summer making plans for wonderful new family and outreach activities! Stay tuned for details about these events! We are also adopting new curriculum updates as we work on continuous improvement in our mission to educate our young people on the Truth that our God shares with us through the Bible! We have so many exciting things ahead, and we encourage you to join us! Bring a friend or family member, too!

Our first session will be Sunday, September 10th. We meet at 9:00-10:00 am every Sunday during the school year! This year our focus will be to "Be the Light" as we share the Truth of God to our family, friends, and community!"

Children's Sermon: Every Third Sunday of the Month

The Sunday School will be collecting non-perishable food, and monies, to donate to our New Lenox Food Pantry indefinitely. This is to help those around us during these challenging times. Please bring canned goods and dry boxed items. To see items most needed by New Lenox Township Food Pantry, please visit their website (www.newlenox.org), or Facebook. A donation box is located downstairs by the Sunday School rooms, and upstairs by the library. They have also mentioned to us that they can do the most to help with financial donations – you can donate directly on their website or add an envelope with a note in our offering basket. Thank You!!!

Sunday School is Looking for Volunteers: Teachers and Helpers – High School Age to 101. Please contact Michelle Buell @ mbuell3769@gmail.com or Beth Parker @ elizabethmarie@sbcglobal.net if interested. Thanks!!!

SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENT CALANDER

October

- **October 15th, 9:00-10:30 am - Back Home With Jesus Sunday**
The community is invited to come and tour/learn about our church and our programs. Learn about the church's history and tour the stained-glass windows. Meet members of church organizations. (children's activities & extended coffee hour)
- **October 21st-5:00 pm - Family Fun Night**
Attend evening church followed by bonfire, smores, guitar songs with Pastor
- **October 29th, 9:00 am - Reformation Sunday**
Children Participate in Church

November

- **November 24th, 5-7 pm - Family Fun Night**
Christmas Movie Night/Hot Cocoa

December

- **December 17th, 10:30 am - Children's Christmas Program**
- **December 27th, 5-7pm - Christmas V.B.S.**

January

- **Jan 19th, 5-7 pm - Family Fun Night**
Glow Activities- "Be the Light!"
- **January 21st, 9:00 am - Pastries and Praise Sunday**
*Sunday School Open House-9:45 visit Sunday School Rooms
Followed by pastries/coffee hour*

February

- **February 16th, 5-7 pm - Valentine's Day Party**

March

- **March 24th, 10:30 am - Palm Sunday/Participate in Church & Easter Egg Hunt** & coffee hour at 11:30 am

April

- **Saturday, April 20th 10am-12pm - Pets in the Park**
Family Fun Event - Pet Blessing/Comfort Dogs

May

- **Sunday, May 12th, 9:00 am - Mothers' Day Tea & Donuts for Dads**



Chancel Guild News!

Attention Ladies of Trinity - Our meetings are at 9 a.m. the first Saturday of January, March, April, May, September, October, November, and December. Ladies of TLC please consider joining our awesome Chancel Guild. For more information, please contact Jennifer Mudrock, Wendy Kaun, Denise Buchanan, or Kay Purnell.

Chancel Schedule for October:

October 1: Debbie Crawford / Lois Dobbs

October 7 / October 8: ~~Lois Dobbs~~ Robin Krol / Kay Purnell

October 14 / October 15: Kay Purnell / Jan Schlak

October 22 / October 22: Jan Schlak / Allene Bachmann

October 28 / October 29: Allene Bachmann / Robin Krol

ALTAR FLOWERS - Chancel Guild Members would like to thank those of you who sponsored a weekend this last year. We appreciate your support in helping us keep fresh flowers on the altar. **A new 2024 Altar Flower Calendar will be posted towards the end of October. However, we do still have a few open weekends in December, 2023, that need sponsors.** If you would like to sponsor one of those weekends or reserve a Sunday in 2024 for a special occasion i.e. in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday or wedding anniversary, or in Thanksgiving for God's Blessings, etc., please fill out a sponsor order form and put it in the Chancel Guild Mailbox. The forms are located on a hook attached to the glass case housing the calendar. The glass case is hanging on the wall across from the general office. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815) 485-9017.

October Altar Flower Sponsors:

- Oct. 1 Kim Burbank
 In Honor of Marrying her “Partner in Crime” 10 years ago
- Oct. 8 Denise Buchanan
 In Thanksgiving for her Many Blessings
- Oct. 15 Jennifer Kojro-Badziak
 In Celebration of her Wedding Anniversary
- Oct. 22 Allene & Kim Bachmann
 In Loving Memory of Allene’s Husband, Dunc
- Oct. 29 The Steve Tinker Family & Jan Schlak
 In Loving Memory of Rita Tinker

Social Ministry Announcements:

Coffee Hours: Coffee Hours are hosted every Sunday after the 9:00 service. Additional Coffee Hour Hosts are always needed. If you would like to help, please contact Jennifer in the Office at tlcsecretary508@gmail.com or Jan Toepke at toepkej@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour Schedule:

- October 1-
- October 8-
- October 15-
- October 22-
- October 29-

Next Social Ministry Meeting: will be **Monday, October 9**. This committee sponsors service projects for our congregation and the community. It also directs social programs and events of the congregation. We have a small, dedicated group but would welcome new members to be able to expand our programs. Please consider joining us!

Next Food and Fellowship: will be **Tuesday, October 10**. Please note that starting in September the group will meet on the second Tuesday of the month. All adults are welcome to attend! Please join us for lunch and an afternoon activity. September will be hosted by the Social Ministry.

2023 CRAFT FAIR:

TRINITY CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 9 AM – 3 PM – Come out to our annual Craft & Vendor Fair and bring your friends! We need lots of shoppers to come and shop at the fair. We have the most crafters and vendors we have ever had and the building will be full of 40+ crafters and vendors! We will have crochet and knitted goods, jewelry, soaps, woodworking, candles, as well as Mary Kay, Tupperware, Usborne Books, Pampered Chef, and so much more! Come do some early Christmas shopping. We will also have a bake sale and prizes. Free admission! All proceeds support youth group programs.

If you have questions, please email Jan T. @ trinitycraftshow@gmail.com” (or call the church office at 815-485-6973)

High School and Junior High Youth and parents – please contact Michelle Hoag or Christina Kipper to volunteer for your volunteer time slot for the Craft Fair.



USHER SCHEDULE

1st Sunday

9:00 AM

-Tom Kaun 815 485 9604 kauntd@gmail.com

-Biff Aiken 815 954 0682 biffdebaiken@gmail.com

10:30 AM

-Brett Carr 815 370 6651 brettdcarr@gmail.com

-Paul Krol 815 575 1315 p.krol@sbcglobal.net

2nd Sunday

9:00 AM

-Edward A. Tatro 815 485 5760 etatro4@aol.com

-Tim King 815 463 0415 tim.king1@comcast.net

10:30 AM

-Tom Buell 815 485 3769 tombuell@sbcglobal.net

-Bob Blecke 815 353 7561 cqm964@comcast.net

3rd Sunday

9:00 AM

-Mike Gardner 815 485 9623 mgardner1453@gmail.com

-Gary Purnell 815 485 9017 gpurnell3@hotmail.com

10:30 AM

-Cameron Hoag 779 279 4223 cam.hoag@gmail.com

-Dana Knodel 708 822 2902 danacowboy1@yahoo.com

4th Sunday

9:00 AM

-Steve Tomany 815 485 3163 tomany@sbcglobal.net

-Randy Varju 815-685-1363 randy.varju@aah.org

10:30 AM

-John Buell 815 726 3601 jan.buell@yahoo.com

-Phil McFarlane 815 806 1219 philmacp40@comcast.net

5th Sunday

9:00AM

-Rex Toepke 815 485 2638 rtoepke@usa.net

-Jeff Lorenz 815 463 0833 jlorenz2367@gmail.com

10:30 AM

-Paul Krol 815 575 1315 p.krol@sbcglobal.net

-Diane Sewing 815-592-3911 dianesewing@hotmail.com

A minimum of two ushers are needed for each service. **Please call the reserve usher to take your place if you are not able to serve on your Sunday, also call your counterpart to make them aware.**

Please plan to arrive 30 minutes before service and follow the procedures noted in the usher's loose-leaf notebook in the narthex. Thanks in advance!

Other Alternates: Zack Horn 630 664 9224 zacharyhorn@gmail.com, ~~Bob Jackman 815 933 3864~~, Robert Stark 708 307 4069



Contribution statements for income tax purposes are available for members using the offering envelopes. If you have not received a statement in previous years and would like to request one, please contact the church secretary or Tammy Doerrer @ tammydoerrer@gmail.com . If you received a statement in the past, you are on the list to automatically receive one each year.

*****IMPORTANT NEWS*****: Offering Envelopes will be Renumbered for 2024. If you have an envelope number under 100, you can keep your number. Anyone wants to keep their old number; Tammy can make that happen! Please contact her directly at: Tammy Doerrer @ tammydoerrer@gmail.com. Thank You***

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00am to 2:00pm