



**Holy Trinity**  
Lutheran Church

*Engaged by Grace.*

**WEEKLY**

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Ministry Announcements for the week of January 4 - 11, 2026

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### **Our Sunday Schedule**

8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion  
10:00 am – Worship in-person and online at [www.engagedbygrace.org](http://www.engagedbygrace.org)

### **New Ministry Opportunities**

#### **Thank You from Boulevard Presbyterian**

Dear Holy Trinity Bakers,

Thank you all so very much for the beautiful cookies that you baked for Boulevard's Christmas Boxes. There was a wonderful variety, and they all looked delicious. The trays of cookies we put together for our recipients looked amazing! I'm sure the homemade cookies were much appreciated and enjoyed.

Thank you again! This mission of sharing Christ's love with those in need is truly a group effort and we couldn't do it without our friends at Holy Trinity.

Wishing all of you a wonderful Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.  
Peace, The Christmas Box Committee at Boulevard Presbyterian Church

#### **American Red Cross Blood Drive**

The next blood drive at Holy Trinity in partnership with the American Red Cross is **Thursday, January 29 from 9am-2pm**. You can make an appointment at 1-800-REDCROSS or [www.redcrossblood.org/give](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give).

#### **2026 Giving Envelopes**

Holy Trinity's 2026 offering envelopes have arrived. Please pick up yours from the table located in the hallway near the church offices. Thank you for your faithful support of Holy Trinity.

#### **Hat & Mitten Tree**

Holy Trinity is continuing its annual tradition of decorating a Hat & Mitten Tree. Everyone is invited to hang handmade or newly purchased hats, mittens, gloves, scarves and socks on the tree. Contributions will be donated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift Warming Center at First English Lutheran in January when they're needed most.

#### **Save the Date for Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 25**

Mark your calendars for Holy Trinity's annual congregational meeting on **Sunday, January 25 at 11:15 am**, immediately following the 10:00 worship service. Copies of the 2025 annual report will be available for your review prior to the meeting.

## **Thank You**

From the staff at Holy Trinity, thank you for the gifts you gave to us at Christmas. It's our pleasure and joy to be partners with you in ministry. We look forward to new activities and ministry opportunities in 2026!

## **Save the Date for Game Night – Sunday, February 1**

Holy Trinity's Theme Team will be sponsoring a Game Night on Sunday, February 1. People of all ages are invited to attend an evening of dinner, games, and fellowship. Watch for more details coming soon!

## **Stewardship Corner**

Stewardship is going where God calls us to go, making disciples, baptizing, and teaching- keeping in mind that God promises to be with us. *"'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will make you fishers of people.'"* (Mark 1:17). For more information about stewardship, please contact Max Buban at [maxmbuban82@gmail.com](mailto:maxmbuban82@gmail.com).

## **News of Invite Ministries**

### **Prayers for Our Members:**

Wes Jones, hospitalized at OSU  
Dave Kriska, recovering from heart surgery  
Peter Ward, dealing with back issues  
Marge Markowich, recovering from shoulder replacement surgery  
Joanne Duncan, recovering from various medical issues  
Miriam Ringquist, at Dublin Retirement Village  
Floradelle Pfahl, at Ganzhorn Suites

### **Prayers for Our Family and Friends:**

Chuck Jentes, Jill Banicki's father, recovering from major surgery  
Joe Berkemer, Matt Berkemer's uncle, undergoing chemotherapy  
Phyllis Bliss, friend of Holy Trinity, undergoing kidney dialysis twice/week  
Wayne Engel, Shirley Boyd's cousin, struggling with cancer  
James Gildea, Shirley Boyd's friend, recovering from a fall that fractured vertebra in his neck  
Betty Mak, Shirley Boyd's friend, undergoing daily home dialysis  
Pom, Na Brown's friend, who recently suffered a stroke  
Violet, Carolyn and Clyde Cramer's neighbor's 8-year-old granddaughter, diagnosed with leukemia  
Joe Stone, Genie Craven's son-in-law, dealing with the result of neck surgery  
Abby Moeller, Kristin Farley's friend's 14-year-old daughter, recovering from an ATV accident  
Tim Curry, Bev Farrell's brother and JoAnn Curry's brother-in-law, struggling with Parkinson's  
Melissa, Sue Ferguson's daughter, diagnosed with colon cancer  
Pamela, Barb Keller's daughter, hospitalized following emergency surgery for a dog bite  
Alan Greiner, Barb Keller's brother, dealing with multiple serious medical issues  
Rodney Larson, Don Larson's brother, diagnosed with cancer  
Randy Isaacson, Anna Lynch's father, dealing with health challenges  
Jerry Markowich, Pastor Dave Markowich's brother, hospitalized with an infection  
Mary Ortwine, Pastor Dave Markowich's sister, undergoing health tests  
Jan Attanasio, Janet Maxwell's friend, diagnosed with ALS  
Squire Aschinger, John & Judy McKittrick's nephew, diagnosed with cancer  
Eric Decker, Susan Poling-Jones's friend, diagnosed with cancer  
Kathy Poling, Susan Poling-Jones's friend, diagnosed with cancer  
Mehri Davis, Susan Poling-Jones's neighbor's daughter, in an induced coma following a stroke  
Lucas, Susan Poling-Jones and Tony Jones' nephew, recovering from seizures and a brain bleed  
Heidi McCarthy, Susan Poling-Jones' friend and mother of 3 children, undergoing radiation for breast cancer  
Ben Souders, Susan Poling-Jones' friend's son, diagnosed with bipolar disorder  
Lois Rozenquist, Susan Setterlin's friend, battling non-operable lung cancer  
Leia Kaufman, Suellen Sharp's cousin, in the ICU at Riverside  
Caitlyn Carey, Matt & Suellen Sharp's sister-in-law, diagnosed with cancer

Amy Lavoie, Becky Warnement's cousin, battling a recurrence of lung cancer  
Those affected by natural disasters, the Armed forces, victims of terror, and all those on the margins of society most vulnerable to unrest, oppression and exploitation.

## News of Embrace Ministries

### Access the Online Directory on Your Phone

If you've opted into Holy Trinity's online directory, you can now access it easily on your mobile device!

#### Using the Breeze App

1. Download **Breeze ChMS** from the App Store or Google Play.
2. When prompted, enter our church domain: **holytrinitylutheranchurch8443**
3. Sign in with your usual directory username and password.

#### Using the Holy Trinity Church App

You can also reach the directory through the "Directory" button in the bottom right corner of our church app. Download the app here: <https://tithely.app.link/holy-trinity-lutheran-church-columbus>

This makes it simple and secure to stay connected with our community wherever you are! Let the church office know if you need any assistance.

## Church Council Leadership Elected

At a congregational meeting on Sunday, December 14, the following people were elected to serve 3-year terms on Church Council: Kirsten Barrett, Mike Lamont, Tom Lynch and Doug Roberts. Additionally, the following people were elected at December's Council meeting to serve on the Executive Committee: Lynn Anderson, President; Nicole Carothers, Vice-President; Peter Ward, Financial Secretary; Debbie Cochran, Treasurer and Allison Abell, Secretary. We thank them for their willingness to serve. Thanks, too, to outgoing Council Partners: Jill Banicki, Matt Berkemer, Kristin Larrimer and Sarah Shear.

## News of Empower Ministries

### Empowerment Shelf – January 2026

#### By Elizabeth Sammons with love from Neighbor-to-Neighbor

*The Sum of Us*, *Jayber Crow*, and *Forbidden Fruit: Love Stories from the Underground Railroad* are Neighbor to Neighbor's books of note for this month. This literature intends to expand our awareness, theology and/or acceptance of diverse viewpoints. We hope you'll discover how these writings from various generations embrace what it means to be human and to walk in spirit. ...

*The Sum of Us* by McGhee, Heather

This book, edited for young readers, is a call to action. McGhee examines how damaging racism is, not only to people of color, but also to white people. She offers hope and real solutions so that we can all prosper.

*Jayber Crow* by Berry, Wendell

From his own barber shop, Jayber Crow, orphan, seminarian, and native of Port William, recalls his life and the life of his community in the middle of the 20th century. He is both participant and witness as the community attempts to transcend its own decline, meanwhile learning the art of faithful love.

*Forbidden Fruit: Love Stories from the Underground Railroad* by DeRamus, Betty

A Pulitzer Prize finalist, this award-winning journalist rummaged through musty records and forgotten memoirs to resurrect this book's unsung heroes. Despite the risks, some American slaves partook of the "forbidden fruit" of marriage. Enslaved spouses grieved deeply and sometimes made Herculean efforts to reunite. DeRamus recounts the tales of soulmates who braved bloodhounds, bounty hunters, and bullets to preserve their vows of love.

## Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for January 4 - 11, 2026

### Sunday, January 4, 2026

8:30 am – Morning Prayer  
10:00 am - Worship in-person and online at [www.engagedbygrace.org](http://www.engagedbygrace.org)

**Monday** 6:30 pm – BSA Troop 555

**Tuesday** No Events Scheduled

**Wednesday** 10:15 am – Preacher's Bible Study  
7:00 pm – WELCA Ruth Circle V

**Thursday** 6:00 pm – Children's Choir  
6:30 pm – Bell Choir  
7:30 pm – Sanctuary Choir

**Friday** 3:00 pm – Girl Scout Troop 6861

**Saturday** No Events Scheduled

### Sunday, January 11, 2026

8:30 am – Morning Prayer  
9:20 am – ChurchFam Connect  
10:00 am - Worship in-person and online at [www.engagedbygrace.org](http://www.engagedbygrace.org)  
11:15 am – Adult Sunday School Discussion of Gospel of John  
7:00 pm – Confirmation Class and HS Youth Group

## Holy Trinity Schedule of Worship Servers – January 2026

Date	Time	Welcome Center	Assisting Minister	Lay Reader	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Livestream	Bread Bakers	Communion Team
Jan. 4	10:00 am		Ron Benedick	Karen Larson	Chris Pryor Adam Wagenbach Peter Ward	Herb Maxwell Janet Maxwell	Ben Kaffenberger	Becky Warnement	Joanne Duncan Terri Michael
Jan. 11	10:00 am		Tim Hudson	Ben Kaffenberger	Tom Wuichet Skip Duncan	MJ Neiman Jeff Sammons	Matt Fox		Nancy VanFossen Lynn Anderson
Jan. 18	10:00 am	Bob and Barb Campbell	Peg Steele	Beth Myser	Matt Sharp Ben Kaffenberger	AC Cochran Sharon Hamersley	Tim Rice	Suellen Sharp	Suellen Sharp Nancy Riley
Jan. 25	10:00 am		Jody Passafume	Dyann Taylor	Dan Perry AC Cochran	Nancy Riley Elli Cucksey	Matt Sharp		Kathy Higbee Marie Tanner

### Sunday Worship Texts

Sunday, January 4 – Psalm 66:1-5; John 1:35-51 **Jesus Says Come and See**  
Sunday, January 11 – Psalm 104:14-16; John 2:1-11 **Wedding at Cana**

### The Holy Trinity Staff:

Pastor: Steve Wachtman ([steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org))  
Preschool: Molly Capuano and Jackie Newlon ([directorhtcdp@gmail.com](mailto:directorhtcdp@gmail.com))  
Administrator: Laura Hudson ([laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org))  
Minister of Music: Joshua Brodbeck ([joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org))  
Director of Faith Formation: Noelle Fox ([noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org](mailto:noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org))

For mobile giving options, scan code below with your phone's camera or go to <http://www.engagedbygrace.org/offering>



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