The Triune Tribune

MONTHLY CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2026

TRINITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

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Dear Friends in Christ,

November is a month that prepares for the end of the year. December often is focused on celebrations and Christmas, but already in November, the end is near. The Sundays of November reveal that truth, not just at the end of the 2026 calendar, but also as we get closer and closer to the return of Christ. Each day that goes by is another day closer to Christ's return. The leaves are changing, the weather cools, and we look forward to the coming of Christ in glory.

The observance of All Saints' Day brings a focus on those who are waiting with Christ for His return. Those who are saved, whose robes are washed in the blood of the Lamb of God (Revelation 7:14), are waiting with Christ. St. John writes that they are waiting and saying, "How long, O sovereign Lord?" (Revelation 6:10) But it's not just the saints who are with Christ, but also saints on earth who have been cleansed by Christ's blood who also cry out, "How long?" As we live in the valley of the shadow of death, we look at the suffering and pain of this world, and we look forward to Christ's return because we believe in His goodness and mercy that restores us and makes us whole.

The Sundays of November 8, 15, and 22 in Year A are focused on the return of Christ, as we hear the three great parables of Matthew 25. This is near the end of St. Matthew's gospel, where Jesus teaches His disciples about the last things and the coming of the Son of Man in glory. He calls His people to stay ready like the wise virgins who kept oil in their lamps, to be faithful stewards of the gifts He has entrusted to them, and to show mercy to "the least of these," knowing that in serving them they serve Him. These words come as the Church year draws to a close, pointing us beyond the present age to the day when Christ will return as King and Judge. In these uncertain times we still hear voices claiming the end is near, and the Church continues to face hardship and indifference in many places. Yet Jesus does not leave His people to face those days alone. He is the true Shepherd-King who seeks the lost, binds up the injured, and will raise the dead. He is present with us even now through His Word and Sacraments, and we long for the day when every knee will bow before Him. His words will never pass away. Thanks be to God for His faithfulness!

Then, the Church pauses and celebrates Thanksgiving. As we arrive at the end of the harvest season and the end of the year, we thank God for the gifts of this year and even the gifts of life that we receive. But as we give God thanks, we do so as people who have one foot on earth and one foot in the everlasting life of Christ, thankful for the gifts of God that will never come to an end. Our thanks and praises include the very gift of faith and new life that we receive from God.

Finally, the last Sunday of November is the beginning of Advent. Advent, especially at its beginning, is focused much more on the return of Christ in glory and the end of this veil of tears of sin-filled life than on the celebration of Christmas. The Gospel reading for the first Sunday of Advent is Christ entering Jerusalem on a donkey. Christ brings His kingdom in Jerusalem and the crowds cry out, "Save us, Lord" or, originally, "Hosanna!" We, too, cry out for Christ to save us as He has entered the world and we look for an even greater triumphal entry on the last day.

During this month of November, we watch and wait and pray as we look to Christ's return. But we don't lose hope because Christ is faithful and His words will never pass away.

In Christ,
Pastor Powell

October Hymn of the Month:
O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe (LSB 666)

There is so debate over the authorship of this hymn and text. It has, at various times, been attributed to Swedish King Gustavus Adolphus (1594-1632), to Johann Michael Altenburg (1584-1640), and to Jacob Fabricus (1593-1654). Soon after Gustavus Adolphus's death in the Battle of Lutzen (November 9, 1632), a pamphlet was published that included the text of this hymn, stating that he sang this hymn before the battle. While it is widely accepted that he did sing this hymn, it is somewhat doubtful that he was the author. Today, it is most widely accepted that Fabricus, chaplain to Gustavus Adolphus, is the author of the text, and that Altenburg, a well-known composer, developed the tune.

Originally three stanzas, numerous verses were added (including one hymnal that had 25!) in the early decades after the hymn was composed. The fourth stanza included in *Lutheran Service Book* was first seen in 1638 and its authorship is unknown.

Stanza 1 calls on Christians to not dread the foe's rage and power. Stanza 2 calls on Christians to "Be of good cheer," Because our cause belongs to the One who can avenge our wrongs. This stanza also used the Old Testament imagery of Gideon, who was raised up to save and rescue his people. Stanza 3 reminds us that as certain as God's Word is, nothing can prevail against us. The final stanza is bookended with "Amen" which surround a plea that God would once again fight for us and that the whole church in heaven and on earth will join in praise to God.

This is the best-known example of the editors of *Lutheran Service Book* intentionally assigning a hymn number. They put this church militant hymn, with a defiant text about not fearing the devil and his raging, at number 666. Carl Schalk notes, "The fact that this hymn bears the number 666—the number of the beast in Revelation 13:18—serves as a subtle reminder that Christians have no need to fear Satan with Christ on our Side." The hymn itself proclaims that the foe's seeming triumph "lasts but a little hour" and that "their might? A joke, a mere facade!"

Summarized from *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns* (Concordia Publishing House, 2019).

Hymn Text

1 O little flock, fear not the foe
Who madly seeks your overthrow;
Dread not his rage and pow'r.
And though your courage sometimes faints,
His seeming triumph o'er God's saints
Lasts but a little hour.

2 Be of good cheer; your cause belongs
To Him who can avenge your wrongs;
Leave it to Him, our Lord.
Though hidden yet from mortal eyes,
His Gideon shall for you arise,
Uphold you and His Word.

3 As true as God's own Word is true,
Not earth nor hell's satanic crew
Against us shall prevail.
Their might? A joke, a mere facade!
God is with us and we with God—
Our vict'ry cannot fail.

4 Amen, Lord Jesus, grant our prayer;
Great Captain, now Thine arm make bare,
Fight for us once again!
So shall Thy saints and martyrs raise
A mighty chorus to Thy praise
Forevermore. Amen.



A Message from Trinity Lutheran Church Board of Elders

The Board of Elders are wanting to hear feedback from you. We are considering making a change to our Sunday morning worship schedule in 2027 by combining two services into one.

Here are a few simple facts on why we are considering this change.

- Trinity has 3 services and each service averages around 100 to 150 people. Our sanctuary holds 450 people and we are called to worship together as a congregation.
- Trinity used to have three Pastors and now we have one Pastor. It has become difficult to have adult instruction classes, bible study, and 2 worship services all on Sunday morning, with one Pastor.
- Each service has volunteers that help run all three services. These include, Deacons, Ushers, Acolytes, Altar Guild, Security, Music and Media/Audio support. It has become more difficult to schedule volunteers to cover all three services.

Your Board of Elders,
elders@trinityjc.org

Jared Kesel, Chairman of the Board
Jay Wunderlich, Vice Chairman of the Board
Ryan Brunner, Secretary
Joe Kollmeyer
Joe Holzschuh
Kyle Gretlein
Ross Walquist
Jason Lale

NOVEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **8:00a/10:30a** **DIVINE SERVICE** 9:30a Sunday School 6:30pm Jr Youth 7:15pm Sr Youth	**2** 8a Quilters 6:00 Altar Guild 6:30 Evening Guild	**3**	**4** **8:15a Chapel** **9:30a Lectionary L** 5:30PM – Handbells **6PM – TRINITY ALUMNI ASSOC**	**5** **7PM** – Choir Practice	**6**	**7** **6p DIVINE SERVICE** **7p Game Night (social)**
8 **8:00a/10:30a** **DIVINE SERVICE** 9:30a Sunday School 6:30pm Jr Youth 7:15pm Sr Youth	**9** 8a Quilters	**10** 1:30p Women's Auxillary 6p Missionary Society 6p Men's Club **L**	**11** **8:15a Chapel** **9:30a Lectionary L** 5:30PM - Handbells	**12** **7PM** – Choir Practice	**13**	**14** **6p DIVINE SERVICE**
15 **8:00a/10:30a** **DIVINE SERVICE** 9:30a Sunday School Jr Youth 6:30pm Sr Youth 7:15pm	**16** 8a Quilters	**17** **Board Meetings** **6:30PM**	**18** **8:15a Chapel** **9:30a Lectionary L** **5:30PM - Handbells** **6–8PM Family Fun Night**	**19** **7PM** – Choir Practice	**20** **FALL DINNER PREP** **7p Game Night (singles)**	**21** **FALL DINNER PREP** **6p DIVINE SERVICE**
22 **8:00a/10:30a** **DIVINE SERVICE** 9:30a Sunday School **FALL DINNER 11am-5pm**	**23** 8a Quilters	**24** **Church Council** **6:30pm**	**25** **9:30a Lectionary L** **Thanksgiving Eve Service 6:30p**	**26** **THANKSGIVING**	**27** Newsletter Deadline	**28** **Christmas Decorating 9am** **6p – DIVINE SERVICE**
29 **8:00a/10:30a** **DIVINE SERVICE** 9:30a Sunday School Jr Youth 6:30pm Sr Youth 7:15pm	**30**8a Quilters					

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

812 Stadium Blvd, Jefferson City

2026 Fall Dinner

November 22, 2026

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Menu

Fried chicken, sausage, mashed potatoes, & sauerkraut

Live Auction

Begins at Noon

2 quilts and desserts!

Country Store

& bake sale

Tickets

Adult: $15

Children: $7

Carry-Out (All Ages): $15

Purchase Adult & Carry-Out tickets online at https://www.trinityjc.org/falldinner

All tickets available for purchase at the door.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

STAND FIRM

Building Foundations On The Rock

-Matthew 7:24

SR YOUTH

TRINITY LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP

JR YOUTH

SWAT

Serve Worship And Trust

I can do all things through him who gives me strength

-Philippians 4:13

Fall Devotions –Devotions will focus on our theme "Serve."

Operation Christmas Child - The Youth will host an Operation Christmas Child party during regular youth group time on November 15th. We will spend the evening packing shoeboxes full of gifts to be sent to children around the world this Christmas. Please grab a shoebox and start collecting gifts for a boy or girl. If anyone has donations of Arch books or Bibles that could be included in our shoe boxes, please drop them off in the church office or give to Angie on a Sunday morning. Please see the Operation Christmas Child webpage for gift ideas to get you started.

Church Fall Dinner - Youth will host a cake walk and help with greeting during the Fall Dinner on Sunday, November 22nd. Please sign up for your scheduled time during Sunday night Youth Group.

Christmas Decorating – Trinity Youth and Families are encouraged to help the congregation decorate the Sanctuary on Saturday, November 28th at 9am. This will be our youth event for the weekend. Hope to see you all there!



Walk to the Nativity is back and will be held Sunday December 13th. We will set up Nativity sets at 5pm on the 12th to display and share with our community. We ask that each youth bring a dozen cookies for this event. The youth leaders will bring the hot chocolate and cider. A donation will be collected at the event to support Trinity's Church Worker students. If you have any questions, please see Angie Brenner or any Youth Leader.

Candy Bar Fundraiser - Sr Youth are selling World Famous Chocolate Bars for $1.00 each. All proceeds will go toward our Youth Gathering 2028 in San Antonio. Thank you for your continued support of this event!

Word for Today

"He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a **servant**, being made in human likeness." —Philippians 2:7

Scripture Snacks

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." - John 1:1

"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." ~John 1:12

" ...Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"~ John 1:29

November Calendar

8	Jr Youth (6:30 pm) Sr Youth (7:15 pm)
15	Jr Youth (6:30 pm) Sr Youth (7:15 pm)
22	Church Fall Dinner
28	Christmas Decorating (9am) Family event

Meal Train Link

www.mealtrain.com/trains/7l1nwm

Contact for More Information

Angie Brenner

Director of Christian Education

abrenner@trinityjc.org



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

6" Red Poinsettia - $14.00

Orders with payment due November 18
Make checks payable to: *Trinity Lutheran Church*

Use the form below or order online using this QR code

# of Plants: _____

Total Due: $_____

In Honor/Memory of:_____

_____

_____

You can pick up your plant after Christmas Service, December 25th. Remaining plants will be donated.

Your name as you would like it to appear in the bulletin:

_____

Phone or Email:_____

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

ADVENT 2026

FOR FAMILIES OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18
6:30pm - 7:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall

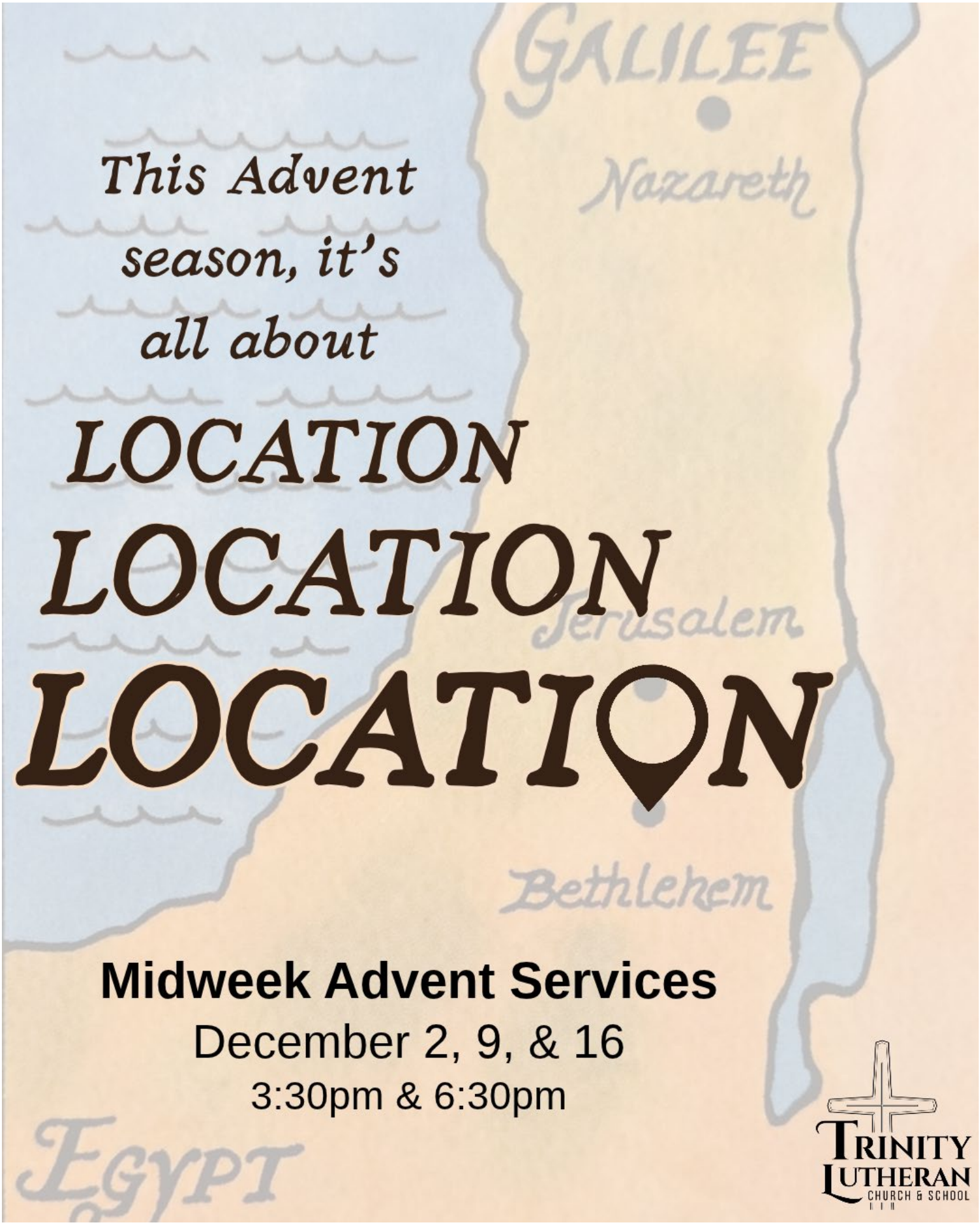
Families with children of all ages:
Join us for a night of music, activities,
and devotion as we prepare
for this Advent season.



Please sign up to attend at
signup.com/go/JTKQVSt

HOSTED BY THE
FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP COMMITTEE

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL



This Advent season, it's all about

LOCATION
LOCATION
LOCATION

Midweek Advent Services

December 2, 9, & 16

3:30pm & 6:30pm

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Stay Connected!

Help Keep Our Online Church Directory Accurate and Up to Date

Last year a church directory was created that was available both as a printed booklet and as an online directory. The goal is to keep the online directory current, accurate, and useful for everyone.

The online directory is accessed through an app called ***INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY*** and this app allows members to access the online directory anytime and keep their own information up to date.

Many members have already participated, but if you haven't, it's never too late to be included! Simply complete the **Church Directory Information** form and return the form to the church office.

Once your information has been added to the online directory, you will receive an email with instructions for creating your login. After your account is set up, you'll be able to upload your family photo.

Already Using Instant Church Directory?

If you already have an Instant Church Directory

account, you can update your family photo or contact information at any time. It's easy!

1. Open the **Instant Church Directory** app or website.
2. If using the app, tap the **Menu** (the three lines in the upper-left corner); or if using the Instant Church Directory website click on **Edit My Info** in the upper right of the webpage.
3. From the dropdown menu on the app select **Edit My Info**.
4. Scroll to the section you want to update, and tap **Edit** or tap the **Edit Profile** icon. 
5. Make your changes and tap **Submit Edits**.

That's all there is to it! By keeping your information current, you'll help maintain an accurate online directory

and keep our church family connected.

Thank you for taking a few minutes to participate and for helping to keep our online church directory up to date.

If you have any questions or need instructions on downloading the Instant Church Directory app, please contact the church office or Janell Bernskoetter at **sketerjl@gmail.com** or **(573) 690-6375**.

Church Directory Information

Family Last Name _____

Adult Name(s) _____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

Children's Name(s) _____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Family Phone # _____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y __ N

Family Email _____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

Phone (each person) _____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y __ N

_____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y __ N

_____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y __ N

_____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y __ N

Email (each person) _____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

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_____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

Anniversary _____

**From time to time we may send texts or emails to you from the church with news for upcoming events. If you do not wish to receive them, please indicate next to each phone or email listed.*



TRINITY LUTHERAN MISSIONS & SERVICE-SHARING OUR HARVEST FOOD DRIVE

Attention all hunters. As we approach hunting season, we are asking all to prayerfully consider harvesting an extra deer this year so we can donate it to the Samaritan Center. Cole County does not have any participating butchers in the "Share the Harvest" program. The Samaritan Center gets on a list and doesn't know if, when or how much they will receive. If you are so willing, please have your animal ground and vacuum sealed for deliver to the Samaritan Center. We are looking into a Thrivent card to assist with cost if necessary. Additionally, the Salvation Army encourages precooked deer meat to serve to their residents. They currently have 17 residents but are expanding to accommodate 60, and they need to feed them daily. Precooked and vacuum sealed meats go a long way to helping with this endeavor. If you have any question, please don't hesitate to reach out to Rik Combs, Cory Esselman, Kim Forney, or Rick Hardin for more details.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Our monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Mite Box offerings will be collected at the sign-in table. Bakeless bake sale contributions will be collected at our November meeting. We welcome all women of the congregation to join us in Christian fellowship. For more information contact Judy Bangert at 573-635-1131.

LADIES EVENING GUILD

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2, in the Fellowship Hall. This will be our anniversary potluck supper beginning at 6:30pm. All members are providing a dish to share and guests are cordially invited to attend Please call Pam Rustemeyer at 573-338-7337, if you would like to attend or have any questions. We will also have the election of the offices of President and Treasurer at that meeting. Future plans are being made for our chili meal and the spring rummage sale, with tentative dates of February 7 and May 22, 2027 respectively.

HAPPY DRIFTERS

Please join us at Calvary Lutheran High School, Thursday, November 12 at 10am. We will be given a VIP tour of the new addition. They have expanded again with sound proof music room, locker room for sports, shop room, expanded parking lot and sports track. I'm sure you will be interested in seeing where some of your contributions are being spent. Our church is assessed money that is allotted to Calvary School. After the tour we will return to Trinity Fellowship Hall for our annual Thanksgiving meal, thanks to Thrivent. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board We are looking forward to seeing you!