HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Engaged By Grace

WEEKLY

Ministry Announcements for the week of November 15 - 22, 2026

Our Sunday Schedule

8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
9:20 am – Church Fam Connect (all ages)/"Teen Talks" Sunday Hangout (HS/MS youth)
10:00 am – Worship in Person or Online at www.engagedbygrace.org
11:15 am – Adult Faith Enrichment - Welcoming People with Disabilities in Communities of Faith
7:00 pm - Confirmation

New Ministry Opportunities

Seminar on Welcoming People with Disabilities in Communities of Faith

The Bible is full of references to people living with disability who had no miraculous cure: from Leah, whose eyes were weak, to Moses with a stammer that required an interpreter (Aaron), to Jacob and his struggle with an angel that left him with a limp for the rest of his life. When meeting someone with visible or invisible disabilities, many of us recognize a need, but often we don't know how to respond.

Holy Trinity will host a panel of believers with various visible or invisible disabilities on **Sunday, November 15 at 11:15 am** to discuss best practices in welcoming and including our spiritual siblings with disabilities, appropriate for any faith community. We invite you to come dialogue with those of us who have lived experience in various congregations, asking the question, *how can we take a kind and active role in helping everyone feel welcome and engaged?* Participating in this meeting of minds will enrich not only our faith experience, but also any daily contact we may have with the disability community.

Moderated by Elizabeth Sammons, the panel includes: Rebecca Gonzalez, a Columbus-based self-taught artist, advocate, and community worker whose practice centers on healing through art. Drawing from lived experience with addiction recovery, mental illness, and disability, her work explores grief, trauma, and the power of interpersonal connection through community. Gonzalez facilitates local workshops on self-expression and storytelling. She has been featured in media campaigns, podcasts, short-form video, and public speaking across the Midwest and East Coast. See more of her practice at https://rgonzoarts.com.

Nate Fernandes is an active Roman Catholic living in Upper Arlington. He is married. In addition to being born blind, he and his wife Mary have an adopted child with multiple disabilities. Nate works in technology compliance in the healthcare industry.

Raised near Youngstown, Mark Seifarth acknowledges the Methodist Church's prayers and help through many childhood surgeries. Since then, he has also joined the Lutheran community, with over 40 years advocating and impacting laws and policy in Ohio and Washington, DC such as the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Developmental Disabilities Act. Today he supports several organizations on disability and policy issues. Mark also Chairs the Spiritual Life Committee where he resides, at Wesley Glen.
Due to the complexity of travel arrangements for the panelists, we want to be sure to have a critical mass of people in attendance for this insightful discussion. **Please click here to RSVP.**

Ohio Hunger Network of Ohio

Guest Preacher, Deacon Nick Bates - Sunday, November 22

Deacon Nick Bates, J.D., M.T.S., currently serves as the director of the Hunger Network in Ohio (HNO) our ELCA State Advocacy Office. He is also serving, part-time, as the interim executive director of the Ohio Council of Churches. Deacon Bates graduated from Capital University Law School and Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 2012. He was ordained in 2014 in the ELCA to ministries of Word and Service, focusing on advocacy and justice. Deacon Bates has an extensive background in non-profit management and advocacy, beginning his career in 2004 by advocating on homelessness and housing issues. He has policy expertise in anti-poverty efforts, affordable housing, civil rights, and state budget and tax policies. Deacon Bates lives with his wife and two children in the Hilltop neighborhood of Columbus. In his free time, Nick volunteers as a member of the Greater Hilltop Area Commission, with the Hilltop Y, and their local Scout troop.

Sunday Adult Enrichment – Sunday, November 22 @ 11:15 am in the Conference Room

***Breaking Down Myths and Fears of Trans* - Deacon Nick Bates, father of a trans non-binary teenager**

Did you know that fear motivates voters to get out and vote? Over the past year, Ohioans saw TV ads about many social and 'culture war' issues designed to divide our communities using fear. As people of faith, we are told to 'fear not' and we can best accomplish this in our world through dialogue and conversation. Deacon Bates is the father of a trans non-binary teenager and he will break down some of the myths and fear, explaining how we as a community can show God's beloved children love and compassion.

Leaf Raking – Saturdays, November 14 and 21

Holy Trinity's current and rising high school students are preparing for their trip to Minneapolis for the ELCA National Youth Gathering in June 2027. Costs for the gathering are estimated to be $1500 per person. Donations will help defray the cost of the trip. Youth will be raking leaves to the curb on Saturdays, November 14 and 21. To schedule a time for the students to rake the leaves at your house, please sign up by clicking the link below. If you have questions, contact Allison Abell at allison.m.abell@gmail.com or 704-989-2274. Thanks in advance for your support of our youth!
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4AA9A62FABFF2-67558194-holy#/

Advent Workshop

Advent is a beautiful season of preparation as we await the coming of Christ. You are invited to be a part of this joyous journey! On **Sunday, November 29 after the 10:00 worship service**, Holy Trinity will host an Advent workshop filled with fellowship and fun. Come help us decorate the church, engage in a creative craft, and enjoy some snacks as we create a warm and welcoming atmosphere for the Christmas season. You'll also have the opportunity to reach out to our Holy Trinity homebound friends by signing cards for them. The Advent Workshop will help prepare our hearts and minds for the joy of the Christmas season. See you on the 29th!

Red Cross Blood Drive – Thursday, December 3

Save the date for the next American Red Cross blood drive at Holy Trinity on Thursday, December 3 from 9am - 2pm. You can make an appointment online at www.redcrossblood.org/give or by calling 1-800-REDCROSS. Walk-ins are also welcome. Thank you for considering giving the gift of life!

First English Breakfast Ministry

Holy Trinity will be providing a hot breakfast for our friends at First English Lutheran church on **Sunday, November 22,** serving breakfast burritos**,** scrambled eggs, rice, black beans, roasted potatoes, fresh fruit and breakfast pastries. The free pantry is also open on the 4th Sunday. **They are particularly in need of deodorant, medium and large underwear, blankets, lotion, hats, scarves, gloves and hand/foot warmers**. All donated items should be delivered to Holy Trinity by Sunday, November 22 at 8:00 am for transport to FELC, or you can drop off to the Warnements' home in advance, drop to Becky's office, or bring donations directly to First English, 1015 E. Main Street 43205 by 8:15 am on that Sunday. Breakfast service begins at 8:30. If you'd like to contribute items for breakfast, the pantry or to help serve on the 22nd, please click the following link to sign up https:/www.signupgenius.com/go/5080948AAAD28A57-66213431-first#/.

Handel's *Messiah* – Tickets Available Now

Holy Trinity's own singers and orchestra will present one of the most famous choral works in the world, Handel's *Messiah*, on **Sunday, December 20 at 4:00 pm**. Perfect for the Christmas season, this will be the largest gathering of voices and instruments on Holy Trinity's concert schedule this year. The sanctuary will be filled so a reserved-seat ticket is required, and a $10 donation is suggested at the door. Ticket(s) are available by contacting any Holy Trinity choir member or by clicking https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/11507898. Invite your family and friends for a beautiful afternoon of music on Sunday, December 20th!

Stewardship Corner

As Christians, we can, in Christ, share God's love with others through our good acts. God has chosen and equipped us to be God's instruments of support, service, and compassion. As C.S. Lewis wrote, *"Good and evil both increase at compound interest. That is why the little decisions you and I make every day are of such infinite importance. The smallest good act today is the capture of a strategic point from which, a few months later, you may be able to go on to victories you never dreamed of."* In essence, God uses the small things we do and multiplies them into something significant. Paul wrote, *"Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to God's power that is at work within us"* (Ephesians 3:20). For more information about stewardship, please contact Max Buban at maxmbuban82@gmail.com.

News of Invite Ministries

New Prayer Concerns:

JoAnn Curry, whose health is declining
Dave Carothers, recovering from kidney surgery this week
Sue Ferguson, at Westminster-Thurber Health Center, recovering from shoulder surgery
Dee Saunders, Sharon Hamersley's friend, battling side effects of colon cancer surgeries
The family of Marinius "Joe" Eliasen, Arlene Swanson's father, who died last week

Prayers for Our Members:

Genie Craven, recovering from a fall
Pat Rice, recovering from hip surgery
Steve Rice, recovering from emergency gallbladder surgery
Zinny Bond, being treated for ovarian cancer
Wes Jones, being treated for lymphoma
Jon Scheiderer, dealing with a respiratory illness
Bill Decker, who broke his wrist
Abbey Bates, in need of prayer
Joanne Duncan, at home
Brian Johnson, at Harrison on 5th

Prayers for Our Family and Friends:

Chuck Jentes, Jill Banicki's father, recovering from major surgery
Craig Sturtz, Barretts' and Wachtmans' friend, undergoing experimental procedures for pancreatic cancer
Joe Berkemer, Matt Berkemer's uncle, undergoing chemotherapy
Phyllis Bliss, friend of Holy Trinity, undergoing kidney dialysis twice/week
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, recovering from a seizure
Alexis Lilly, Abbey Bates' friend, in need of prayer
Sammy Cochran, Shannon & Abbey's infant son, Debbie & AC's grandson, on anti-seizure meds
Violet, Carolyn and Clyde Cramer's neighbor's 9-year-old granddaughter, diagnosed with leukemia
Joe Stone, Genie Craven's son-in-law, dealing with the result of neck surgery
Jane Hart, Bill & Cyndy Decker's friend, who received a cochlear implant recently
Ernie Hartong, Bill and Cyndy Decker's friend, suffering from bladder cancer
Dr. Thomas Anderson, Bill Decker's friend, recently diagnosed with cancer
Tim Curry, Bev Farrell's brother and JoAnn Curry's brother-in-law, struggling with Parkinson's

Melissa, Sue Ferguson's daughter, battling colon cancer
Kirk Gerber, Pastor Bonnie's brother, hospitalized in Akron with an infection
Alan Greiner, Barb Keller's brother, dealing with multiple serious medical issues
Deb Rockenbaugh, Kris Kochheiser's sister-in-law, undergoing treatment for breast and lymph node cancer
Rodney Larson, Don Larson's brother, diagnosed with cancer
Randy Isaacson, Anna Lynch's father, dealing with health challenges
Jan Attanasio, Janet Maxwell's friend, diagnosed with ALS
Scott Houk, Susan Poling-Jones's friend, undergoing treatment for non-Hodgkins lymphoma
Lois Rozenquist, Susan Setterlin's friend, battling non-operable lung cancer
Chloe Walker, Annika Wachtman's wife Kyndall's niece, seriously burned in a science experiment at school
Amy Lavoie, Becky Warnement's cousin, battling a recurrence of lung cancer
Michael Corey, Heidi Welch and Dan Sharpe's friend, recovering from a serious car accident
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

2027 Altar Flowers

Altar flowers beautify our worship space and are a lovely way to acknowledge special events or remember loved ones. Sign-up sheets are now available for 2027 flower dedications. Sign up at the flower stand near the Info Center or by contacting the church office at laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org or 614-486-9433. Checks, electronic drafts or credit card payments should note "flowers" in the memo. The cost is $35.

News of Embrace Ministries

Council Seeking Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for a slate of candidates to serve 3-year terms on Church Council. All confirmed members of Holy Trinity are eligible to serve. Church members are invited to suggest candidates (including themselves) to Council President Lynn Anderson lynnanderson1873@gmail.com, Pastor Steve Wachtman steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org or the office email@engagedbygrace.org or 614-486-9433.

Attention Holy Trinity Children and Families

It's time to start preparing for the Christmas pageant! Any child 5th grade or younger is invited to sing and share the story of Jesus' birth. Everyone who wants to participate will get to sing and be part of the pageant (and it's even fine if they don't sing!) Please let us know if your child(ren) wishes to participate as well as if they would like a speaking part or not.

Rehearsals will be on **Thursdays, November 19, December 3, and December 10 from 6:00-6:30pm**. The pageant will be shared with the congregation during the **10:00 worship service** on **Sunday, December 13**.

Supper will be served each Thursday at 5:30 prior to rehearsal. While it's not necessary for you to RSVP for dinner, letting us know you are planning to eat is helpful in meal planning. If you are interested in providing dinner (homemade or catered), please sign up here. Please contact Josh Brodbeck or Noelle Fox for more info.

News of Empower Ministries

Habitat for Humanity Update – 1848 Aberdeen Ave.

Our Habitat house is very nearly complete! The next two weeks will be spent putting on the finishing touches. This week we will be doing knick-knack things like kitchen and bath hardware, door hardware, and woodwork touch-ups. We will also be doing the painting touch-ups and other final touches before we are ready to have our Dedication Ceremony where we turn the keys over to the new homeowners.

The house is looking beautiful and the homeowners, who have worked very hard on it themselves, are thrilled with the outcome! Stay tuned for the date of the Dedication Ceremony.

I appreciate the commitment from Holy Trinity and all our churches and partners who have given time, money, as well as some blood, sweat and tears to provide safe housing for another family...Thank you. Contact Benson Ross for more information at 614-747-0930 or detailsdetails96@gmail.com.

Empowerment Shelf – November 2026
By Elizabeth Sammons with love from Neighbor-to-Neighbor
Sugar Bush Babies: Stories of my Ojibwe Grandmother, The Border Between Us, and The Intellectual Origins of American Slavery are Neighbor-to-Neighbor's books of note for November. 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.

Sugar Bush Babies: Stories of my Ojibwe Grandmother by Fairbanks, Janis.
Through this lyrical memoir, we can revisit life during Indian Relocation, taking us through stories of childhood and lessons learned at the writer's grandmother's knee on the Fond du Lac Reservation.

The Border Between Us by Ruiz, Rudy.
Ramón López was born along the US-Mexico border but is determined to embrace the American dream -- making it to New York and succeeding as an artist. His admiration for his entrepreneurial father sours as he watches his dad's dreams of success wither. Ramón's mother is preoccupied with his younger brother, who struggles with intellectual disabilities. Will "making it" demand too big a sacrifice?

The Intellectual Origins of American Slavery by Harpham, John Samuel.
English merchants found justification for the Atlantic slave trade in Roman law. That tradition influenced key authors such as John Locke and Hugo Grotius, who in turn shaped the attitudes of traders initially hesitant to profit from human bondage.

Holy Trinity Ministry in Action



Pastor Steve visited with the children of Holy Trinity's Child Development Program and offered a blessing for their new playground and equipment.

Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for November 15 - 22, 2026

Sunday, November 15, 2026
8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
9:20 am – Church Fam Connect (all ages)/"Teen Talks" Sunday Hangout (HS/MS Youth)
10:00 am – Worship with Communion in Person or Online at www.engagedbygrace.org
11:15 am – Adult Faith Enrichment – Welcoming People with Disabilities
7:00 pm - Confirmation

Monday 3:00 pm – LSS Food Pantry
6:30 pm – BSA Troop 555

Tuesday 7:30 pm – Habitat for Humanity Steering Committee

Wednesday. 10:15 am – Preacher's Bible Study
7:00 pm – Church Council

Thursday 5:30 pm – Thursday Supper at Church
6:00 pm – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
6:30 pm – Bell Choir
7:30 pm – Sanctuary Choir

Friday 3:00 pm – Girl Scouts 6184
6:15 pm – Scandinavian Club Movie Night

Saturday No Events Scheduled

Sunday, November 22, 2026
8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
9:20 am – Church Fam Connect (all ages)/"Teen Talks" Sunday Hangout (HS/MS Youth)
10:00 am – Worship with Communion in Person or Online at www.engagedbygrace.org
11:15 am – Adult Faith Enrichment – Breaking Down Myths and Fears of Trans
5:45 pm – HS Youth Group at Jacob's Porch
7:00 pm - Confirmation

Holy Trinity Schedule of Worship Servers – November & December 2026

Date	Time	Welcome Center	Assisting Minister	Lay Reader	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Livestream	Bread Bakers	Communion Team
Nov. 15	10:00 am		Keith Townsend	Beth Myser	Dan Perry Ron Benedick	Janet Maxwell Herb Maxwell	Jared Forts	Suellen Sharp	Terri Michael Joanne Duncan
Nov. 22	10:00 am	Benson Ross	Lynn Anderson	Ben Kaffenberger	Tom Wuichet Skip Duncan	Jeff Sammons MJ Neiman	Matt Sharp	Nancy VanFossen	Nancy VanFossen Lynn Anderson
Nov. 29	10:00 am		Ron Benedick	Dyann Taylor	Dan Perry Mike Lamont	Carolyn Cramer Chris Pryor	Tim Rice	Becky Warnement	Kathy Higbee Marie Tanner
Dec. 6	10:00 am		Elli Cucksey	Leslie Torres	Mark Abell AC Cochran	Deb Bickford Peter Ward	Ben Kaffenberger	Chris Burton	Terri Michael Joanne Duncan

Sunday Worship Texts
Sunday, November 15 – Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
Sunday, November 22 – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46

The Holy Trinity Staff:
Pastor: Steve Wachtman (steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org)
Child Development Center: Molly Capuano and Jackie Newlon (directorhtcdp@gmail.com)
Administrator: Laura Hudson (laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org)
Minister of Music: Joshua Brodbeck (joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org)
Director of Faith Formation: Noelle Fox (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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