HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Engaged By Grace

WEEKLY

Ministry Announcements for the week of November 22 - 29, 2026

Our Sunday Schedule

8:00 am – First English Breakfast Ministry
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 – "Breaking Down Myths and Fears of Trans"
7:00 pm - Confirmation

New Ministry Opportunities

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.

Thank You for ThankFULL Bags

The Lutheran Social Services Network of Hope thanks you for your generosity in providing hope and healing for people in crisis. Holy Trinity contributed **183 ThankFULL meal bags, more than ever before,** to help families in need celebrate Thanksgiving. Turkey, bread and produce will be added to each bag that is picked up at the LSS food pantries in the coming days. Many thanks to all congregation members and Child Development Program friends for making the holidays a little brighter for people struggling with food insecurity.

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.

Serving Dinner at Jacob's Porch this Sunday

The high school youth at Holy Trinity and Advent Lutheran are serving dinner and attending evening worship at Jacob's Porch this **Sunday, November 22**. If anyone is willing to prepare food for the college students, please sign up on the SignUp Genius link below. Food can be brought to Holy Trinity by 5:15 on Sunday.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44ADA92DA0F9C52-55843523-dinner#/

Pastoral Succession Planning Update

Last night Holy Trinity's Church Council reviewed the aggregate results of the financial means testing for a co-pastor transition: seventeen households pledged up to $324,000. That budget can fund the co-pastor arrangement for as long as two years, depending on the experience of the Lead Pastor Designee that the congregation calls.

Council also revisited the insights and guidance shared in town hall discussions and the congregation-wide survey. Of the 110 members who responded, 72% favor or are comfortable with a co-pastor transition:

- 51% favor a co-pastor transition
- 28% favor an interim transition
- 21% are comfortable either way

Having weighed all that has been learned throughout the process, Council has discerned that Holy Trinity is ready to take the next steps in the co-pastor succession plan, while also appreciating that some members thoughtfully prefer a different path.

At a congregational meeting on **Sunday, December 13, at 11:15 am**, following the election of new Council members, Council will walk through its discernment process. Bishop Suzanne Darcy-Dillahunt will be in attendance to explain next steps and answer questions about the call process going forward, including information about how the congregation will be engaged in the process. Please send ahead of time any questions you may have so they can be addressed at the meeting. You can give them to any of us or drop them in the collection box at the Reception Desk window.

Thank you for your attention and participation over these past months. Your engagement has been vital to the Spirit's work among us.

Yours in Christ,
Council Executive/Personnel Committee
Lynn Anderson, President
Nicole Carothers, Vice President
Debbie Cochran, Treasurer
Peter Ward, Financial Secretary
Allison Abell, Secretary

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!

Celebration of A Life Well Lived – Floradelle Pfahl

Always one who enjoyed a party, "Friends of Floradelle Pfahl" are using what would have been her 100th birthday as an opportunity to celebrate her life of faith, service, generosity and joy.

The service will begin at **2 pm, Sunday, November 29**, (one day ahead of her birthday) at Holy Trinity, with a reception to follow.

Plan now to attend this special occasion and share the announcement with anyone else who might like to join.

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!

Sisters in the Spirit – Ornament Making
We are kicking off the 2026 Christmas season on **Friday, December 5th from 7:00-9:30 pm** with ornament-making for Holy Trinity's Family Christmas Eve service. Come when you can and leave when you have to! Supplies will be here, just show up and perhaps bring a glue gun and scissors. Wine and snacks are optional as well. All women are invited to attend. We're looking forward to some fun craft and fellowship time together!

Christmas Boxes with Boulevard Presbyterian
Holy Trinity is partnering with Boulevard Presbyterian Church in the Community Christmas Box project by donating 70 dozen cookies. Homemade cookies of any kind are welcomed. Please package your cookies in boxes or containers so they can easily be transported and divided at Boulevard Presbyterian. The cookies will be going to Base Camp, a non-profit organization located in Franklinton. Base Camp works with those trying to overcome drug addiction. Be sure to have your cookies on the table in the **Holy Trinity's sacristy** (the room near the parking lot doors just outside of the sanctuary) by **10:00am Thursday, December 10th**. You can sign up using the link below and please indicate the number of dozen of cookies you can provide.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E44ADA92DA0F9C52-46285693-cookies

Thank you for your ministry to make the Christmas season special!

Stewardship Corner
Thanksgiving is a culmination of all the labor of the preceding year – the tilling of the soil, the planting of the seed, the rain and sunshine nourishing the crop, and then the harvest! The same principle of hard work followed by a reward holds true in the spiritual realm. "*Let us not become weary in doing good for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give* up" (Galatians 6:9). "*For the Lord your God will bless you in all your harvest and in all the work of your hands, and your joy will be complete*" (Deuteronomy 16:15b). For more information about stewardship, please contact Max Buban at maxmbuban82@gmail.com.

News of Invite Ministries
New Prayer Concerns:
Kaylee Barrett, recovering from abdominal surgery
Na Brown, experiencing irregular heart rhythms
The family of David Evans, Sue Eubanks' niece's husband, who died this week

Removed from the Prayer List:
Genie Craven, recovered from a fall

Prayers for Our Members:
JoAnn Curry, whose health is declining
Dave Carothers, recovering from kidney surgery
Sue Ferguson, at Westminster-Thurber Health Center, recovering from shoulder surgery
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
Dee Saunders, Sharon Hamersley's friend, battling side effects of colon cancer surgeries
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.

Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting for the purposes of electing council members and discussing the discernment process for our Pastoral Succession Plan will be conducted on **Sunday, December 13 at 11:15 am**, immediately following the 10:00 worship service. Bishop Suzanne Darcy-Dillahunt will be in attendance to answer questions and explain next steps. See you on the 13th!

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.

Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for November 22 - 29, 2026

Sunday, November 22, 2026
8:00 am – First English Breakfast Ministry
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

Monday 6:30 pm – BSA Troop 555

Tuesday No Events Scheduled

Wednesday 10:15 am – Preacher's Bible Study
7:00 pm – Evening Bible Study

Thursday **Thanksgiving – Church Offices Closed**

Friday Church Offices Closed

Saturday No Events Scheduled

Sunday, November 29, 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 – Advent Workshop
2:00 pm – Floradelle Pfahl Memorial Service & Celebration of a Life Well Lived
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. 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
Dec. 13	10:00 am	Bob & Barb Campbell	Abbey Bates	Debbie Cochran	Adam Wagenbach John Gray	AC Cochran Elli Cucksey	Mark Abell	Debbie Cochran	Suellen Sharp Nancy Riley

Sunday Worship Texts
Sunday, November 22 – Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46
Sunday, November 29 – Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

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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