HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Engaged By Grace

WEEKLY

Ministry Announcements for the week of November 29 – December 6, 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 – Advent Workshop
2:00 pm – Celebration of a Life Well Lived: Floradelle Pfahl
7:00 pm - Confirmation

New Ministry Opportunities

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

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!

Advent Concert

Concerts at Holy Trinity is pleased to present a special midweek midday concert for Advent on **Wednesday, December 9 at 11:30 am**. Featuring Frederick Ripley on violin and viola and Joshua Brodbeck on the organ, concert attendees will experience a quiet half-hour of music designed to help still your mind during the busy Advent season. Admission is free with a $10 suggested donation at the door.

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!

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.

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!

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!

Hat & Mitten Tree
Holy Trinity will continue 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 those in need in January when they're needed most.

Poinsettias
If you would like to purchase a poinsettia(s) to beautify the sanctuary for Christmas, please sign up at the Collection and Signup Corner or contact the church office at 614-486-9433 or email@engagedbygrace.org. The cost is $8/plant.

Stewardship Corner
Thanksgiving is a time that causes nearly everyone, including unbelievers, to count their blessings. While all of us are grateful for food, clothing, shelter, and good health along with family and loyal friends, only those who have faith in the Son of God can be truly thankful for the greatest blessing of all—the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life. *"Thanks be to God for God's indescribable gift!"* (2 Corinthians 9:15) For more information about stewardship, please contact Max Buban at maxmbuban82@gmail.com.

News of Invite Ministries
New Prayer Concerns:
Sona, Carolyn Hodge-Cramer's sister-in-law, now in hospice care
The family of JoAnn Curry, who died Friday, November 20th. JoAnn's funeral will take place in January.

Prayers for Our Members:
Kaylee Barrett, recovering from abdominal surgery
Na Brown, experiencing irregular heart rhythms
Dave Carothers, recovering from kidney surgery
Sue Ferguson, at home, 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

News of Embrace Ministries

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. Please see article on front page for more information.

News of Empower Ministries

Habitat for Humanity Update – 1848 Aberdeen Ave.

Well folks, we've done it again...we have finished yet another Habitat house! It's a beautiful home and the family is thrilled. Once again, we have provided secure housing to a family in need.

Thanks to all who helped make it happen and contributed to this important ministry. Thanks also to our newest volunteer, Susan!

Continue watching here for a future update when we will have our Dedication Ceremony and turn over the keys to the new homeowners. Thanks again and congratulations to us all!

Empowerment Shelf – December 2026

By Elizabeth Sammons with love from Neighbor-to-Neighbor

Shards of Silence, Black Out Loud, and Bodega: Poems are Neighbor-to-Neighbor's books of note for December. 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.

Shards of Silence by Young, Brian
Leaving behind friends and family in Navajo, New Mexico -- especially his great-grandmother, Mildred – hurts, but Derrick knows his scholarship to an elite East Coast boarding school is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. His new classmates vacation in Europe and take study drugs. Derrick wants to stick to caffeine, but handling sports, school, and a twenty-page term paper, all while dodging comments about his hair and heritage, feels straight-up impossible. Derrick must shatter a steadfast generational silence to untangle his great-grandmother's memories.

Black Out Loud by Bennett, Geoff
TV shows like *In Living Color, The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air, Living Single, Martin*, and *A Different World* stood on the shoulders of decades of groundbreaking work by Black comedians delivering nuanced portrayals of life, family, and culture. How did this come to be? Starting with the 19th century, this account traces how comedians challenged racial stereotypes, exploring race and identity through humor.

Bodega: Poems by Hwang, Su
Against the backdrop of the war on drugs and the 1992 Los Angeles Riots, a Korean girl comes of age in her parents' bodega in the Queensbridge projects, offering a singular perspective on our nation of immigrants and the tensions pulsing in the margins where they live and work.

Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for November 29 – December 6, 2026

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 & Celebration of a Life Well Lived
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 – WELCA Ruth Circle V

Thursday 9:00 am – American Red Cross Blood Drive
12:30 pm – LSS Food Pantry
5:30 pm – Supper at Church
6:00 pm – Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
6:30 pm – Bell Choir
7:30 pm – Sanctuary Choir

Friday 7:00 pm – Sisters in the Spirit

Saturday 5:00 pm – YWCA-Family Center Dinner

Sunday, December 6, 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
2:00 pm – Private Piano Recital
7:00 pm – High School/Middle School Youth Group

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. 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 29 – Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
Sunday, December 6 – Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

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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