

HIGHLIGHTS

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE *of* HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 2019



FOOD AND RESOURCES
Celebrating Two Years!!

Single Worship Service on Sunday, November 3 @ 9:30 a.m. — All Saints Sunday & Affirmation of Baptism

Meet Grammy Award
Winning Artist

Claudio Ragazzi!

Join us for a special Meet-the-Artist
Meal with Ragazzi and the members of
Boston Virtuosi on Sunday, November

10, 6 p.m. following the concert.
Guests will enjoy a delicious New
England-style meal in an intimate
setting and ask questions of the artists.

Buy your tickets any Sunday after
worship or online at artholytrinity.org.

**LIMITED SEATING
AVAILABLE!**

ARTS @ HOLY TRINITY



presents

Boston Virtuosi

featuring 2018 Grammy-winner Claudio Ragazzi

Sunday, November 10, 4 p.m.

(not 7:30 p.m. as previously posted)

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

50 N. Prospect Street, Akron

The programming of this eclectic, innovative ensemble ranges from Haydn to World Music, to newly commissioned and multi-media works, and invariably circles back to serve the heart of their classical repertoire.

Hear new works written specifically for this occasion!



**HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Praising. Loving. Serving in Jesus' name.

holytrinityakron.org

*The concert is free;
a free-will offering
will be received. Join
our mailing list at
the event to enter a
drawing during the
reception for a \$25
gift certificate to
Fisher's Café & Pub.*

come serve with us



Help Serve a Thanksgiving Meal!

**Tuesday, November 26,
12:30 p.m.**

Holy Trinity will once again help serve a Thanksgiving Meal to K-2nd grade students at Robinson CLC. If you are available to help, please sign-up in the office lobby. †

Special LIFT Service Project

Sunday, November 24

Join us at 10 a.m. in Room 202 to write notes of encouragement and make decorative placemats for the Haven of Rest. †

A blessing to so many families!!

To make this ministry happen, volunteers are needed. Just a few hours of your time can have a tremendous impact not only on the families but also YOU! Training for new volunteers is the hour before doors open. Returning volunteers can arrive 30 minutes prior. See Darlene Anderson with questions. †

**Saturday, November 9,
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, November 14,
7-8:30 p.m.**

CLOSED
Saturday, November 23

See related article and stats on page 9.

Instant Oatmeal for OPEN M

Holy Trinity is collecting 210 boxes of instant oatmeal packets, any brand and flavor. These donations will be part of a food box to feed each family for two weeks. Donations can be placed in the OPEN M box in the Room 202 hallway. **Deadline is December 1.** Thank you for your support! †



“Volunteer” at Your Own Church?



Pastor David

“... You cannot volunteer at your own church, in the same way you cannot babysit your own kid. Because the church belongs to you in the same way your family does. It’s your own place, your own people ...”

I found this article by Pr. Erin Wathin to be intriguing and helpful. I hope you do, too.

In writing [a recent newsletter article] to my people, I wrote that it takes a whole village of volunteers to make all [the work of the parish] happen.... But then I found myself hitting the backspace button. Because “volunteer” is not quite the right word for what our people do at church.

I know I’m not the only one who cringes when someone sees me, without kids in tow, and asks if my husband is “babysitting.” Well, no. I mean, yes, he is at home with the kids tonight. But I do not think you can effectively say “babysitting” when it is *your own dang kid*. I’d say we could just call that parenting.

I feel the same when people talk about “volunteering” at church. And yes, I know it’s just a word. But it’s the wrong word, for a lot of reasons.

If you ask a grandparent, or an elder of your church, I’m pretty sure they will tell you that the church they grew up in never asked them to volunteer. Historically, the church has asked people to serve—as deacons, as greeters, as Sunday school teachers, or on the property committee. Whatever the job, it was considered a service. A ministry.

The language of volunteerism is a pretty recent addition to the church lexicon. It has emerged with the mega-church of the last few decades—and the culture in which small to moderate size churches replicate the language and practices of larger churches.

“Volunteering” is something you’re asked to do, right off the bat in these places. It gets folks engaged, which is great. Maybe you give them a flashy name badge that says “VOLUNTEER” in big red letters, or a brightly colored t-shirt that declares “VOLUNTEER” on the back. This identifies you as someone who’s there to help; one who can answer questions, give directions, or generally point you toward the donuts. That’s a good thing.

But I balk at the secular nature of what it means to volunteer. To volunteer means that you are an outside resource, stepping in to help an organization in need. Volunteering is what we do when we pick up trash at the park, or build a house with Habitat, or help sort food at the local food pantry. Volunteering is what I do at my kids’ school on Fridays.

In other words, it’s what you do at a place that is important to you – but not at a place that belongs to you.

And I guess that is the important distinction for me. You cannot volunteer at your own church, in the same way you cannot babysit your own kid. Because the church belongs to you in the same way your family does. It’s your own place, your own people. So of course you help take care of it. Of course you do yard work and make coffee and teach the kids and sing in the choir and whatever all else it is you do for the home and the people that you love.

A volunteer, in many cases, is just visiting. A fly-by. Maybe it’s a helpful fly-by, but it’s not the same as belonging to something. It’s not the same as contributing to something bigger than you, something that’s part of who you are.

Maybe some practices of inordinately large churches are good ones, systems from which we can learn a great deal about connection and engagement. But ultimately, the language of volunteerism is secular, and more to the point, it is corporate. The notion is rooted in consumer culture, in which we can swoop in and give or take a measure that we deem fit, and then dart out again feeling we have done our part. We do a disservice to our faith, and to the gospel itself, when we reduce the work of the church to something

Continued on page 14 ...

Vicar's Vision



I just returned from an intensive class on the campus of Trinity Lutheran Seminary. The class is about being a theological leader. The intensive week meant long hours of exploring what it means that God has chosen to use broken people as leaders in local faith communities. We examined our family histories for how we have been formed for leadership, whether for good or for bad. We looked at the situations that we

face in parish ministry and how we succeed and how we fail in our attempts to be good leaders for Christ's church in the world. This intensive was intense. Even though a week has passed, I am still doing deep thinking and processing. All of this made me think about how Holy Trinity is also being shaped to be a theological leader in the Akron community. God chooses to use the church, not the building, but the broken and fallible people that are gathered here.

Last week, I had an opportunity to have a one-on-one conversation with Bishop Allende. He told me that Holy Trinity is important because we are the only urban church left in this synod. The others have all closed their doors. So why are we still here? Why has God chosen to sustain us to be in this place at this time? Our church is important to God's mission.

We develop our ability to be faithful leaders through our experiences. Our history as a congregation has shaped us. Holy Trinity was started to be ethnically diverse as it was created to be an English speaking congregation rather than ethnic specific like a German or Swedish congregation. For over a hundred years we have been blessed with opportunities to partner with a variety of neighbors in the community. We have developed a long-standing covenant relationship with Wesley Temple that gives us the opportunity to worship together while learning from each other. Our location has also provided opportunities to connect with our neighbors on the other side, Haven of Rest and Harvest Home. These connections have shaped our church's ministry among Akron's homeless population.

Times change. Sometimes change brings pain and struggle, but we have been resilient. Holy Trinity has fewer members than we did in the 1950s. We may have fewer members now, but that has freed us to use our resources in new ways. We now use our

Continued on page 16 ...



Les Délices

Arts at Holy Trinity welcomes its artists-in-residence **Les Délices**, Cleveland's premier early music ensemble, for its second concert series in Akron. Known for their creative, original programming, Les Délices (pronounced *Lay day-lease*) is recognized as "an early music group with an avant-garde appetite," whose "concerts and recordings are journeys of discovery." (*New York Times*)

Friday, November 1, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Mozart & Beethoven Quintets—Rarely-heard masterpieces for fortepiano and woodwinds.

Thursday, January 16, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Lessons in Love—Hypnotic late-Medieval music from the world of the Romance of the Rose.

Friday, March 6, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Torchsongs Transformed—Innovative Baroque-Jazz fusion featuring soprano Hélène Brunet.

Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.*

Into the Labyrinth—Baroque music, live puppetry, and gorgeous visuals animate Aesop's Fables and the Countess D'Aulnoy's 17th-century feminist fairy tale *The White Cat*.

**Performance at the Akron Art Museum.*

Ticket prices from \$5—\$40 available at www.lesdelices.org. For more information, email info@lesdelices.org or call (216) 302-8404. †

Les Délices also presents a series of community engagement performances in partnership with Holy Trinity at Haven of Rest and at Robinson Community Learning Center.



By Gregg Loesch, Outreach & Social Concerns Ministry Team Leader

Our seventy-first Family Promise hosting week began Sunday, September 15th, and we had the pleasure of serving four families consisting of 4 adults and 8 children, ages 6 to 17. We spent evenings and nights in air-conditioned comfort, ate great meals and shared fellowship throughout the week. Guests are always awe-struck when they visit our sanctuary.

Moving 14 beds upstairs were **Bruce Mansour** and **Vince Simmons**, who also rolled the beds down the stairs at the end of the week. Grocery shoppers for our breakfast and lunch items were **Jan Parry** and **Sandy Loesch**. Through the week the drivers transported the families from the church to the Family Center in the FP van. They were **Sandy Deluca** and **Dennis Ingram**. Our cooks prepared wonderful and delicious meals for our guests every evening. They were **Rachel and Jacinto Núñez; Joanne Aller, Linda Vowles, Debbie Schramm, Sandy and John Hamilton;** and **Ruth Anderson**. Thanks goes to our evening hosts **Velma Pomrenke, Sylvia and Bob Leddon, Donna and Fletcher Carroll, Ruth Anderson and Marshall Thomas; Bob Nagle;** and **Vicar Debbie Pinnegar**. Overnight hosts were **Jacinto Núñez, Karen and Pastor Dave Nevergall, and Peter Calvin**. At the end of the week **Dennis Dick** and **Mike Ameling** drove the beds to Grace UCC in Norton. Thanks also to our sextons for keeping the bathrooms, hallways, and dining areas clean.

The Glendora apartment building on Copley Road is nearing completion and will soon have families staying there, in addition to maintaining the guest rotations among the host churches. Anyone wishing to visit the renovation project may stop by 1100 Copley Road, just west of Buchtel High School. The building will have nine apartments and will be used cooperatively between Family Promise and the Battered Women's Shelter.

If you have any questions about Family Promise of Summit County or want to see how Trinity helps homeless families get through hard times, please see Gregg Loesch. †

All Souls Day

"What a treasure you have here!" said Rob Ripley, owner of Land Pro, who was recently contracted to trim the trees and repair the walkways in the Memorial Garden. Peter Calvin, former sexton, cares deeply about our Garden, as he comes from his regular job in Copley on Saturday to clean and keep the fountain working along with doing other lawn care tasks. These are just two examples of personal reactions. The Garden Ministry Team offers the following report as an addition to the congregation's commemoration of All Souls Day on November 1 ...

The reading for Monday, October 14 from "Christ In Our Home" begins with "Our congregation built its church so that the sanctuary and the memorial garden are connected ... during communion ... the living saints ... in effect join the saints triumphant on the other side of the wall."

Holy Trinity has a similar layout with the modification of a cloister walkway between the walls. This is the entrance into the lower level of the education wing off Park Street. The Garden wall is on the left with eight large openings and along the church wall to the right are two bronze plaques. The first has 43 nameplates (33 for saints triumphant and 10 for those who signed contracts awaiting their time). The second has 11 nameplates for those interred elsewhere. A memorial book listing all these as well as numerous gifts memorializing others is located in the corner of the lobby entrance into the Sanctuary.

Close to 25 years ago, a small group began a discussion regarding the feasibility of a garden in a newly acquired property. On July 1, 2004, the first phase was dedicated with Pastor Coffman and Pastor Scharf officiating. The second phase was completed with the dedication of the fountain. Installing blue stone walkways in 2010 was the final phase. Included in the development was establishing dedicated funds for the maintenance in perpetuity. As of October 17, 2019, the current fund includes \$12,582. Folders explaining procedures for signing contracts are located outside the office entrance. †

**FAMILY
PROMISE
WEEK**

**December 8—
December 15**

Please consider helping families in need by being a grocery shopper, evening host, cook, launderer, or van driver ... sign-up on the bulletin board in the office hallway. Our volunteering really makes a difference by helping these families get through hard times, and also lets us truly be God's hands. †



Sunday LIFT by GenOn Ministries is an exciting new resource for Holy Trinity that will bring the generations together in caring, educational, and prayerful ways. Our time together will be spent in fellowship, learning, serving, and praying for one another. See the November schedule below. If you have any questions or would like more information please contact the Youth & Education Ministry Team or Rachel Núñez, Director of Formation at (330) 376-5154 or rmunez@holytrinityakron.org

November 2019 – Sunday LIFT Schedule

November 3rd

Confirmation Celebration

Confirmands: Benjamin Mormino & Harriet Moxon

Chapel Lounge following the 9:30 a.m. Worship Service

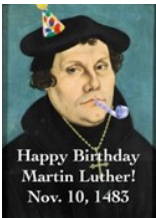
Hosted by the Youth & Education Ministry Team



November 10th

Happy Birthday, Martin Luther!

Join us as we celebrate Father Martin's Birthday with German Chocolate Cupcakes, pretzels, and fun party games. We will also assemble "Birthday Bags" for the DLM.



November 17th

We Pray to God: Prayers of Thanksgiving (Psalm 136)

November 24th

Service Project for Haven of Rest:

Notes of Encouragement & Placemats



Mid-Week Class

November 6, 13 and 20

Wednesdays, 11 a.m. – Chapel Lounge

Facilitated by Rachel Núñez, Director of Formation
(Coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served)

TRANSFORMING THROUGH LOVE: PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S DREAM FOR WHOLENESS

God is active and alive and inviting. God has not stopped shaping humanity, we are works in progress—a wholeness process that we are made to respond to by our own transmission of Love on earth. That's "mission" in a nutshell - To get out of the way enough to let God happen through us.

3 Film Series from Work of the People

Facilitated by Rachel Núñez, Director of Formation



LIFT Game Night

Friday, November 15

6–9 p.m. in the Youth Room

(Please enter the building through the door at the lower, north parking lot next to Osage Alley – look for the Red Balloon)

Enjoy pizza, snacks, and fellowship while playing a variety of board games!

Hosted by the Youth & Education Ministry Team

Questions? Contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Formation at (330) 376-5154 or rmunez@holytrinityakron.org.



**COMING
SOON**

Koinonia Dinners

We all know that Christian fellowship is an important part of our faith, and one way to foster that is to get together for a meal. Look at how many times Jesus gathered with friends and disciples to eat. Remember his concern that the 5000 get fed. What we know of as the Last Supper gave Jesus a final meal with his disciples before the Crucifixion and a sacrament for us in the Lord's Supper. Following the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, instructed them in how to catch fish, and then had a fire going for breakfast. Certainly the early church itself valued Christian fellowship.

We have borrowed the New Testament Greek word "koinonia" to create **Koinonia Dinners** beginning in January 2020. Koinonia is about fellowship and community. *Koinonia Dinners* will be about fellowship and small group community built around a shared meal.

How can you participate in Koinonia Dinners? First, sign up by January 26, 2020.

The first organizing fellowship dinner will be Friday, January 31 at Holy Trinity. At that time, small groups of 6-8 will share their first meal together and get to know one another better. Then the group is responsible for one more shared meal before the next whole group event on Friday, May 1. That meal could happen at someone's home, at a restaurant, at a winery or brewery, or even as a progressive supper — on any day of your choosing.

The other whole group event dates are July 31 and November 6. In all, that is eight dinners. For those of you heading south for the first few months of the year, you can join the fellowship at the May 1 dinner.

The Koinonia Dinners are sponsored by Care and Fellowship and Youth and Christian Education Ministry Teams as part of LIFT (Living in Faith Together). Those teams will provide ideas and prompts for groups figuring out how dining, small talk, and faith fit together.

Questions? Contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Formation at or rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org or at (330) 376-5154. †

How Is God Calling You to Lead?

Because the liturgy is (literally) "the work of the people," leadership in the liturgy is not the exclusive provenance of the ordained. Since the beginning of the church, lay folks have led significant portions of worship. That tradition continues in our practice here at Holy Trinity with the inclusion of a choir/cantor and other musicians, lay readers, acolytes, ushers, communion assistants, and (our focus for this article) assisting ministers.

You've seen those who already serve in this way. Here's what they do:

- ◆ **Leadership of the Intercessory Prayers.** The assisting minister invites the prayer of the whole congregation. Pr. David or Vicar Debbie writes the prayers; you are free to edit them into your own words. On any given Sunday, we may also add names as offered from the congregation.
- ◆ **Leadership of the Offertory Prayer.** This transitional prayer, led by assisting minister from a place near the altar, offers our gifts back to God as we prepare to receive Christ's presence in the Eucharist.
- ◆ **Preparation for and distribution of the Meal.** Working alongside the pastor and with other communion ministers, the assisting minister distributes bread to those who come forward to be fed.
- ◆ **Leadership of the Post Communion Prayer.** The assisting minister gives voice to the thanksgiving of the congregation for the gift we have just received in Holy Communion.
- ◆ **The Dismissal.** The assisting minister sends the congregation to live out the Gospel we have celebrated. This is done immediately after the final hymn and prior to the postlude.

Special rites (Baptism, Affirmation of Baptism, the Welcoming of New Members) also require extra help which Pr. David will review with you as part of the training that is offered to all new assisting ministers. If you would like more information or are ready to volunteer to lead in this way, please be in touch with PD. Thanks in advance for your excellent leadership. Your work is a tremendous asset to this congregation, and is deeply appreciated.

P.S. There are other options for worship leadership, too. Please note the list in the first paragraph. You can find more information on those leadership roles on our website, holyltrinityakron.org/lead-in-worship. And you can sign up to volunteer on the same page. Thanks for checking it out. And thanks for your leadership! †



DLM

FOOD AND RESOURCES

HAPPY TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY! DLM opened its doors in October 2017 and served 10 families that first month. Fast forward to 2019 ... DLM is now serving 400-500 family each month!! The ministry has experienced much change and growth in two years time.

- A hot meal is served to everyone who comes to DLM.
- There is expanded shelf, freezer and refrigerator space to offer more food, especially meat, dairy, fresh produce and personal care products.
- The entire Fellowship Hall is now used as the check-in and gathering place that includes a 'Children's Corner' with games and books.
- The Agape Closet has been retooled into a 'clothing boutique' that offers clothing for men, women and children along with shoes, purses and accessories.
- Darlene Anderson serves as the new DLM Coordinator and is supported with interns from Project RISE.

DLM was created in memory of Deborah Manteghi, the coordinator of Project RISE, a program through Akron Public Schools that serves children families who are experiencing homelessness. DLM began as an food pantry outreach specifically for these families. But it has quickly grown into a program that provides not only food and clothing, but resource and referral information so families can access the services they need most. What a legacy this has become. You are invited to witness and serve each and every month! †

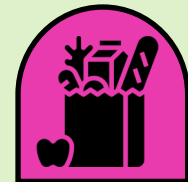


This ministry is making a difference in the lives of our neighbors! By mid-October ...



224

Total # of meals provided to those who visited DLM.



464

The number of persons fed and clothed.



133

The number of families served.



50%

Percentage of those who were fed and clothed were children.

*Stats from PantryTrak.



Congratulations to ...

Jack & Vivian Harig

for serving as the Honorary Chairs of the Akron Rotary Camp Regatta!

Jack and Vivian have been involved with the Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs for 55 years. Located on Rex Lake in the Portage Lakes, the Rotary Camp is available for everyone with special needs — children and adults — to experience all the friendships, fun and excitement camp has to offer.

It comes as no surprise that their passion and commitment for the Akron Rotary Camp has been the foundation by which they serve. They began their service career by transporting children to and from the camp. Since, they have been actively involved in pretty much all aspects of camp, serving on various committees and volunteering their time. For many years, Vivian took care of the flowers and landscaping.

The Regatta is a bi-annual event that raises funds for the expansion of services. Funds raised this year will help construct the 'Bud Rogers Adventure Park' that features six high elements, three ground elements and a dual zip line. The Rotary Camp is a place for kids and adults where there are only abilities.

The Rotary International Motto is 'Service Above Self.' This is exactly what Jack and Vivian do each and every day, not only for the Rotary Camp but here at Holy Trinity.

If you would like information about the Akron Rotary Camp or would like to visit and take a tour, please see Jack and Vivian. †

A Look at the Numbers

It is a privilege to worship, to serve, and to give of ourselves as we share God's Good News with our neighbors and friends. We do that as individuals by the choices we make in everyday life. And we do that together by our work as a congregation. That's what good stewardship is all about. And for that reason, we monitor statistics on attendance and giving to the church. They offer a glimpse into the health of our congregation and our engagement with the mission to which we are called.

Attendance: During September, 2019, average weekly worship attendance at Holy Trinity was 132. During September, 2018, our attendance was 149. Year-to-date we continue to be below last year's attendance numbers. Please remember: Worship is fundamental to the strength of the community and vital for the mission we share. It is where God blesses us abundantly in the sharing of the Word and Holy Communion. You are missed when you are not here, and you are missing out on God's gifts to you. Thank you for making worship a priority in your life.

Financial Support: For the month of September, unrestricted giving to Holy Trinity totaled \$38,476. That's 5% more than we had estimated. Thank you to all who have made a commitment to financially support our work together. Your gifts, of course, are not simply about supporting a budget. They move forward our mission, making a positive impact on the Akron community and beyond.

If you are not a regular contributor, we invite you to take up that challenge. Choosing to give every week (or every month) helps establish a good habit. Even more: it becomes a regular reminder of God's goodness and generosity, and offers a tangible way to give thanks for that goodness.

Something to consider: More and more folks are moving to electronic giving means, and we have the ability to accommodate that, too. Many find that it is an especially convenient way to manage financial stewardship. Contact Jim Minisall, our financial secretary, for more information about available options and/or to set it up.

Outreach: Our growing DLM Food and Resources ministry continues to reach a significant number of our neighbors in need. Through the middle of October, 133 families found the food, clothing, and other support they needed. That's 464 persons served, 50% of whom were children. DLM is open the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m. The ministry is also open on the Thursday evening after the second Saturday from 7–8:30 p.m. Volunteers (new and returning) are always welcome with training offered one hour before each opening. Contact DLM Coordinator Darlene Anderson (danderson@holyltrinityakron.org) for more information or to offer your help.

Your faithful participation by means of worship, work and support bear witness to the significance of Christ's place in your life. It says to others that what you believe is important enough to affect the way you live. **Thank you** for being good stewards of the gifts with which God has equipped you. And remember to join us...this and every week...as the work of Christ's Church goes on. †

Organist David Hurd: Masterclass & Concert



Organist David Hurd presented a masterclass.

On September 28, organist David Hurd presented a masterclass (*Stories Behind the Music*) for members of the Akron and Canton AGO (American Guild of Organists) chapters. Twenty-six people attended this gathering at Holy Trinity. David discussed the circumstances which led him to create some of his compositions, as well as what influenced and informed the shape of his choral and organ works. He offered some background on and analysis of select pieces, inviting the group to both sing them and listen to professional recordings. Following this two-hour presentation, we enjoyed a time of fellowship over lunch in Chapel Lounge. Our sincere thanks to the Akron AGO chapter for underwriting this event. +



Lesli Eisenhart with Wally Teachau from Copley. He has attended every Arts @ Holy Trinity concert for 36 years!!



Organist David Hurd opened the 2019-2020 Arts @ Holy Trinity Concert season September 29.



Les Délices visited Robinson CLC

On Friday, September 27th, members of **Les Délices** visited **Robinson CLC** and presented a program entitled "From the Ground Up". Les Délices musicians demonstrated a musical ground bass and shared a performance featuring Julie Andrijeski (violin), Debra Nagy (oboe & recorder), Stuart Pincombe (viola da gamba), and Lucas Harris (lute & theorbo). See page 5 for more information about their upcoming season premiere on November 1 at Holy Trinity.

Holy Trinity and Its Community Partners



OPEN M CEO Bob Titus was the guest speaker on October 6 for the LIFT event held during the middle hours. He shared information about the agency's various services and programs. †



Sha'Qeria Hunter, coordinator of the new Family Resource Center at Robinson, was the guest speaker for the LIFT event on October 27. She gave an overview of the FRC and its goals for the year. †



Holy Trinity has had a covenant partnership with Wesley Temple AME Zion Church for decades. In support of that relationship, the two congregations came together on October 20 for a Covenant Luncheon held at Holy Trinity. A total of 55 parishioners attended for delicious food and great fellowship. †



Holy Trinity was represented at the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Family Resource Center at Robinson CLC. †



Velma Pomrenke and Pastor David with Ohio Senator Vernon Sykes.



Akron School Board President Rev. Curtis Walker (l) and Pastor David.



LEFT: Pictured (from left): Ward 5 Councilwoman Tara Mosley Samples, Pastor David and Sandy DeLuca visited the Family Resource Center.



Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting held October 20

Budget Committee Chair Bob Keener presented the 2020 draft budget at the Semi-Annual Congregation Meeting on October 20.



Alexa Sandmann gave a brief presentation on Stewardship.

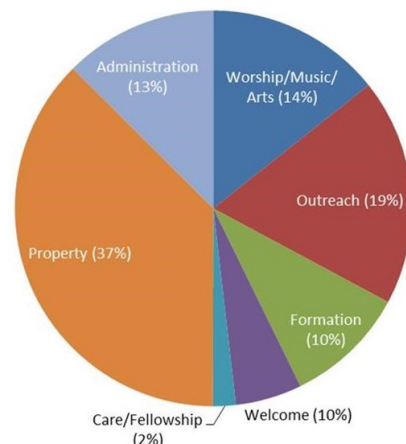


President Sonya Nagle

Investing in the Mission for 2020

Keeping the Mission First. It's a matter of faithfulness to our call as God's people in this place. It's a matter of good stewardship of the resources (both human and financial) with which we have been blessed. We invest in ways that make best use of our assets in order to engage ourselves and others in Christ's transformative and healing work in the world. At Holy Trinity, that means focusing our efforts in these ways: Worship, Music, and the Arts, Outreach and Social Concerns, Discipleship, Welcome and Communications, Care and Fellowship, Property and Administration.

The percentages on the chart represent the distribution of the nearly \$1.1 million that we expect to invest in ministry in the year ahead. 50% of that investment comes from endowment earnings and savings. 50% comes from your generous contributions. And we're just beginning to track the thousands of volunteer hours that also make this work possible.



Each of Us Has a Role to Play.

We invite your generous response in two ways:

- Make a financial commitment. You received a letter and card in the mail where you can indicate your intentions for giving in 2020.
- Make a time commitment. The card you received also asks you to identify those mission areas you commit to supporting with your time and your skills over the next year.

Please complete and return the enclosed card by November 24. You may return it by mail or place it in the Sunday offering plate. You may, of course, change your commitments at any time depending on your needs and life situation. Thank you for communicating your intentions, your gifts of dollars, time, and talent. †



Scholarship Program

Over the last few years, the Renaissance Committee at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church has focused its efforts on developing partnerships with our Akron neighbors and having a better understanding of their needs and goals. As part of this ministry, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is planning a scholarship program.

This past year, the concept of awarding a scholarship to deserving youth was discussed when one of Holy Trinity's members, Ernie Liska, lost his life under tragic circumstances. Ernie's generous nature was most easily seen in the gift of himself as he offered his time in service to others in the church and the community. That spirit now serves as the inspiration for a proposed scholarship program. Ernie's wife Elizabeth reminded us that Ernie was grateful for the help he received in getting his education, and he would be honored to know that others will be helped in his memory.

A steering committee has been authorized by the Congregation Council to help establish the *The Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship* and develop guidelines for making the award. Members of the Steering Committee include Elizabeth Liska, Marsha Asente, Gary Radanof, John Stefanik, Linda Vowles, and Jackie Wert. It is proposed that an initial plan be developed by the end of 2019 and presented to Council for implementation in the spring of 2020.

Financial support for this scholarship will come from donations to a dedicated account at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church that will provide ongoing funding for the scholarship. Please consider donating to *The Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship* to support deserving students in their journey of service to their community.

For more information, please contact John Stefanik at (330) 666-3579 or jrstef@roadrunner.com. †

"Volunteer" at Your Own Church?

... continued from page 4

you can mark on a time card.

All that said, we live in the world we live in, and we cannot realistically extract this word from the life of the church. It is both a noun and a verb, and it's the one that just rolls off the tongue when we are asking people to come and do work. Which, in the church, we are forever asking people to do. Still, as I plan for a sermon series on discipleship and what it means to let the church be the church, I feel a strong nudge to challenge how we talk about – and think about – the time and energy we spend in ministry. It's important to recognize those gifts for what they are – ministry – and I'm not sure the word "volunteer" does justice to the depths contained in the work people actually do in their churches.

Call it serving. Call it discipleship. Call it the priesthood of believers, or mission, or the ministry that we all share together. Admittedly, "Priesthood of Believers" does not look great on a t-shirt. And it maybe doesn't invite visitors to ask you where the bathrooms are... But whatever we do, we should remember that we don't just belong to the church—it belongs to us.

And we do not babysit that which is ours.

All that being said: Where and how do you serve in and support this community of Christ we share? Now's a good time to consider this as we plan our 2020 support for Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Thanks for all you do to make Christ's mission alive in this place. ~ Pr. David †



Please join us as we travel to the Wine Mill in Peninsula on Friday, November 8th, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. for an evening of fun and fellowship. Wine, craft beer, soft beverages, and food will all be available. Please RSVP to John Stefanik at (330) 666-3579 or jrstef@roadrunner.com no later than Tuesday, November 5th if you are planning to attend. Please bring your ideas for future activities.

The Wine Mill: 4964 Akron-Cleveland Road, Peninsula. †



Men on a Mission

Saturday, November 23 ONLY, 8:30 a.m. | Chapel Lounge

If you're a guy, you are welcome to join us. We're reading the book of Daniel, eating donuts, drinking coffee and praying together ... generally figuring out what it means to be a man of faith. This is good stuff ... come and be a part of it! †



Trinity Stampers

Friday, November 15, 10:30 a.m. | Scharf Library

If you are a stamper, a scrapbooker, or someone who enjoys doing crafts ... please join us!! The Trinity Stampers gather each month (*September through May*) to hand-make greeting cards for those members who are home bound. Come be a part of the fun and fellowship! †



Men's Lutheran Loafers

Friday, November 15, 11:30 a.m. | Akron Family Restaurant

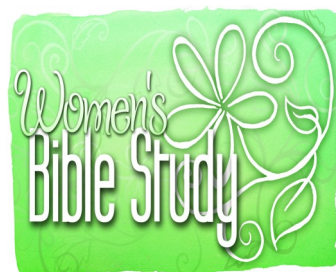
Calling all men ... or anyone who wants to join the group! No experience necessary, you just must enjoy meeting with other members of our Holy Trinity family. If you would like any further information just call Fletcher Carroll @ (330) 923-6310 or e-mail peegee@neo.rr.com. *NOTE: Due to construction near the Plaza at Chapel Hill, the group will meet at Akron Family Restaurant, 250 W. Market Street, Akron.* †



Altar Guild

Friday, November 15, 12 p.m. | Room 202

You are invited to a salad luncheon hosted by Altar Guild ... please bring your favorite salad to share. Co-hostesses and person giving devotions will be announced. All are welcome to attend! Come and enjoy food, fellowship and a brief overview of the ministries that are available for you to choose from. The luncheon is for all members and friends of Holy Trinity. †



Women's Bible Study

Saturday, November 16, 9 a.m. | Home of Diane Chambers

Women's Bible Study will meet at the home of Diane Chambers, 591 Palisades, Akron. Co-host is Amy Indorf. The discussion is based on the Bible Study in the October issue of Gather magazine, "The Ache of Grief". The study considers how grief can be an act of faith and an occasion for healing. Come and join us as we explore the Scriptures together. †



Holy Trinity Book Club

Sunday, December 8, following late service | Home of Alexa Sandmann

The group will meet at the home of Alexa Sandmann for lunch and a discussion of *The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland*. Join us for a meal and good conversation. Questions? Contact Amy Indorf or Diane Chambers. †

Environmental Tip: As you clean up your leaves and garden plants, don't forget to gather them for a compost pile. They will make good mulch for 2020 or 2021. Office paper, other clean paper and cardboard is still being recycled in our Park Street lot for which we receive a small quarterly profit from River Valley Paper Co. Recycle cans and plastic bottles in the blue bin by Room 202, as well as the tabs from the pop cans in a small basket on the shelf. It is all ongoing! †



Prayer of the Month:

Please pray for children everywhere that they may be safe and free of the worry and anxiety the chaos of the world is causing. †

Communion Bread Recipe

Ingredients:

- 1½ cups whole wheat flour
- ½ cup regular white or bread flour
- ¾ teaspoon baking soda
- 3 tablespoons butter
(*unsalted is best; may substitute margarine*)
- ¾ cup warm water
- 3 tablespoons honey
- ¾ teaspoon salt

Directions:

- Combine the first four ingredients well. Cut in the butter, and work in thoroughly.

- Combine the water and honey. Stir this into the flour/butter mixture, and combine until you have a sticky dough.
- Turn out onto a board/counter, adding flour until you can knead it. Knead until smooth.
- Divide the flour into four equal parts. Roll or press each part into a 6" flat circle.
- Lightly score a cross into the top of each circle. Brush with vegetable oil. Place onto a lightly-greased baking sheet.
- Bake at 350 for no more than 12 minutes. (Over baking makes the bread crumbly.)
- Remove and allow to cool completely.
- When cool it can be bagged for use later in the week or bagged and frozen for use up to three weeks later.



Dear Holy Trinity Friends,
Thank you for your prayers. We miss coming to Holy Trinity, and keep you in our prayers. God bless you!

Sincerely in Christ,
Rosanne & Donald Wight,
(daughter) Karen Stevens



The 56th Annual Summit Metro Parks Fall Hiking Spree runs through November 30th. Trails run from easy to challenging.

You will find a poster for recording your hikes as well as maps and hiking forms on the Parish Nurse Bulletin Board in the office hallway. Hike eight of the required trails and earn a shield or a shield and staff for first-time hikers. †

CONGRATULATIONS TO ...

Elected to Council: Marsha Asente,
Lesli Eisenhart, Bob Hoskins
and Ann Lawson.

Elected to the Nominating Committee:
Amanda Archbold, LJ Kimble
and Velma Pomrenke.

Vicar's Vision

... continued from page 5

building to host Family Promise and Links. The impressive architecture and the exquisite acoustics in our sanctuary have led us to bring beautiful music to generations. People who have been a part of our congregation have brought us new opportunities like our long relationship with the Girl Scouts or our newer outreach ministries of DLM and Warrior's Journey Home. Each ministry has helped to shape us for the mission that God has planned for the city of Akron.

As I think about my role as a theological leader in the wake of my class, join me in the process of deep thinking. Consider what we as a church have learned from our congregation's history and our successes and the failures that prepare Holy Trinity to be a theological leader in the city of Akron. Let's imagine the future of our work as part of God's mission.



November Birthdays

'Happy Birthday' to the following members

- November 1 – Joseph Davis
- November 1 – Shirley Jordan
- November 5 – Logan Vowles
- November 6 – Jenna Spencer
- November 6 – Max Spencer
- November 7 – Anastasia Heppner
- November 8 – Debbie Anderson
- November 10 – Michael Hunter
- November 11 – Mary DeBerry
- November 12 – Blake Birch
- November 12 – Camdynn Stevens
- November 12 – Elena Wegryn
- November 13 – Molly Linden
- November 14 – Garry Compan
- November 14 – Adam Heckel
- November 14 – Janet Spaninger
- November 14 – Erica Spice
- November 14 – Pat Woodford
- November 15 – Allan Fenske
- November 15 – Kristine Johnson
- November 15 – Alexa Sandmann
- November 16 – Peter Lisius
- November 18 – Tracy Johnson
- November 19 – Cody Sanders
- November 20 – Rusty Laybourne
- November 20 – Ruth Anderson
- November 21 – Amy Indorf
- November 22 – Mary Eagle
- November 22 – Erin Stefanik
- November 23 – Becky Adkins
- November 25 – Norm Richenbacher
- November 26 – Pamela Marko
- November 26 – Mary Williams
- November 27 – Tina Deighan
- November 28 – David Linder
- November 29 – March Chancey
- November 29 – Beverly Godding

If you want to include your birthday in a future issue of the Highlights, please contact Annmarie Demko at (330) 376-5154.
NOTE: This list only includes known birthdays.

November Worship Stewards

DATE	ACOLYTES/CRUCIFERS	READERS	COMMUNION ASSTS	SOUND
November 3 @ 9:30 a.m. ALL SAINTS SUNDAY	Sonya Nagle (c) Luke Nagle	Mia Nagle	TO BE ANNOUNCED	Bob Ethington
November 10 @ 8:30 & 11 a.m.	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Sandy DeLuca <u>11 a.m.</u> Abby Mormino Maddie Mormino	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Marsha Asente <u>11 a.m.</u> To be announced	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED <u>11 a.m.</u> Frederica Cohen	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Mike Ameling <u>11 a.m.</u> Joe Moxon
November 17 @ 8:30 & 11 a.m.	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Sandy DeLuca <u>11 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Bob Nagle <u>11 a.m.</u> Cennidie Hall	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED <u>11 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Dennis Dick <u>11 a.m.</u> Michael Wilson
November 24 @ 8:30 & 11 a.m. CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED <u>11 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Bob Leddon <u>11 a.m.</u> Gregg Loesch	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED <u>11 a.m.</u> TO BE ANNOUNCED	<u>8:30 a.m.</u> Lorin Sickafoose <u>11 a.m.</u> Bob Ethington

USHERS

8:30 a.m.
 Mike Ameling, Bill Bulgrin,
 Fletcher Carroll, Donna Carroll,
Ron Nockengost, Gary Radanof,
 Fred Spencer and
 Gloria Woodford

11 a.m.
Gregg Loesch, Fred Rieman,
 Pat McRowe and Rich Williams

Underlined name indicates head ushers.

altar CARE

Candles: Marcy Nagy
Flowers: Sophia Morton
Altar Care: Jennifer Keller & Pat Keller

Communion:
 Nov. 3, 9:30 a.m. — Lesli Eisenhart/Susan Detwiler/Deb Ickes
 Nov. 10, 8:30 a.m.: Stephanie Black;
 11 a.m. Susan Detwiler/Stephanie Hilton
 Nov. 17, 8:30 a.m.: Lesli Eisenhart/Liz Anacki;
 11 a.m. Deb Ickes/Ann Lawson
 Nov. 24, 8:30 a.m.: Liz Anacki; 11 a.m. Joan Amon/Carol Seiberling



Communion Bread

November Bakers

November 3—TBA
 November 10—Connie Archbold
 November 17—Nevergalls
 November 24—TBA

If you love baking, why not bake the Communion Bread to use during Sunday worship? The sign-up sheet and recipe can be found at the Welcome Center.

November Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:30 p.m. Les DeLices (Sanc.)	2 10 a.m. Stewardship Meeting (CL)
3 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM 9:30 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 10:45 a.m. Reception for Confirmands (CL) 11 a.m. Orff Ensemble (CR)	4 11 a.m. Staff Meeting 3 p.m. LINKS (FH)	5 NO LINKS 5:30 p.m. Renaissance Team Meeting (SL) 7:15 p.m. Derbytown Chorus Rehearsal (FH)	6 9 a.m. TTT's 11 a.m. Midweek Bible Study (CL) 12:15 p.m. Midweek Worship (Sanc.) 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 6 p.m. Study, Dialogues on Race (CL)	7 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells 7:30 p.m. Trinity Choir	8 5:30 p.m. Fall Fellowship Event (Wine Mill, Peninsula)	9 8:30 a.m. Men on A Mission (CL) 11 a.m. DLM Food & Resources Open (Rm. 100 & FH) - LIFT Volunteer Activity
10 8:30 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 10 a.m. LIFT 11 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 4 p.m. Warriors Journey Home (SL) 4 p.m. Arts @ Holy Trinity Concert (Sanc., CL & Rm. 202) 6 p.m. Meet-the-Artist Meal (FH)	11 9:45 a.m. Arts @ Holy Trinity Program for Robinson (Sanc.) 11 a.m. Staff Meeting 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 7 p.m. Cabinet (CL)	12 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 6:30 p.m. Worship & Music Team Meeting (SL) 7:15 p.m. Derbytown Chorus Rehearsal (FH)	13 9 a.m. TTTs 11 a.m. Midweek Bible Study (CL) 12:15 p.m. Midweek Worship (Sanc.) 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 6 p.m. Personnel Team Meeting (SL)	14 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells 7 p.m. DLM Food & Resources Open for Project RISE (Rm. 100 & FH) 7:30 p.m. Trinity Choir	15 10:30 a.m. Trinity Stampers (SL) 11:30 a.m. Lutheran Loafers (Akron Family Restaurant) 12 p.m. Altar Guild (Rm. 202) 6-9 p.m. LIFT Game Night (YR)	16 9 a.m. Women's Bible Study (home of Diane Chambers)
17 8:30 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 10 a.m. LIFT 11 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 12:30 p.m. Orff Ensemble (CR)	18 11 a.m. Staff Meeting 3 p.m. LINKS (FH)	19 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 6 p.m. Council (CL) 7:15 p.m. Derbytown Chorus Rehearsal (FH)	20 9 a.m. TTTs 11 a.m. Midweek Bible Study (CL) 12:15 p.m. Midweek Worship (Sanc.) 3 p.m. LINKS (FH)	21 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 4 p.m. Girl Scouts (Rm. 202) 6 p.m. Quilters (Rm. 202) 6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells 7:30 p.m. Trinity Choir	22	23 8:30 a.m. Men on A Mission (CL) 8:30 a.m. M&Ms (CL) DLM CLOSED
24 8:30 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 10 a.m. LIFT 11 a.m. Worship w/ Eucharist 12:30 p.m. Trinity Choir Meal w/ Faith Lutheran (Rm. 202) 1 p.m. Lessons & Carols Rehearsal (Sanc.) 4 p.m. Warriors Journey Home (CL)	25 11 a.m. Staff Meeting 3 p.m. LINKS (FH) 5:30 p.m. Spiritual Direction Meeting (CL)	26 12:30 p.m. Serve Thanksgiving Meal @ Robinson CLC NO LINKS 7 p.m. Worship (Sanc.) Reception (CL) 7:15 p.m. Derbytown Chorus Rehearsal (FH)	27 9 a.m. TTTs	28 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	29 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	30

ARTS @ HOLY TRINITY



presents

Advent Procession of Lessons & Carols

*Featuring choirs and other
musicians from Holy Trinity and
Faith Lutheran Church, Fairlawn*

**Friday, December 6,
7:30 p.m.**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
50 N. Prospect Street, Akron

For more
information,
call (330) 376-5154
or visit
artsholytrinity.org.

Artwork by Dr. Marshall Thomas:
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Doors open at 7 p.m.

*Enjoy live music at a festive reception
following the concert. Join our mailing list
at the event to enter a drawing
for a \$25 gift certificate to Fred's Diner.
Winner will be drawn during the reception.
The concert is free; a free-will offering
will be received.*

NOTE: Winner need not be present.



**HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Praising. Loving. Serving in Jesus' name.

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HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Praising. Loving. Serving in Jesus' name.

Mission Statement:

The mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is to bring Jesus to people through love and the word of God.

Vision Statement:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a faith community grounded in God's word, called to worship and committed to serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Address & Phone:

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Akron, Ohio 44304-1273
(330) 376-5154 holytrinityakron.org

Groups & Activities

Acolyte Coordinator - Judy Eisenhart
Altar Guild - Sophia Morton
Archives - Ricki Ethington
Book Club - Diane Chambers & Amy Indorf
Communion Assistants - Deborah Ickes & Marcy Nagy
Friendly Visitors - Peter Lisius & Michael Wilson
Family Promise - Gregg Loesch
LINKS - Elizabeth Liska
Memorial Garden - Judy Samuelson
Parish Nurse Ministry - Sally Richenbacher
Prayer Chain - Sally Richenbacher & Wanda Clark
Renaissance Team - Bob Keener
Readers - Nan Riemenschneider
Robinson CLC - Sandy DeLuca
Sound System - Lorin Sickafoose & Joe Moxon
St. Bernard Hot Meals - Michael Wilson
Ushers - Gregg Loesch
Women's Bible Study - Velma Pomrenke

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E-mail information to: highlights@holytrinityakron.org

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Mailing: TTT's & Anmmarie Demko*

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