



IT'S TIME TO START FILLING THOSE BASKETS

# THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM

Divine Service 10:15 AM



**NOVEMBER 2024 --VOLUME 62 No. 11**

## FROM THE PASTOR

**Titus 3:1-2 Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.**

The elections will be in about a week. I know many of you have voted already but some will wait for election day. If you haven't voted already, you need to get out and vote. Voting should be seen for what it is and that is, it is our responsibility as citizens of the great nation that has set up the running of this nation that way we have it.

Elections yield winners and losers. If your "side" wins, you are happy and if they lose, you are sad. You then will have to live with the decision of those who voted.

How are we to respond if we lose or win? Yes, there will be challenges to the brain as you will be wondering what the future holds for you and for others, and especially how the Lord will use the election to have His will done.

All through life we look to the future and wonder what is coming our way. Things change and as we look back even 10 years or so there are all sorts of changes we are dealing with or have had to deal with that may have been a little scary at first but as the Lord works in our lives, day by day, we grow accustomed to the daily changes and find ourselves on down the road after a while.

No candidate or constitutional amendment or fundraising vote is perfect and we need to find out what is being what or who we are voting on so that we can be informed of our vote which we should hold dear. My barber showed her ID as she wanted to point out that she wanted to make sure they knew who was standing before them to vote as she saw her vote as very valuable to her.

Paul pointed out to Titus that even though they as Christians may have views that were contrary to some of the views of the government, they should still live lives that would support the government at the time when it didn't infringe on the commands of God. Where it did, I'm sure he would have echoed Jesus statement: Matt. 22:21b . . . "Therefore render to **Caesar** the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

The Lord will have His will done no matter what. We may have a hard time seeing it at the time but as we look back over history, we can see Him working, working for our good even though it may have been a challenge at the time.

David, who had many challenges, even attempts on his life said this: Psa. 27:14 *Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!*

*Pastor*

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## FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

As reported by Jim Kline, treasurer: For September, total income, excluding special and designated offerings was \$17,517.62 Total expenses for September were \$17,035.41, which gave us a surplus of \$482.21 Year to date, total income is \$237,330.74 versus total expenses of \$155,182.97

Bob Klose, Vice-President

## BOARD OF ELDERS

What are you thankful for?

This is the month of Thanksgiving when we celebrate the day by stuffing ourselves with all those wonderful foods. Perhaps, we then settle into our couches and watch the seemingly endless football games. Maybe we choose to just enjoy the company of friends and family. Whatever the activities we choose, do we really think about the true blessings we have been given by GOD.

Aside from the almost ritual prayer before the meal, how many times can you recall discussing the true blessed gift GOD gives us daily, the knowledge that JESUS CHRIST died so we might have eternal life?

Do you thank GOD daily for that gift HE gave us all by Grace through Faith? Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by Grace you have been saved through faith. And this is 'not your own doing; it the gift of GOD, 'not a result of works, so that no one may boast."

Our connection to GOD and JESUS CHRIST is through prayer.

Is your connection with GOD disrupted by all the worldly distractions?

Do you pray to GOD on a daily basis for all the blessings he has given you or only when you think HE can solve your problem?

PRAY UNCESSINGLY, IT WORKS!!!

James R. Wilkes, Elder

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## EVANGELISM

**Tract of the Month: A Simple Explanation of Angels:** "Movies, TV shows, greeting cards, figurines, and art – popular culture is saturated with images and references to the heavenly beings called angels. But what does the Bible actually tell us about angels? How are angels truly portrayed in God's Word? While reading through this booklet, you will be surprised by how much society's understanding of angels is influenced by pop culture. **A Simple Explanation of Angels** explores who angels are and what they do as "ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation" (Hebrews 1:14)." This easy-to-read booklet gives an overview "of what God wants us to know about angels." It is the Word of God, not pop culture that should shape our view about angels, what they are and how they function. Be sure to pick this month's tract up to read.

**Ballots for Next Years Missions:** A list of potential missions for 2025 will be handed out after the service on 11/3/24 and there will also be a stack on the table under the Evangelism bulletin board. Please pick the 6 you would like to be our 2025 missions. You can turn your ballot in at the congregational meeting, hand it to me or put it in my box no later than Sunday 11/17/24. I will tally the votes and report the outcome in the December Trinitarian.

**Visitor Mugs:** The committee has purchased coffee mugs with our Trinity logo, our church name, and Alamogordo, NM. We have items from various sources, and information about our church to put in them. Please, on the Sundays that you are hosting be sure to hand out ONE mug per family, visitor, or group (if it seems multiple people in a group would need one, that's fine).

**The mission for November & December is The Lutheran Heritage Foundation** - Translating, publishing, distributing, and introducing books and materials that are Bible-based, Christ-centered, and Reformation-driven. (*This is what Pastor Cramm uses for support for Africa trips.*)

**“The Chosen”**: Our next showing of *“The Chosen”* will be on November 17th. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

**The Next Evangelism Committee meeting** will be Monday November 11th at 5:30pm. During the meeting we will be putting together the visitor mugs.

**In Closing:** Matthew 9: 37-38 <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup> Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” Brothers and Sisters, we each have special talents & abilities given to us by God. We are the workers.

Yours in Christ  
Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

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### **EDUCATION**

The Education Committee met after church services on Sunday with four members in attendance. Two topics were discussed, Oktoberfest and the Children’s Activity Day during the Thanksgiving break.

Oktoberfest was held on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm to 6:00 pm. A sign-up sheet was posted for those who planned to attend (and the number of people attending, was put on the Education bulletin board.) Brats, buns and condiments and drinks were served along with the side dishes that were provided by the people who came. Allen Burmeister volunteered to bring in beer steins for decoration purposes. The rest of the decorations were provided by Stacy Krueger and the committee. Sue Kelly volunteered to check on/purchase the brats and Cindi Anderson said she would also help with the food. Trivia and bingo games were provided and a good time was had! Small prizes for the games were purchased. A silent auction consisting of pies and desserts was also held. A total of \$382.00 was collected and will be sent to the South Sudan project.

The second topic of discussion was the November Activity Day for children. Abby Anderson will oversee it. It will be held on Monday, November 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 pm and will be open to children from preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Flyers will be sent to area churches and the Christian schools in the area. More details come out next month.

Yours in Christ,  
Susan Kelly, Director of Education

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**Time to contribute to the Thanksgiving Food baskets.**

There is a table set up in the *Great Room* for your donations.  
Please donate by November 25 so that the food can be delivered before  
Thanksgiving.

Coordinators are Nora Sotak and Beverly Van Duyn

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**LWML**

On Saturday, November 9th Susan Kelly will lead our annual prayer service entitled: GRACE, MERCY, PEACE. This service is designed around those three words, those three gifts that come to us from our gracious Father and our Savior: Grace, Mercy, and Peace. Please come and join us at 10 am for this service of prayer and singing with fellowship following.

On October the 12th, we had our first meeting of the fall. There were a lot of business items to cover. Nineteen women were in attendance. Sandy Klose led us in a devotion followed by a talk given by Rosanne Wehmeyer (Auxiliary Treasurer) regarding the Christus Auxiliary at the hospital. It was very informative as to what the members do at the hospital and why they do it. New volunteers are always welcome, hours are flexible.

Belinda Burmeister gave us a recap of the fall festival and the convention. Nora Sotak brought a new idea regarding "Mailbox program" to the members to help us reach out to women in the congregation, she also gave us an update on the stoles and the Sudan request for grant money. We also had a special guest attend-well known author Donna Snow. The Tuesday morning Bible class is currently doing her study-"Unspeakable".

Please check the bulletin for updates concerning our Thanksgiving Baskets and soon our kids for Christmas tree. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for hostesses for our upcoming meetings or events. If you are able please sign up for one of the dates.

In your daily prayers please consider praying that our request for grant money for Sudan will be considered and put on the ballot for the upcoming convention. The dormitory would be a great help to those attending classes so they are able to have their families with them.

As always as I look around the room at our meetings, I feel thankful and blessed by the women of this congregation and all that they do for others.

Vicki, LWML President

## IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)  
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Dear Saints and Friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School,

October 30, 2024

St. John the apostle asks, “If anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word and talk, but in deed and truth” (1 John 3:17-18).

In the first moments of disaster response, there can be a flurry of activity to help clean up and salvage people’s homes and property. Things eventually calm down. Soon the national and state aid agencies pack up their trucks and move on to help others in more dire need. But the work of rebuilding and recovery continues. Right now, there is a need for funds to help people get their lives back on track after their homes, vehicles, and other worldly goods were lost. Often the folks were without flood insurance. It will take years of rebuilding before they get back to the way things were.

As Christians, we have a sacred duty to help our neighbors in their times of need. For this reason I ask each of you to see if your family can contribute something to the ongoing rebuilding and recovery efforts for the families connected with our church and school. It may be a little or it may be more. Either way, these gifts will make a difference in someone’s life. Whatever funds we raise will go to directly supporting families in our community. They will know that the help came from our church, school, and surrounding congregations.

God be praised that because we know Christ, we have been richly blessed in every way. He gives food for our bodies and salvation for our souls. From these blessings the Lord gives us the ability to show generosity and compassion in times of great loss and sorrow. What a fantastic way to bear witness to our great hope and salvation? St. John again writes, “By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers” (1 John 3:16).

Please make out your checks and designate your gifts to Immanuel Lutheran Church’s Disaster Relief Fund.

In Christ,  
Pr. Brian Flamme

## **WE HONOR OUR VETERANS**

On Veterans Day we honor men and women who have served and sacrificed in one of America's armed services. The holiday is also meant to highlight America's quest for world peace and our nation's desire for justice and freedom throughout the world — our nation's higher goals.

Veterans Day is actually rooted in Armistice Day. On November 11, 1918, America and her allies met with German leaders to sign a truce ending World War I. In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson decided that our nation should remember with gratitude the end of that war and honor those who served in the military. He called the holiday, Armistice Day. Armistice means "truce."

In his proclamation the president wrote that Armistice Day was an "opportunity ... given to America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations."

The name Armistice Day was kept until 1954 when Congress changed the name to Veterans Day honoring veterans of every era. President Eisenhower called on all citizens to observe the day remembering the sacrifices of veterans and "the task of promoting an enduring peace."

Published in: November 2003

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## **ALWAYS BE THANKFUL**

Martin Rinkart, a German Lutheran minister, wrote the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" in 1636. At the time, the Thirty Years' War was ravaging central Europe, claiming millions of lives. Rinkart served as pastor in Eilenburg, a walled town that became a crowded refuge for starving fugitives. Although Rinkart was struggling to provide for his own family, he opened his own home to people in need.

After the plague entered Eilenburg, Rinkart conducted up to 50 funerals a day — including services for his wife and the only other two pastors in town. Amid the despair, he wrote many hymns, including "Now Thank We All Our God." Originally intended as a table prayer, it's now sung at Thanksgiving to remember God's "countless gifts of love" — even during hardships.

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## **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

### **Thanksgiving Day Service**

**Thursday, November 28, 2024**

**10:15 AM**

## NOVEMBER 2024 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

### ELDERS

Nov. 3 Robert Rentschler  
Nov. 10 Jim Wilkes  
Nov. 17 Matt Anderson  
Nov. 24 Robert Rentschler  
Nov. 28 Jim Wilkes (Thanksgiving)

### READERS

Nov. 3 George & Marianne Schweers  
Nov. 10 ??? & Hannah Keeler  
Nov. 17 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn  
Nov. 24 George & Marianne Schweers  
Nov. 28 Ruth Wilks & Dick Dommers  
(Thanksgiving)

### TELLERS

Nov. 3 Susan Kelly & Sandy Klose  
Nov. 10 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon  
Nov. 17 Yvonne Steeby & Becky Worley  
Nov. 24 Dick Dommers & Merry Zumwalt  
Nov. 28 ??? & Vicki Leonard (Thanksgiving)

### HOSTS

Nov. 3 Tom Blackmon & Hannah Keeler  
Nov. 10 Bob & Jan Thede  
Nov. 17 Joyce & Marvin Bunker  
Nov. 24 Allen & Belinda Burmeister

### SOUND TECH

Nov. 3 Matt Anderson  
Nov. 10 Jim Kline  
Nov. 17 Bob Klose  
Nov. 24 Vicki Leonard  
Nov. 28 Vicki Leonard (Thanksgiving)

### MUSIC

Nov. 3 Lola Ableidinger  
Nov. 10 Bobby Anderson  
Nov. 17 Cyndi Heithold  
Nov. 24 Bobby Anderson  
Nov. 28 Lola Ableidinger (Thanksgiving)

### NOVEMBER ATTENDANCE

Hannah Keeler

### NOVEMBER ALTAR COMMITTEE

Diane Kline & Cheryl Richey

### USHERS

Nov. 3 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer  
Larry & Bev Van Duyn  
Nov. 10 Susan Kelly, Norbert Sanchez  
Glen & Christine Schlehuser  
Nov. 17 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson  
Bob Thede, Tammy Thede  
Nov. 24 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose  
Irvin Torres

### NOVEMBER FLOWERS

Nov. 3 David & Yvonne Steeby  
Nov. 10 Wilma Jaecks  
Nov. 17 Lola Ableidinger  
Nov. 24 Vicki Leonard

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### SPECIAL DATES

- All Saints' Day, *November 1, 2024*
- Daylight saving time ends, *November 3, 2024*
- Veterans Day, *November 11, 2024*
- Last Sunday in the Church Year, *November 24, 2024*
- Thanksgiving Day, *November 28, 2024*



